

PENINSULA BEACON

September 4, 2026

timesofsandiego.com/peninsulabeacon

INSIDE



Pointers to play for 'The Shoe'

PAGE 13

Sunset Cliffs Auto Show to showcase 115 vintage vehicles

PAGE 14




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Floating through Point Loma



Artist Sarah Stieber's most recent Point Loma mural at 1053 Rosecrans St., which was commissioned by the Point Loma Association. See more on page 15. (Photo by Dave Schwab/Times of San Diego)

PUBLIC SAFETY

California finally recognizing lifeguards as first responders

Senate Concurrent Resolution 192, which recognizes open-water lifeguards as first responders and emergency response providers, passed through the Rules Committee and the Senate before the State Assembly approved it on Aug. 19. **PAGE 6**



BUSINESS

Shifting ownership, and layoffs, Stone Brewing celebrates 30th

In just the past four years the craft beer company, celebrating its 30th anniversary, has changed hands twice. So, the big anniversary bash in Liberty Station has prospective attendees wondering who, or what they will be toasting. **PAGE 12**

COVER STORY

State lawmakers approve deal to fast-track Midway Rising construction

On Sunday, state lawmakers approved a last-minute deal to fast-track construction for Midway Rising, a project to construct a 25-story professional arena, 4,250 housing units and nearly 15 acres of public parks. If signed by Gov. Gavin Newsom, the new law would immediately shield the planned development from potential environmental lawsuits. It's a break for San Diego officials whose ambitions for the city's Midway District have been fraught with legal challenges for years, namely because of the California Environmental Quality Act. The eleventh-hour deal came together in closed-door negotiations just days before lawmakers gavelled out for session. **PAGE 3**



SAVE THE DATE: SEPT. 6
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
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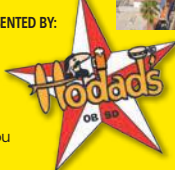
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Lawmakers greenlight Midway Rising, bypassing environmental hurdles

By Nadia Lathan
CALMATTERS

(This story was originally published by CalMatters. Sign up for their newsletters.)

SAN DIEGO – Facing a shrinking budget, Mayor Todd Gloria made few commitments during his annual address to the city in January.

One of them was to win approval for a controversial plan to build a billionaire-backed professional sports stadium and a housing project in a long-vacant arena parking lot.

“Let me be crystal clear,” Gloria, a Democrat, said. “The redevelopment of the sports arena will move forward. We will get this done.”

He may finally fulfill that promise for California’s second-largest city, despite the 165 foot-tall structure vastly exceeding the neighborhood’s 30-foot building height cap.

In the final days of the legislative session, lawmakers on Sunday approved a last-minute deal to fast-track construction for Midway Rising, a project to

construct a 25-story professional arena, 4,250 housing units and nearly 15 acres of public parks. If signed by Gov. Gavin Newsom, the new law would immediately shield the planned development from potential environmental lawsuits.

It’s a break for San Diego officials whose ambitions for the city’s Midway District have been fraught with legal challenges for years, namely because of the California Environmental Quality Act.

“San Diego in particular has had some bad experiences with CEQA litigation over efforts to rezone this very area,” UC Davis property law professor Chris Elmendorf said, referring to recent court rulings against the project.

“I think in light of that experience it’s totally understandable that the proponents of the project would be going to the Legislature and asking for help.”

Senate Bill 344, authored by Sen. Akilah Weber Pierson, a Democrat who represents the neighborhood where the arena would be built, would allow the developer to use an existing environmental review

of the project to comply with CEQA.

The bill passed the Assembly with 72 votes out of a possible 80 on Sunday afternoon and later cleared the Senate on a unanimous vote. Two lawmakers voted against it, including San Diego Assemblymember Carl DeMaio, a Republican.

“To sit here and say a politically connected developer gets an exemption — that is an awful message to send,” he told colleagues.

Democratic Assemblymember Chris Ward, who presented the bill in the Assembly on behalf of Weber Pierson, defended the deal as a way to avoid costly delays on a project that has already been thoroughly vetted.

“We want to make sure that we have certainty, and that is exactly what SB 344 does, is to provide that certainty after almost a decade of exhausting environmental review.”

The eleventh-hour deal came together in closed-door negotiations just days before lawmakers gaveled out for session,

sparking outrage among critics of the project who say city officials did not study the environmental impacts well enough.

Several neighborhood groups argue the arena will ensnare traffic and block coastal views. Other opponents such as Audubon Society worry the taller buildings could hurt or even kill migratory birds.

People opposed to new development often sue under CEQA stall construction projects throughout California, sometimes for years. That’s why developers and lawmakers frequently seek to shield their preferred projects from environmental rules, even after recent reforms intended to make CEQA compliance less onerous, Elmendorf said.

This two-year legislative session alone has seen its fair share of CEQA carveouts, including late-breaking negotiations over California Forever, a plan backed by tech entrepreneurs to build a manufacturing hub on the outskirts of the Bay Area. Another deal, Senate Bill 237, ended environmental lawsuits surrounding Kern County oil rigs to speed up production.



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Free beach and bay parking ordinance heads to City Council

By Karen Pearlman

SPECIAL FOR TIMES OF SAN DIEGO

SAN DIEGO – A push to guarantee free parking at more than 50 city-owned beach and Mission Bay lots moved forward Wednesday, with a San Diego City Council committee voting unanimously to advance an ordinance to the full council.

The vote came one day after the city-wide Community Planners Committee voted 22–2 in support of the effort to keep spaces in city-run parking at lots free.

As introduced by Council President Joe LaCava and Councilmember Raul Campillo at the Rules Committee, the ordinance would add a section to the San Diego Municipal Code prohibiting the city from charging parking fees at city-owned lots with access to beaches and Mission Bay.

Materials shared by LaCava and Campillo's offices initially showed that the ordinance would run through Dec. 31, 2036 – a 10-year sunset date chosen to align with a recent California Coastal Commission decision allowing

the city to close certain beach and bay lots overnight.

But several speakers at the meeting, as well as Councilmember Kent Lee, said they were not comfortable with the time frame.

During public comment, Tom Darby, a Linda Vista resident, told the committee he supported the ordinance but wished it went further.

“My preference would be free parking in perpetuity,” Darby said, adding that he was disappointed the city had let the situation reach a point “where charging for the beaches in Mission Bay is even conceivable.”

After discussion, with Lee's encouragement, the ordinance to be presented to the full council was changed, and the 2036 sunset date dropped.

Jillian Andolina of the city's Independent Budget Analyst office told the committee that while the IBA wasn't taking a position against the ordinance, the office “typically encourages council to preserve financial flexibility.”

Andolina said that if the city pursued paid parking at beach and bay lots, it could generate more than \$10 million annually.

As far as local cities that generate funds from beach parking, Del Mar projected \$1.35 million in annual parking revenue based on published figures from 2024. Farther afield, Santa Monica officials estimated in 2025 that it would make \$9 million in parking revenue, but that figure includes other structures, not just beach lots.

FROM OB TO LA JOLLA

The ordinance applies only to city-owned lots that provide beach or Mission Bay access – a list that includes Kellogg Park at La Jolla Shores, Windansea, Tourmaline, Fiesta Island, Mission Beach and Ocean Beach parking lots, and multiple Mission Bay-area lots such as Crown Point, De Anza Cove and Ski Beach.

It would not apply to on-street parking meters, or to city-owned lots leased

to outside entities such as SeaWorld or Mission Bay-area hotels. The ordinance would not affect the city's ability to issue parking citations, manage or operate lots, regulate commercial activity or issue permits for special events.

In addition to dropping the sunset date, the Rules Committee voted to narrow the ordinance's scope to apply only to city of San Diego residents. Campillo raised concerns about the residents-only framing, noting that it could result in county residents who live just outside city limits being treated the same as out-of-state visitors.

BALBOA PARK LESSONS

The councilman said he brought the beach and bay parking fees item forward “to make sure the city learns from the lessons that the parking fees at Balboa Park pointed out.”

Campillo has been at the forefront of the beach and bay parking debate, which originated as a proposal to go before voters. That path was abandoned in favor of the ordinance approach.

Public Notice: Naval Base San Diego AKA: Naval Station San Diego



Announcement: Hazardous waste permit renewal application received

➤ The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) received a hazardous waste permit renewal application.

DTSC is informing the community of a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Permit renewal application. The application is for Naval Base San Diego, also known as Naval Station San Diego (Facility). The Facility is at Naval Station 32nd Street, Building 3458, San Diego, CA, 92136. DTSC received the application on July 7, 2026.

DTSC will review the application to make sure the Facility continues to meet permit requirements. If the application is complete, DTSC will prepare a draft permit for public review and comment. If approved, the permit renewal would allow the Facility to continue collecting, storing, and transferring hazardous waste for 10 more years. The Facility is allowed to operate under the current permit conditions until a decision is made.

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Media

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MediaRelations@dtsc.ca.gov

Facility Information:

You can find more information by scanning the QR code or visiting the following link.

EnviroStor website:

envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/hwmp_profile_report.asp?global_id=CA6170024289



Administrative record:

The administrative record is available at the DTSC Chatsworth Office at 9211 Oakdale Avenue, Chatsworth, CA 91311 and will be open to the public. For an appointment, please call (818) 717-6521 or email ChatsworthFileRoom@dtsc.ca.gov.

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California is only now recognizing lifeguards as first responders

By Thomas Murphy
TIMES OF SAN DIEGO

SAN DIEGO — California lawmakers will formally recognize lifeguards as first responders, a classification that supporters say is long overdue.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 192, which recognizes open-water lifeguards as first responders and emergency response providers, passed through the Rules Committee and the Senate before the State Assembly approved it on Aug. 19. The resolution will take effect after it is signed by the Secretary of State, bypassing the governor's office.

This is only the start. Advocates are promoting a broader effort to give lifeguards the recognition, benefits and protections afforded to other first responders.

"It's long overdue; a lot of states are doing this," said Chris Carlson.

Carlson's son, Ben, died while saving a drowning victim at Newport Beach in July 2014. Chris later started a foundation in his son's honor. A 15-year veteran, Ben was the first lifeguard to be

posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.

California's resolution mentions the Ben Carlson Foundation, honoring his sacrifice and illustrating why supporters say lifeguards' work must be formally recognized.

Despite having performed over 1.4 million rescues in California's oceans, lakes and rivers, lifeguards are not recognized the same way as firefighters, police and other first responders.

California now joins New Jersey and Hawaii in formally recognizing open-water lifeguards as first responders.

Veteran San Diego lifeguard Drasko Bogdanovic calls this "a simple oversight," saying nobody thinks of lifeguards as critical public safety infrastructure "until you're the one that's not breathing out the back of six-foot waves and can't get back to shore."

The work of California lifeguards was celebrated this past summer in Santa Cruz after Ryder Williams, a 16-year-old



Lifeguard all-terrain vehicle at Ocean Beach. (Photo by Thomas Murphy / Times of San Diego)

California State Parks lifeguard, was captured on video rescuing a child from 8-to-10-foot waves at Seabright State Beach in Santa Cruz on July 25.

Video of the rescue went viral. Williams was invited to the White House, meeting President Donald Trump on Aug. 17.

"A 16-year-old lifeguard might see a dead body their first day at work," Bogdanovic said, who began his own career at 16-years-old protecting North County beaches. "How does that separate them from firefighters and law

enforcement, who are dealing with similar things? Yet, the 16-year-old kid is part-time, doesn't get the same benefits or the same resources."

Bogdanovic, who leads the nonprofit Lifeguard Project, said the viral rescue and White House visit came at an opportune time for advocates pushing the state resolution. But he sees California's resolution as a starting point, not an end goal.

"I don't think this single resolution adds any crazy changes to our field, but they do start the process with recognition," Bogdanovic said. "It levels the playing field of what lifeguards are even considered from an image and response perspective, which then allows us to advocate more."

He pointed to broader issues facing lifeguards, including access to year-round, full-time work.

"There's lifeguarding year-round, but these seasonal guards are trying to work their hours so they can try to make a living the entire year. Yet, it's not classified as a full-time position," Bogdanovic said.



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PLHS CLASS REUNION

Point Loma High School Class of 1971 is holding its 55th class reunion on Friday, Sept. 11 from 3–8 p.m. in an indoor/outdoor setting at Southwestern Yacht Club, 2702 Qualtrough St. To purchase tickets costing \$71 call Zelle at 619–316–3403.

COOL SCHOOLS

San Diego Unified School District schools are prepared to help keep students and staff safe during periods of high heat with air conditioning available in all educational spaces. Hot weather plans are in place at all schools districtwide including Point Loma Cluster’s nine schools. When temperatures rise, schools will closely monitor weather conditions and adjust activities as needed.

All educational spaces in San Diego Unified schools are air conditioned. Gyms, kitchens, restrooms and locker rooms are not equipped with air conditioning. However, proper ventilation is available in these spaces, including operable windows to support air flow. Hot Weather Plans may include modifying instructional activities or schedules, limiting or rescheduling strenuous physical activities and recess, utilizing shaded and air-conditioned spaces, providing additional access to drinking water, and monitoring students and staff for signs of heat-related illness.

“Our schools are prepared to respond when temperatures rise, and our priority is always the health, safety and well-being of our students and staff,” said deputy superintendent W. Drew Rowlands. “We have plans in place to adjust activities and schedules when needed, while keeping our schools open and learning moving forward whenever it is safe to do so.”

PLNU CLEANUP

Point Loma Nazarene University is holding a free coastal cleanup with no registration required for Sunset Cliffs Natural Park on Saturday, Sept. 9. Meet at 9 a.m. at the Ladera Street parking lot.

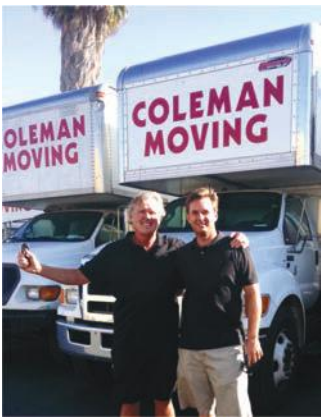
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San Diego has fewer fire rings. Here's where you can light a bonfire

By Tessa Balc
TIMES OF SAN DIEGO

SAN DIEGO – Through the smoke and torrent of this year's budget, do you recall the conversation last year about removing the city's fire rings?

You probably noticed that these rings didn't enter the budget conversation this year. There wasn't an uproar. Yet the rings didn't disappear into thin air.

That's because the city didn't attempt to touch the beloved San Diego staple.

The fire rings were restored, for the most part.

Some areas saw the loss of only a couple of rings, but there's one spot where they no longer exist: South Mission Beach. That decision was made because numerous residents had complained about the amount of smoke, city spokesperson Caleb Olsen said.

From the 11 rings there, the city moved six to Fiesta Island and two to Bonita Cove.

As a whole, there are 16 fewer rings than the 185 available in 2025. And citizens

want the city to pay for them. The mention of them disappearing residents who didn't want to see them gone.

Even the California Coastal Commission chimed in on the city's proposal to cut down on the rings at the time. By the way, the commission also urged the city to keep beach restrooms open, but we're not going to go there.

Talks of removing the rings ended after Council President Joe LaCava and County Supervisor Terra Lawson-Remer, who both represent much of the coastal area where these rings are located, announced a grant to add financial fuel to the fire.

It was a one-time grant that saved the rings through July 1. Now, the rings are funded through the city's general fund.

The past year wasn't an anomaly in terms of funds for the rings coming from outside the city. When Jerry Sanders was mayor – he left office in 2012 – paying for the fire pits was the people's problem for more than three years.

In 2008, the city actually began removing the pits until an anonymous donor dropped \$260,000 to save them. When



A man sits on one of the city's fire rings.

(File photo/Times of San Diego)

it came up again in 2010 and 2011, foundations, residents and community associations chipped in to help the city make up the difference. Kind of like what happened with Arts and Culture funding in this year's budget.

It was announced in 2012 that the city would go back to fully funding the rings. It turns out, over a decade later, residents are still just as passionate about having the rings around.

The seasonal fire rings will be taken away after Labor Day. Here's where all of the city-maintained fire rings are:

Shoreline Parks (Beaches)

La Jolla Shores – 7 (summer only).

Mission Beach (Belmont Park) – 5 (summer only).

Ocean Beach – 7 (summer only).

West Mission Bay

Mission Point – 1.

Bonita Cove – 7.

Mariner's Point – 7.

Ventura Cove – 7.

Dana Inn area

Sunset Park – 3.

Dana Landing – 2.

Vacation Isle

Vacation Isle-Southside – 11.

Vacation Isle-Paradise Point – 15.

Vacation Isle-North Cove – 4.

Ski Beach – 1.

Crown Point

Crown Point Shores – 16.

East Mission Bay Drive Area

De Anza Cove – 5.

De Anza Boat Launch – 2.

Playa Pacifica – 11.

Hilton-North – 2.

Hilton-South – 3.

Fiesta Island and South Shores

Fiesta Island – 41.

South Shores – 2.

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A
YARD SALE
FOR
BACKYARD RENAISSANCE

Theater company funds the future by selling the past PAGE 2

The happy-making
jacket from "Misery".
(Photo by: Matthew Lickona)

Nine concerts to see this September (that aren't already sold out) PAGE 4

A YARD SALE FOR BACKYARD RENAISSANCE

Theater company funds the future by selling the past

By Matthew Lickona
SAN DIEGO READER

Six-fifteen on a Saturday morning is a ridiculous hour for theater people. But you know what they say: the show must go on. Or in this case, the sale. And so a crowd has gathered here in San Carlos for the Much Ado About Knick-Knacks Yard Sale, a combination storage purge/fundraiser for Backyard Renaissance Theatre Company, which uses Downtown's Tenth Avenue Arts Center to stage its "art to the gut." (Of late, they've been taking some big swings at marriages gone soft in the middle.) Because as every good yard saler knows, if you want the good stuff, you have to get there early.

And there is good stuff here. The books piled under the end table of an associate professor of history in "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" The handbag and luggage of a woman who's always depended upon the kindness of strangers in "A Streetcar Named Desire." A collection of antique cameras that were supposed to serve as a lobby display for a production of "I Am a Camera," the play behind the musical "Cabaret." All up for grabs — orphaned objects that Backyard Renaissance hopes will find a home.

And of course, the sort of clothes you require to transport the audience to a different time and place every time. Shopper Tuscany has no trouble outfitting herself for next year's Renn Faire in Riverside: flouncy skirts, frilly tops, a faux fur jacket that might serve as a duchess' capelet. A costumer from Palomar College finds a fluffy, curly squirrel tail and a fitted red silk dress. "We're doing 'The Spongebob

Musical' soon," she explains. "My costume designer isn't keen on the big tail for Sandy Cheeks, just because there's multiple scenes where she's standing close to other people or climbing things. But I'm going to push for the big tail." As for the dress, "right now, I'm costuming 'Clue.'" It would be dynamite on Miss Scarlet. "But it doesn't seem terribly forgiving." She measures the bust, tugs at the cups, consults a card containing her cast's measurements, and examines the back of the dress, searching for ways to make room.

"We're always looking for a way to engage with the people who come to our shows and support our company," says Francis Gercke, co-founder and artistic director of Backyard Renaissance — a position that requires him to think about the "business" part of "show business." "We like to do things that are a little more personal than what's normally done." Hence the promo flyer's invitation: "Come rummage through 11 years of theatrical history and take home a piece of the show." And maybe pick up a story to take home along with it. Gercke's got a million of 'em.

"Moving sucks," says Gercke. "I am a hoarder. Everything has this deeply personal story for me. But this was still fun for Jess and me." That would be Jessica John Gercke, co-founder and executive director of the company. For example: "There's this great pair of shorts that Mike Sears wore for our first-ever show, Parlour Song." His character, Ned, is written as being rotund. Sears was...not. To drive the mismatch home, "Jessica specifically got him shorts that didn't fit particularly well and weren't particularly stylish. As weird and creepy as it sounds, I hope nobody takes those



A lucky lady made off with Blanche's baggage — the physical kind, anyway.
(Photo by Michael Mackie, courtesy of Backyard Renaissance)

shorts, because they are the ultimate red badge of courage for me — that an actor put them on and performed a full run of shows in them." (For his bravery, Sears was awarded the Craig Noel Award for Outstanding Featured Performance in a Play.)

A gold futon brought back memories of "Mr. and Mrs. Fitch" staged at Moxie Theatre on El Cajon Boulevard. "We had to get out old production photos to figure out what production it was from, and it ended up occupying two hours of a Friday morning. Eventually, we said, 'We can't be doing this. We have to let the kids grow up and move out.'"

"I hope this isn't a retirement-type thing," says one shopper.

"Oh no, it's because they're expanding," comes the quick response from another. "They have to get rid of the old to make room for the new."

"By nature, theater is an inefficient model," affirms Gercke. "It's just not conducive to streamlining. We have this bedding we used for 'Misery' — a full set, with quilts and pillowcases. But not every play calls for a bed" — and even if it did, "you don't want people staring at the same furniture for three years in a row. Companies have to reinvent the wheel every time out. We had a period refrigerator for 'Smokefall,' and we were thinking about using it for 'A Streetcar Named Desire.' But we stumbled; we started worrying, 'Is it going to look like the same refrigerator? We've got to get a different fridge.' And that's how you start to acquire stuff."

Right now, the company is renting three storage spaces, "and costs have really gone

up in the last year. We realized that if we could get rid of those three storage spaces, we could actually come close to affording a monthly lease on a property, so that we would have a commercial residency. It's not like we could afford a theater, but we could combine storage space, rehearsal space, and have the potential for a small cabaret space. It would be a better use of the contributions people provide." A framed flyer lays out the average production costs for a Backyard Renaissance show — \$46,720 — and breaks it down: \$9500 for actors, \$12,500 for required crew, \$4500 for additional crew, \$7700 for theater space (including storage), \$7900 for production and \$4620 for marketing.

The sale will eventually make about \$2000. In addition, says Jessica in the aftermath, "It helped us clear out a \$400 a month storage space, which is a savings of \$4800 over the next year. So it gives us close to \$7000 to put towards rent on a new rehearsal/storage space. Also, it was really fun to see a number of friends from other theater groups come out, and also to meet some longtime audience members!" Friends like Witchland writer Tim Mulligan, or Teri Brown, who spent 15 years as artistic director down at Chula Vista's OnStage Playhouse (where she staged the first San Diego production of "Heathers: The Musical").

Brown has a particular reason for being here: she's curious about a costume. "One of Jess's big loves is wardrobe," says Gercke. "Finding pieces that not only look good, but feel like the character has lived in them. That they purchased it themselves, and it shows them off in a good light even as it tells the story."



For sale: used jacket, slightly stained, some wear and tear in back.
(Photo by Michael Mackie, courtesy of Backyard Renaissance)

But not every actor is supposed to look good. Sometimes, they need to look terrible. “We have the jacket that the sheriff wears in ‘Misery,’” says Gercke. “He was played by Alex Guzman, and he gets shot with a shotgun by Maggie Carney’s character. Our special effects coordinator Jeffery Neitzel blew out the back of the jacket and had blood and guts hanging from it. The spine was even showing. I couldn’t believe he was going to rip it up, and then once he completed it, it was like this work of art. But I said to him, ‘You’ve really screwed Jess and me, because we’re never going to get rid of this jacket. Who walks around with their spine out?’”

How about another sheriff from another production of “Misery” — like the one Lamplighters in La Mesa will be doing in October, with Brown in the role of Annie Wilkes? Incidentally, Lamplighters is facing its own real-estate issues: “It’s the oldest community theater in San Diego,” notes Brown. “They were down by the library in La Mesa, and then when the police station decided to expand, they didn’t have a home for three years. They found a place in a shopping center, but the guy who owned it passed away, and the school that’s there now wants the whole thing.”

Despite the ground shifting beneath Lamplighters’ feet, it’s something of a return-and-restart for Brown. “It’s the first place where I came in as an actor, right out of high school. I haven’t been on stage for

many years, but this year, my goal was, ‘I’m gonna start auditioning again,’” after years of grieving for her lost partner. “On a whim, I auditioned for ‘The Rise and Fall of Little Voice’ at Backyard this year. And I was cast. And then ‘Misery’ came up” — the kind of lead she hasn’t tackled in ages. “It’s big. But I was like, ‘Okay, yes, I can do that.’”

Brown was already a fan of Stephen King, and also of tackling tough stuff. “I directed ‘Carrie’ down at OnStage. I like to give myself a challenge with every show that I direct. And that one was, ‘How do you deal with all this blood?’ We had a platform that had steps, almost like bleachers. And at the top of the platform was a grate, and under the grate was a rolling sort of bucket thing that you could take out. But that didn’t stop it from splashing. Backstage, we had these big tubs with OxyClean and water in them. When the curtain closed, the blood-soaked women had to run and take everything off, and everything went in the bins. The bathroom had a utility sink, so Carrie could wash her hair, and the stage manager would bring them their street clothes.”

Now, she’s after the jacked-up jacket. “Jeff will be so happy that it’s going to live again,” she says as she buys it — even before getting Lamplighters’ green light. “Even if we don’t use it, it’s fun. Maybe I’ll wear it on the back of my brother’s motorcycle.”

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Nine concerts to see this September (that aren't already sold out)

By Reader Staff
SAN DIEGO READER

Yes, Pierce the Veil and Robert Plant and J. Cole and Jack White are all coming to San Diego in September. But you probably knew that already. What's more, they're sold out. Here are nine other shows that still had tickets available at press time — some local, some touring, all worth noting.

SANDE LOLLIS FAREWELL CONCERT

Local icon Sande Lollis first earned notice with East County Americana band Enter the Blue Sky. In 2017, she won the West Coast Country Music Association competition for Best Female Vocalist of the Year and Best Female Entertainer of the Year, earning a slot the following year at the national competition at Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. Over the past two decades, she has uploaded nearly a hundred performance videos to her Youtube channel, many of them taped locally, but now

she's relocating to the east coast. "Last year, after losing my mom, I inherited her house in Tennessee," she said. "That turn of events set in motion a decision I never imagined making...this city has held so much of my music life, my friends, my collaborators, the rooms where songs were born, the unexpected harmonies, the late-night conversations that turned into melodies. It's where I learned how to stand inside my own voice, and where so many of you first stood with me. Now I'm packing up that life and stepping into something new, carrying both sadness and excitement at the same time." Her farewell-to-San Diego concert includes singer-guitarist Jeff Berkley (Berkley Hart), bassist Jason Littlefield (Archtones), multi-instrumentalist Shawn Rohlf (7th Day Buskers), drummer Danny Campbell (Fish & the Seaweeds), and singer-songwriters Cathryn Beeks (CalAmity) and Bonnie Nicholls.



Sande Lollis at Big Rock Studios. (Photo courtesy of Sande Lollis)

Where:

Normal Heights United Methodist Church,
4650 Mansfield Street, San Diego

When:

Friday, Sept. 4, 6 pm

Ages: All ages

Cost: \$25

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Fenix TX (San Diego Reader file photo)

FENIX TX

Though two of the members currently live in San Diego County, pop-punk band Fenix TX was originally based in Texas and known as Riverfenix. Their debut 1997 album Drive Thru resulted in Mark Hoppus managing the band while he was still playing with Blink-182. Both groups toured together until Fenix TX split in 2002, though a few brief reunions ensued. After Blink-182 announced its reformation in 2009, the classic Fenix TX lineup reunited as well. One of the original members, Adam Lewis, passed away from cancer in 2024, prompting the band to prepare previously unreleased material to release in memory of Lewis and for the benefit of his family. Their Big Fish EP dropped in March, and includes four rare or previously unreleased recordings from 1999: “Damn For Real?,” “Abbazabba You My Only Friend,” “Mountain Dewd” and a demo of “Phoebe Cates.”

Where:
The Casbah, 2501 Kettner Blvd, San Diego

When:
Saturday, Sept. 5, at 8:30 pm

Ages: 21+ **Cost:** \$25–\$30

FOOLS AND FRIENDS

Local songwriter collective Fools and Fables takes over the Casbah for Fools and Friends, an eight-artist showcase featuring Alex Bergan, Sutton James, Justin Rodriguez, Jesse Lamonaca, Shelbi Bennett, The Wellsprings, Aly Rowell and C. Gibbs. It’s something of a comeback show for Lamonaca, who recently released two singles in advance of his first recording in nearly 15 years. (He recorded his last album, The Lament of Tumbleweed Hawk, with his band The Dime Novels and nabbed a Best Americana nomination at the San Diego Music Awards in 2012.) “In the last five years, something shifted where music came back to front and center in my life,” he said, “and I started writing the songs that I’ve been waiting to write.” “The Way,” currently streaming online, is “a song about absence and rediscovery,” he says, “about being lost and finding your way home. It opens on a misty river — a swarm of swallows, a grey morning, a soul that gets a little straighter at the bend — and ends with a confession.”



Jesse Lamonaca
(San Diego Reader file photo)

Where: The Casbah, 2501 Kettner Blvd, San Diego

When: Friday, Sept. 4 at 8 pm

Ages: 21+ **Cost:** \$20





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MY TOWN FEST

Taking place over two days, the My Town festival is back to celebrate decades of San Diego music with a number of noteworthy appearances and reunions. The bill for Saturday, Sept. 12 includes punk icons The Zeros celebrating their 50th anniversary, Everready's first show in over ten years, 1980s punk band Dum Dum Boys, 90s punk rockers The Mice (marking their first performance in around six years), Sex Pistols-Spice Girls mashup Spice Pistols, hardcore punk chick rockers Revolt Chix, Gizzards, Hour of Pearl, Substitute Gym Teacher, Holding Grudges and Rat Tricks. Sunday, Sept. 13 features The Neighbors celebrating 34 years of hyperfast hardcore, politically aware all-vegetarian anti-war punkers Diatribe (known as the first American D-Beat, circa early 1980s), Santa Claus (1985 thrash) War Fever, Doc Hammer (named after one of the talents

behind the TV cartoon show The Venture Brothers), Subversive Intent (members of The Eulogy, In Control, Meth Breath, Stay Away), Philistine (members of Waco Fuck/DEA), Moral Genocide (members from Battalion of Saints and Systematic Abuse), Aggravate (ex-Impulse), Lummux Delux (ex-Crossed Out) and Infernal Tide Riders.

Where:

The Holding Company, 5046 Newport Avenue, San Diego

When:

Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 12 and 13 starting at 1 pm

Ages: 21+ **Cost:** \$32.50



My Town event poster. (Used with permission)



"Not quite my tempo." "Weird Al" performs in Whiplash as part of his Bigger and Weirder tour. (YouTube screenshot)

"WEIRD AL" YANKOVIC

You will meet people who will tell you that the triumph of nerd culture began with the rise of comic book movies — Peter Parkers of the world, unite! Eventually, Robert Downey Jr. will come along and make science cool! These people are mistaken. It began in 1985, when "Weird Al" Yankovic released "Eat It" just a year after Michael Jackson's "Beat It." Michael Jackson was the King of Pop. Thriller was (and is) the best-selling album of all time. And here was this guy singing "Have a banana, have a whole bunch/ It doesn't matter what you had for lunch/ Just eat it." Five months later, Revenge of the Nerds hit theaters. Of course, the great thing about Yankovic is that he wasn't a one-off novelty act. He's stayed sharp for decades, outlasting nearly all of the stars he started out parodying.

Where:

The Rady Shell at Jacobs Park, 222 Marina Park Way, San Diego

When:

Wednesday, Sept. 16 at 7 pm

Ages: All ages **Cost:** \$71–\$225

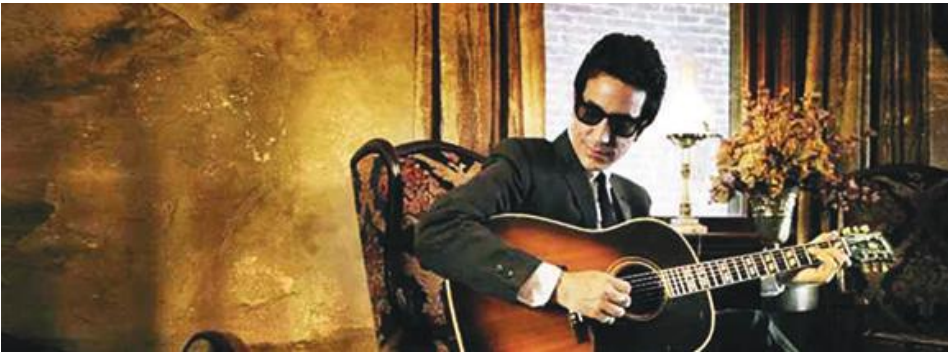
ADAMS AVENUE STREET FAIR

Hey Magic 8 Ball: will Normal Heights ever be properly gentrified? Signs point to no. It's just too stubbornly itself. Your humble correspondent once looked at a house within sight of the Kensington sign. "Don't kid yourself," warned the realtor. "You will never be Kensington." Thank goodness? The 44th annual Adams Avenue Street Fair fills 10 blocks of Normal Heights with 75 musical acts on six stages, making it Southern California's largest free two-day music festival. This year's bill mixes nationally known performers such as veteran rapper Masta Ace and blues guitarist Chris Duarte, plus a particularly deep roster of San Diego acts, including Bardo, Boostive, Creepxotica, Wild Wild Wets and Euphoria Brass Band. Scheduled artists include: Los Fabulocos, Sue Palmer & Her Motel Swing Orchestra, The Midnight Rivals, Kimmi Bitter, Jahtiva, Gayle Skidmore, Please Ask for Paul, The Wellsprings, Stucky Leigh, Rookie Card and Poor Thing.

Where:
Adams Avenue, Normal Heights

When:
Saturday, Sept. 19, 10 am–10 pm; Sunday, Sept. 20, 10 am–6 pm

Ages: All ages **Cost:** FREE



A.J. Croce (San Diego Reader file photo)

A.J. CROCE

"I'm pretty eclectic," said singer-songwriter A.J. Croce. "I've been filed in five or six different genres in stores and on the radio, so it may be easiest to describe my music as Ray Charles meets Ray Davies, or Elvis Presley meets Elvis Costello, or John Hurt meets John Lennon, or maybe Randy Newman meets Jim Croce, which was my first concert." Now, he celebrates both his own 35-year career and the music of his father, Jim Croce, with Croce Plays Croce, mixing songs such as "Operator," "Time in a Bottle," and "Bad, Bad Leroy Brown" with his own roots, blues, soul and rock material. Croce deliberately avoided performing his father's catalog for decades while establishing himself as an artist in his own right. That changed in 2017, and in 2022, the 50th Anniversary celebration of his father's breakthrough album You Don't Mess Around With Jim saw the beginning of the Croce Plays Croce tour that he's bringing to his adopted hometown.

Where:
Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, San Diego

When:
Saturday, Sept. 19, 2026 at 7:30 pm

Ages: All ages **Cost:** \$82.90



You know it's a good street fair when you can't even see the street.
(San Diego Reader file photo)

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CRSSD FESTIVAL

Who knew that EDM fans would enjoy blissing out while watching the sunset over the water instead of baking in the desert outside of Vegas? For that matter, who knew San Diego was secretly cool? San Diego's homegrown CRSSD Festival has grown since its 2015 debut into one of the West Coast's major electronic-music festivals, drawing roughly 34,000 attendees over two days and emphasizing house, techno and crossover electronic acts rather than EDM spectacle. Fall 2026 is topped by a Chris Lake b2b Disclosure DJ set, with Mochakk, Boys Noize, Groove Armada, Skepta's Más Tiempo project, I Hate Models, Marlon Hoffstadt and many, many others spread across the Ocean View, Palms and City Steps stages.

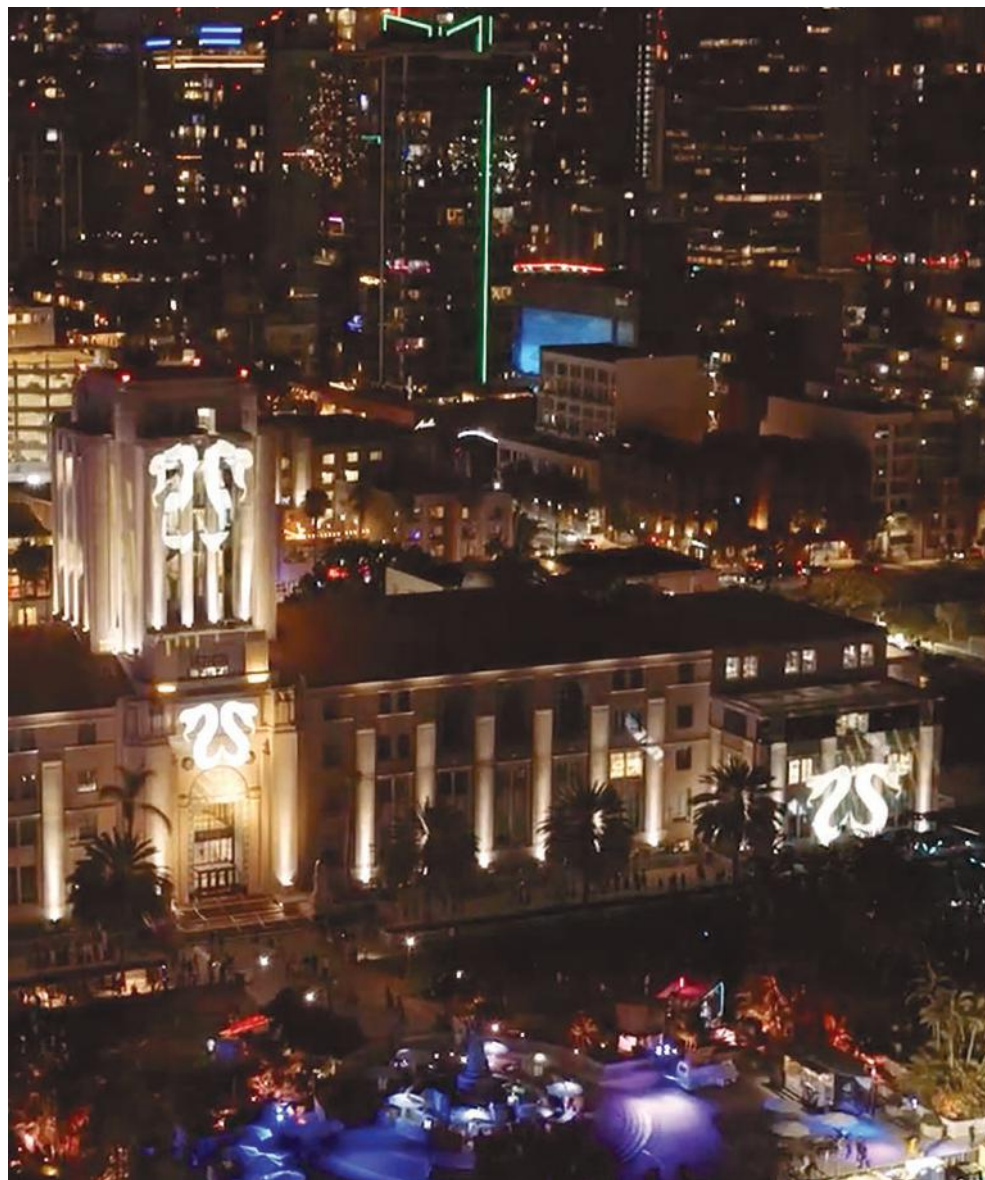
Where:

Waterfront Park, 1600 Pacific Highway

When:

Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 26–27, noon–10 pm

Ages: 21+ **Cost:** \$214–\$440



CRSSD lights up the night in 2025. (YouTube screenshot)



Collective Soul (YouTube screenshot)

COLLECTIVE SOUL

Trent Reznor famously said that hearing Johnny Cash's cover of Nine Inch Nails' "Hurt" felt "like someone kissing your girlfriend." And after he saw the video, he even more famously said, "Wow, I just lost my girlfriend, because that song isn't mine any more." That line came to mind during Twitter's collective swoon over Dolly Parton's cover of Collective Soul's "Shine" after the music legend died last week at the age of 80. Parton's cover is legit great, and has a more obvious piety about it when it pleads "Heaven, let your light shine down." But Collective Soul is a band, and Dean Roland's guitar riff is as much a part of what makes that song work as anything in the lyrics. Verdict: similar, but not the same as the Cash grab.

Where:

Humphrey's Concerts by the Bay,
2241 Shelter Island Dr., San Diego

When:

Friday, Sept. 25, 2026,
at 7:30 pm

Ages: All Ages

Cost: \$128–\$304

Reader

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New lower speed limits rolling out with student safety a priority

By Drew Sitton
TIMES OF SAN DIEGO

SAN DIEGO – Two events in the 2025–2026 school year reshaped how officials at all levels are moving to protect students on city streets with youngsters and teens back in class.

The first was the death of 11-year-old Andrew Olsen last October, and the injuries suffered by his siblings after a car hit the trio. They were crossing Jackson Drive in San Carlos on the way to Pershing Middle School.

The second was a law passed by the state legislature making way for local cities to lower their speed limits in critical zones, an action that once was banned.

LOWER SPEED LIMITS

Subsequently, the San Diego City Council passed an ordinance lowering speed limits on 20% of the city’s streets, including school zones, business districts, places with a history of fatalities and those with high traffic from pedestrians and cyclists. The plan accounts for 679 miles of the city’s roads.

“There’s a lot to implement in the plan,” said city spokesperson Anthony Santacroce. “We think school zones are most important to implement first.”

Limits for the school zones will fall to 15–20 miles per hour around the schools, then 25 miles per hour in areas between 501 to 1,000 feet away from schools.

The effort to implement that ordinance began in July, with signs now in place to reflect the lower speed limits near schools in San Ysidro, Otay Mesa, and Nestor.

The city is continuing to update signs, moving in a general south to north direction. In August, crews are adding new signs in Southeast San Diego, and parts of downtown and adjacent areas like Barrio Logan. The peninsula, too, may get its signs this month. The next goal, for September, will be parts of mid-city, including City Heights, North Park and College Area.

Although transportation crews may face delays due to anticipated El Niño storms, the general plan is for all school zone speeds to be updated by the end of the school year.

Once the school zones are finished, the city will decide what to prioritize next, among the fatal corridors, business districts and high-pedestrian-traffic areas.

“We are glad that the city took the Vision Zero coalition’s recommendation to prioritize reducing speeds in school zones first,” said Anar Salayev of Bike SD. “From there, we want to see similar treatments made on corridors that have a history of injuries and fatalities. Ultimately, we want to see material change made in these zones — beyond mere changes to speed limit signs.”

SAN DIEGO UNIFIED’S SURVEY

As the city worked on its plan to reduce speeds, the San Diego Unified School District began its own efforts to protect students traveling to and from school.

After Olsen’s death, Superintendent Fabi Bagula surveyed every principal in the district, asking for recommendations on how to improve student safety.

“We believe that (the) road is a part of overall student wellness. If they don’t

feel safe in their commute to come to school, then we believe that impacts their wellness,” said her chief of staff Enrique Ruacho. “The safest road in any city should be the road to school.”

A few of the principals included in the survey, as well as parent organizations, had already advocated road improvements with their city council members. Bringing their changes into a comprehensive plan helped principals throw the might of the school district behind them. discussions with the council offices.

“Too often, communities rely on their principals. Well, now you know they have the superintendent and our entire board focused on this issue,” Ruacho said.

In July, the school district released the results of its survey in a report detailing over 100 traffic safety improvement ideas near schools, which officials described as “specific, place-based and actionable.” The report included simple fixes, like repainting crosswalks, to more expensive interventions, like adding speed bumps or flashing lights at crosswalks.



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LEGAL ADS

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME; CASE NO 26CU041432C SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF San Diego; Superior Court of California, County of San Diego, 330 West Broadway, San Diego, CA 92101, Hall of Justice TO ALL INTERESTED PER-SONS: 1. Petitioner (name) a. Kelly James Clayton Filed A. Petition With This Court For A De-cree Changing Names As Follows: Present Name: a. a. Kelly James Clayton To Proposed Name: a. Kelly James Mangold THE COURT ORDERS That All Persons Interested In This Mat-ter appear before the court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that indicates the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing. NOTICE OF HEARING a. Date: September 22, 2026: 8:30 AM DEPT: C-61 ; a. A copy of this Order to show cause shall be published at least once each week for four consecutive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county (specify newspaper): La Jolla Village News, Beach & Bay Press & Peninsula Beacon. Date: 08/03//2026 by M. Guyot, Deputy Clerk. Judge Michael S. Groch, Judge of the superior court ISSUE DATES: August 14, 21, 28 & September 4, 2026. NO HEARING WILL OCCUR ON THE DATE SPECIFIED IN THE ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE. The Court will review the documents filed as of the date specified on the Order to Show Cause for change (JC Form #NC-120) If all requirements for a name change have been met as of the date specified, and no timely written objection has been received (require at least two court days before the date specified), the petition for change of name (JC Form #NC-120) will be granted without a hearing. One certified copy of the Order Granting the Petition will be mailed to the petitioner. To change a name on a legal document, including a birth certificate, social security card, driver license, passport, and other identification, a certified copy of Decree Changing

Name {JC Form #NC-130) or Decree Changing Name and Order Recognizing Change of Gender and for Issuance of New Birth Certificate (JC Form #NC-230) may be required. Contact the agen-cy(ies) who issues the legal document that needs to be changed, to determine if a certified copy is required. A certified copy of Decree Changing Name (JC Form #NC-130) or Decree Chang-ing Name and Order Recognizing Change of Gender and for Issuance of New Birth Certificate (JC Form #NC-230) may be obtained from the Civil Business Office for a fee. Petitioners who are seeking a change of name under the Safe at Home program may contact the assigned de-partment for information on obtaining certified copies. If all the requirements have not been met as of the date specified, the court will mail the petitioner a written order with further direc-tions. If a timely objection is filed, the court will set a hearing date and contact the parties by mail with further directions. A RESPONDENT OBJECTING TO THE NAME CHANGE MUST FILE A WRITTEN OBJECTION AT LEAST TWO COURT DAYS (excluding weekends and holi-days) BEFORE THE DATE SPECIFIED. Do not come to court on the specified date. The court will notify the parties by mail of a future hearing date. Any Petition for the name changes of a minor that is signed by only one parent must have this Attachment served along with the Petition and Order to Show Cause, on the other non-signing parent, and proof of service must be filed with the court.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-9015477 Fictitious Business Name(s) a. Carevider b. Carevider. com, 8895 Towne Center Drive, STE 105, San Diego, CA 92122 registered by the following: a. Neos Management, Inc by: a corporation The first day of business was: 05/18//2026 Registrant Name: a. Neos Management, Inc Title of officer Limited Liability Company/Corporation Title of Signor Eric Tucker, CEO the statement was filed with Jordan Z. Marks, Recorder/County Clerk of San Diego County on: July 14, 2026 ISSUE DATES: August 14, 21, 28 & September 4, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-9016739 Fictitious Business Name(s) a. Mission Control Sys-

tems, 4102 Via Del Rey, Oceanside, CA 92057 registered by the following: a. Colello Consulting, LLC b . Salgado Consulting, LLC., JR Automation, LLC by: a General Partnership first day of business was: N/A Registrant Name: a. Colello Consulting, LLC b . Salgado Consulting, LLC., JR Automation, LLC Title of officer Limited Liability Company/Corporation Title of Signor Jesus Salgado Gallaga, President the statement was filed with Jordan Z. Marks, Recorder/County Clerk of San Diego County on: July 31, 2026 ISSUE DATES: August 14, 21, 28 & September 4, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-9017140 Fictitious Business Name(s) a. OT with LB, 5550 Mildred St, APT 11, San Diego, CA 92110 registered by the following: a. Lindsay Ann Barrows by: a an Individual first day of business was: N/A Registrant Name: a. Lindsay Ann Barrows Title of officer Limited Liability Company/Corporation Title of Signor the statement was filed with Jordan Z. Marks, Recorder/County Clerk of San Diego County on: August 6, 2026 ISSUE DATES: August 14, 21, 28 & September 4, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-9016485 Fictitious Business Name(s) a. San Diego Hot Tub Repair, 9920 Pacific Heights Blvd #150, San Diego, CA 92121 registered by the following: a. Action Spa Repair LLC by: a Limited Liability Company first day of business was: N/A Registrant Name a. Action Spa Repair LLC Title of officer Limited Liability Company/Corporation Title of Signor Jorge Sanz Povar , Manager the statement was filed with Jordan Z. Marks, Recorder/County Clerk of San Diego County on: July 29, 2026. ISSUE DATES: August 14, 21, 28 & September 4, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-9017960 Fictitious Business Name(s) a. Nathan Manor & Associates, 7979 Ivanhoe Avenue, Suite 420, La Jolla, CA 92037 is registered by the following: a. Nathan Manor Tax, LLC business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The first day of business was: N/A Registrant Name: a. Nathan Manor Tax, LLC This Title of Officer, if Limited Liability Company/Corporation Title of Signor Nathan Manor , Member The statement was filed

with Jordan Z. Marks, Jr. Recorder/County Clerk of San Diego County on: August 18, 2026 ISSUE DATES: August 28, September 4, 11 & 18, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-9018956 Fictitious Business Name(s) a. George's Events, 1502 India Street, Suite 102-218, San Diego, CA 92101 is registered by the following: a. A & A Legacy, LLC business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The first day of business was: N/A Registrant Name: a. A & A Legacy, LLC This Title of Officer, if Limited Liability Company/Corporation Title of Signor Nicole Nanette Assef , CEO The statement was filed with Jordan Z. Marks, Jr. Recorder/County Clerk of San Diego County on: August 31, 2026, ISSUE DATES: September 4. 11, 18 & 25, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-9018985 Fictitious Business Name(s) a. Talient, 9350 Waxie Way, Suite 100, San Diego, CA 92123 is registered by the following: a. .WWNA Technology, LLC business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The first day of business was: 06/08/2026 Registrant Name: : a .WWNA Technology, LLC This Title of Officer, if Limited Liability Company/Corporation Title of Signor Seth Stein, CEO The statement was filed with Jordan Z. Marks, Jr. Recorder/County Clerk of San Diego County on: August 31, 2026, ISSUE DATES: September 4. 11, 18 & 25, 2026.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2026-9018984 Fictitious Business Name(s) a. Workwell MSP, 9350 Waxie Way, Suite 100, San Diego, CA 92123 is registered by the following: a. WWNA MSP LLC business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. The first day of business was: 06/08/2026 Registrant Name: a. WWNA MSP LLC This Title of Officer, if Limited Liability Company/Corporation Title of Signor Seth Stein, CEO The statement was filed with Jordan Z. Marks, Jr. Recorder/County Clerk of San Diego County on: August 31, 2026, ISSUE DATES: September 4. 11, 18 & 25, 2026.

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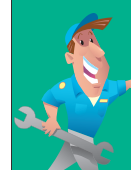
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From 'Hill Top Boys' to hard lessons: Reflections of Sunset Cliffs in the 1950s

By Mike Clardy
SPECIAL FOR TIMES OF SAN DIEGO

POINT LOMA – In the spring of 1955, I turned 12. I was big for my age and looking for adventure.

My friends and I were very fortunate to live in the Wooded/College area at the top of Point Loma.

Down the hill to the east was San Diego Bay where we learned to sail and race our Starlet sailboats.

Down the hill on the west side was Sunset Cliffs.

We called ourselves 'The Hill Top Boys,' for obvious reasons.

Always looking for more adventure, we were excited to discover Hill Street Beach (now known as 'No Surf'). There we met some young, friendly Samoans, who taught us to surf using their red-wood surfboards. We all fell in love with surfing, and it became a lifetime passion.

The Hill Top Boys met other boys our age who lived nearby. Our young group enjoyed the surfing and the fish and abalone provided by the Samoans. When the surf was small, we would explore the nearby Sunset Cliff caves. There were many more back then, before the water started to rise and all the cave-ins occurred.

Our most exciting adventure was to jump; of course, there were a few dives as well, off what we affectionately called 'Bird Shit Rock,' less vulgarly known as Ross Rock.

It was a tough climb up the rock, but once on top, it was very cool. Frequently, we would have to gently shoo off the seagulls that loved to poop on the top of the rock.

We would then jump or dive off the south side of the rock into the incoming waves. At that time, there were more rocks on the north side of the rock, and the climb-up was on the south side.

When it was low tide, you had to time your dive with the incoming wave so you wouldn't hit your head on the reef. We learned to extend our arms over our head so our hands/arms would cushion the impact on the reef.



A couple of young women jump off The Arch at Sunset Cliffs, which is now an illegal activity. (Photo by Thomas Melville/Times of San Diego)

This diving was great fun and dangerous. One of our fellow beachgoers unfortunately lost a leg climbing on the rocks nearby.

As I and my friends got older, we concentrated our surfing at places below the college (Abs and Garbage) and became involved with sports at Point Loma High School. These activities limited our visits to Hill Street Beach and the rock. Most of us went away to college and then became involved in the working world.

Now that we are all in our 80s, we can still fondly remember our days at Hill Street Beach and jumping (diving) off Bird Shit Rock. However, I now more fully realize the danger after reading about the current injuries and the danger to the Fire/Rescue teams.

For the most part, the Hill Top Boys have had adventurous and successful lives. We approached life with the same spirit that led us to Sunset Cliffs. We have lost a few of the boys, but the rest of us still get together at least twice a year and remember our great times at Hill Street Beach.

With the wisdom that comes with age, I encourage those groups of young kids I see on the cliffs and, more recently, on the news, some of whom remind me so much of myself and The Hill Top Boys, to be safe and not jump or dive off any part of Sunset Cliffs.

As you age, you realize the misguided nature of your youth.

SUDOKU

		3		5			2	
		4						
		9	4	6	8			
8					4	1		
					4		3	
4		1	6	8			9	
	9		8		6	2		
			2	1				8
	7							



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TIMES of SAN DIEGO

CROSSWORDS

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18								
19						20				21				
					22				23					
		24	25						26			27	28	
29	30							31				32		33
34						35	36					37		
38						39						40		
	41		42						43	44				
									46					
		47	48					49				50	51	52
53							54				55	56		
57											58			
59							60				61			

24. Kids love him
25. Metal-bearing solid
27. Skin care product manufacturer
28. Thirteen
29. Angry
30. Member of a Semitic people
31. One-thousandth of an inch
33. Former CIA
35. Most lemony
36. Engage in
37. Mass of fish eggs
39. Food supplies
42. Backbones
43. American real estate investment firm
44. Megabyte
46. "Three Coins in the Fountain" songwriter
47. Dutch colonist
48. Full-grown pike fish
49. Emergency prep expert Edwards
50. Flute
51. Dismissive sound
52. Slang term for marijuana
53. Young women's association
54. Cosmopolitan city
55. Narrow isthmus in Thailand
56. Pointed end of a pen

ANSWERS

9	1	3	5	7	6	8	2	2
8	9	6	2	1	2	9	7	3
2	7	2	9	3	8	9	6	1
9	6	2	2	8	9	1	3	7
3	8	7	1	2	9	2	9	6
2	9	1	7	6	3	2	9	8
1	3	9	8	9	7	6	2	2
6	2	9	3	2	1	7	8	9
7	2	8	6	9	2	3	1	9

S	L	E	B	V		N	O	L	S	E	B	V		
S	J	I	R		N	O	I	S	S	E	O	E	S	
E	I	N	K	E	H	L	E	O	N	N	O	O		
S	J			V	V		I	N	I	L	R			
			B	V	O		E	O	V	D				
		S	E	W	V		D	N	I	S	V	B		
S	I	B	O			L	V	V	A	L	V	O		
S	I	R			S	N	I	W	L	E	N	B	V	
O	I	B		A	B	V	W			B	V	V	W	
X	V	E	L	O	D			S	O	O	S			
		L	E	L	S		N	V	L					
S	E	I	B	V		S	E	D		O	O	V		
A	H	O	B	V	N	O	W	H	S	I	L	I	B	
E	O	N	V	B	E	A	O	S		N	V	O	E	B
K	O	O	B		S	V	B	V		V	O	B	V	

CLUES ACROSS

1. Manila hemp plant
6. Turkish river
10. Something to read
14. In a way, initiated
15. Popular Apple TV series
17. King Charles is part of it
19. Earlier
20. Foot (Latin)
21. Zodiac sign
22. A browning of the skin
23. Remain as is
24. Turfs
26. It's used to slaughter animals
29. Volcanic crater
31. The mother of Jesus
32. One's life story
34. One-time Liverpool coach Slot
35. Counterparts
37. Jacob ____, American journalist
38. Digital audiotape
39. River in South Africa
40. Kimono sashes
41. Rooting somewhere
43. American spy Aldrich
45. A way to call for
46. Taxi

47. Pancakes made of buckwheat flour
49. Swiss river
50. Popular type of video game (abbr.)
53. Have surgery
57. Formal withdrawal from a union
58. Performs spoken improv
59. Greek war god
60. 2,000 lbs.
61. Helps to evade capture

CLUES DOWN

1. Swedish rock group
2. "Friday Night Lights" director Peter
3. Currency exchange fee
4. Feline
5. Folk singer DiFranco
6. Ghastly pale from distress
7. Rapid eye movements
8. Monetary unit of Macao
9. Lawmakers
10. Colorless mineral
11. At some prior time
12. American protest singer
13. Opener
16. Seldom
18. Relaxing places
22. Touchdown
23. From end to end

Among shifting ownership, layoffs, and rehires – Stone Brewing turns 30

By Frank Sabatini Jr.

SPECIAL FOR TIMES OF SAN DIEGO

POINT LOMA – The Sept. 12 big anniversary bash at Stone Brewing World Bistro & Gardens in Liberty Station has prospective attendees wondering who – or what – it is they will be toasting.

In just the past four years the craft beer company, celebrating its 30th anniversary, has changed hands twice. Adding to the confusion is news that layoffs are coming ahead of the closure of Stone's Escondido production facility and two-level restaurant, which sit on an acre of manicured land.

The announced cuts ironically coincide with the recent hiring of 200 former employees who worked in non-production capacities under past owners. Yet the two events are unrelated due to the latest change in ownership.

San Diego residents Greg Koch and Steve Wagner founded Stone Brewing in 1996. They were friends who shared a passion for the indie music scene—and beer. The pair successfully grew the business and stayed involved in it until 2022, when they sold it to Sapporo U.S.A. Inc. Both men are now retired.

Then in June of this year, Firestone Walker and its parent company, Duvel Moortgat USA, acquired Stone. For branding and hospitality purposes,



Stone's World Bistro & Gardens in Liberty Station will remain in full operation. (Photo courtesy of Stone Brewing)

the beer company is still called Stone Brewing.

Sapporo, however, hung on to Stone's production facility and World Bistro & Gardens restaurant in Escondido. After failing to find a buyer for the property, Sapporo plans to shut everything down by the end of the year. Fifty-eight employees will be laid off in October, with the remaining number of job cuts, totaling 220, due to occur by January. The layoffs are not associated with Stone's ongoing operations under Firestone Walker.

"This is an understandably difficult time for our Escondido employees and the community, and we're committed to supporting them through this transition," a statement from Sapporo read in part.

Conversely, under Firestone Walker, the company recently hired 200 employees

who previously worked under Sapporo on behalf of Stone. They included those from the sales-marketing department, plus others who held hospitality positions at Liberty Station's World Bistro & Gardens as well as Stone's tap rooms in Little Italy, Oceanside, and Pasadena.

Those properties are not closing, according to Lizzie Younkin, brand director for Stone Brewing.

"In fact, the Liberty Station World Bistro & Gardens will actually see some upgrades such as a new lobby entrance, additional TV screens, and seasonal menu changes. There is a brewery inside and we will be producing about 2,000 barrels of Stone products there annually, which is more compared to our pre-acquisition days," she said while pointing out that Stone's main production line moved to Paso Robles.

Younkin is an 11-year employee of Stone Brewing. She said the upcoming changes "are very positive."

The free public anniversary party will be held from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Sept. 12, at the massive indoor-outdoor bistro and gardens in Liberty Station (2816 Historic Decatur). It is slated to be the largest annual commemoration in the company's history, complete with live music, arcade games, screenings of '90s movies

STONE BREWING'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY

When: The free party will be held from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Sept. 12.

Where: Stone's World Bistro & Gardens in Liberty Station, 2816 Historic Decatur.

Info: stonebrewing.com.

and pet adoptions.

The event also will showcase Stone's 30th Anniversary Double IPA, a deep-golden brew ringing in at 8.5% alcohol. Available in 16-ounce cans, the beer is available only at Liberty

Station and Stone's tap rooms.

In addition, Stone is offering a VIP option for \$100, which includes unlimited beer pours, "fan-favorite" foods, access to the archive beer cellar, merchandise and more. Tickets can be purchased at stonebrewing.com.

"By freshening up the Liberty Station bistro and hiring more employees, Firestone Walker is carrying Stone Brewing forward," Younkin added. "San Diegans care a lot about this brand and take pride and ownership in it."

Battle of the Paddle fundraiser set for Ocean Beach Woman's Club

By Dave Schwab

TIMES OF SAN DIEGO

OCEAN BEACH – Back-and-whack returns as Ocean Beach Woman's Club will hold its sixth annual fundraising ping-pong tournament titled the Battle of the Paddle on Friday, Sept. 25.

The event is free for spectators and is held from 6 to 10 p.m. at OBWC at 2160 Bacon St. Sponsored by Skrewball Whiskey, the 32-player co-ed tournament bracket plays out in a single evening with guests inside enjoying back-and-forth action on the tables, and outside, indulging in local food and beverages.

OBWC ping-pong tournament

proceeds benefit local nonprofits. "This is a free community family friendly event open to all at the clubhouse to enjoy a night of fun, food and entertainment," said Arlene Fink, OBWC president. "This is our biggest fundraising event that supports the club's mission to give back. This year we are raising money for the OB Historical Society, the OB Food Pantry (Loaves and Fishes) and Doors of Change. The event is exciting, fun and philanthropic. We hope to see many OB residents there."

Susan Winkie, who helped create the tournament and has emceed it wearing a tuxedo ever since, got the idea initially for turning the sport into a club



Ping-pong tournament play at the Ocean Beach Woman's Club. (Photo courtesy of Ocean Beach Woman's Club)

fundraiser during an evening out with friends watching others play the sport.

Tournament refreshments are being provided this year by Jensen's, Dirty Birds, The Holding Company and Pizzeria Luigi. Winkie gave a special shout out to Dirty Birds in OB, citing the

eatery as a constant supporter of both the club and its ping-pong tournament.

Winkie encouraged the community to turn out for the Friday night event, and said that this year OBWC will be doing raffles for the first time to help increase proceeds to be donated back into the community.

Top competitors vie for gold and silver paddle trophies, which are presented to the winners at tournament's end.

Pointers win first two, will play La Jolla for 'The Shoe'

By Scott Hopkins

SPECIAL FOR TIMES OF SAN DIEGO

POINT LOMA – After two very different wins, Point Loma's football team travels to La Jolla at 7 p.m. Friday to face the Vikings in one of the county's longest-running rivalries.

La Jolla (1922) and Point Loma (1925) are the second and third oldest schools in the San Diego district and their football teams have been waging war for decades.

"The Shoe" was once a mighty perpetual trophy with a bronzed football shoe that disappeared while in Viking possession some 15–20 years ago. It has since been replaced by a spray-painted shoe mounted on a small plank of wood, but to the players it might as well be the Super Bowl trophy.

The Pointers won last year's meeting 37–7 on Bennie Edens Field and the last thing current team members want to do is hand over "The Shoe" to the Vikings at La Jolla.

In their season opener, the Pointers destroyed once-powerful Leuzinger High at the Olympians' field in Lawndale. Last year, Leuzinger was 11–2 but multiple players transferred and this year's team was, in the words of a Pointer player, "Like a JV team."

The final score, 65–0, came after playing a running clock in the second half when the Pointers still scored 21 points.

The Pointers only ran 25 offensive plays in the game, scoring on six of them, two on runs by quarterback Ryder Watson and two pass receptions by Tanner Spradling and one each by Graham Murdock and Ryan Cleator. They also had scores on two pick-sixes by Levi Evering and Blake Lingard, and a fumble recovery by Ethan Anderson.

Defensively Nick Lemus and Coltin Fannin each had eight tackles while there were six tackles for loss and four sacks recorded. In last Friday's home opener against Otay Ranch, the Pointers scored in the first minute of the game but had to hang on late as the Mustangs threatened to take the lead.



A trio of Pointer defenders are unable to prevent a pass completion by an Otay Ranch receiver during last week's game, a 20–14 home opener win. (Photo by Scott Hopkins/Special for Times of San Diego)

Before many fans got through the Chick-Fil-A concession line, Lingard took the opening kickoff at his own 14-yard line and dashed through defenders for an 86-yard kickoff return, giving the Pointers a 7–0 lead just 13 seconds into the game.

At inopportune times, the Pointer offense sputtered during the game, one drive ending with a 45-yard field goal attempt by placekicker Cleator that had extra distance but was wide by a narrow margin. The second Pointer touchdown came on a pass from Watson to Aiden Walsh. This time the holder mishandled the PAT snap and Cleator, attempting to run a two-point conversion, injured his leg when tackled.

The Pointers took their 13–0 lead into the second half, but the game became tense when the Mustangs scored to move within 13–7.

The Mustangs appeared to be headed for a go-ahead touchdown. At one point, their receiver Elijah Jordan grabbed a pass over the middle and broke free down the sideline before a touchdown-saving tackle ended the 56-yard play. But the Mustangs were done-in by penalties and errors.

When Pointer running back Isaiah Standley pushed through a pile of bodies into the end zone midway through the fourth quarter the



Defensive end Luke Gustafson deflects a pass attempt by Otay Ranch's QB during the Pointers' 20–14 win in their home opener. (Photo by Scott Hopkins/Special for Times of San Diego)

Pointers boosted the margin to 20–7 on a PAT by backup kicker Josyah Orozco.

To say the Pointers "held on" from this point would be accurate – the offensive line was whistled for several

holding penalties late in the game but the Mustangs' late score proved too little, too late.

Pointers head coach Ryan Price was relieved after warning his players not to look past the Mustangs after their big win at Leuzinger.

"The game was not as clean as we wanted it to be," Price said. "We had some questionable calls and missed executions all the way around. I was telling our guys all week not to take them too lightly. They are a well-coached team. We did enough, but it's not where we want (our game) to be."

EXTRA POINTS

The Pointer JV is also 2–0 after winning against Coastal Academy (55–0) and Otay Ranch (21–13). The freshman team is 2–0 after winning over Eastlake (20–0) and Otay Ranch (19–6). After La Jolla, the Pointers trot home for games against Grossmont (Sept. 11) and homecoming against Del Norte (Sept. 18).



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Sunset Cliffs Auto Show to showcase 115 vintage vehicles

By Dave Schwab
TIMES OF SAN DIEGO

POINT LOMA – The fourth annual Sunset Cliffs Auto Show is roaring to the coast Saturday, Sept. 12, for a community celebration and fundraiser.

Built around a vehicle exhibition, this family-friendly free event, presented by The Inn at Sunset Cliffs and Hodads OB, will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Point Loma Avenue and Sunset Cliffs Boulevard.

Festivities will kick off with a pancake breakfast from 8–11 a.m. at Sunset Cliffs Boulevard and Point Loma Avenue, sponsored by Ocean Beach Community Foundation.

Breakfast tickets cost \$20 for adults and \$12 for kids and include pancakes hot off the griddle, sausage, fruit, orange juice, and coffee.

This year's auto show will showcase 115 vehicles of all types. The event includes live music, food trucks, merchandise vendors, raffle prizes, a



Aerial view of last year's Sunset Cliffs Auto Show. (Photo courtesy of Gavin Fleming/The Inn at Sunset Cliffs)

3-Point Competition, after-parties, and exciting activities for all ages, transforming the neighborhood into a festive outdoor get-together.

"I came up with the idea about 10 years ago. It was always something I wanted to do," said Gavin Fleming, owner-manager of The Inn At Sunset Cliffs, about the event's origin. "The first time we said, 'Let's just try it.' After that it's just been a success."

This year's roster of more than 100 vehicles, separated into 12 judged categories, will include second- and third-place winners for vehicles as early as the 1900s to 2026. Hodad's unmistakably decal-covered van will be one of the more unorthodox vehicles displayed.

New this year is Ocean Beach Community Foundation's annual breakfast, a longtime community tradition which got displaced from Ocean Beach Pier after its permanent closure due to structural damage from age and winter storms.

Fleming said last year's auto show drew some 2,000 guests, adding that the event has been growing in notoriety each year. Live music at this year's car show will be supplied by The juke\$ Blues Group from Oceanside and beach rock/reggae band Sandollar.

There will also be some surprises at the show. "We'll have a few vehicles that have been in the movies," Fleming added.

SUNSET CLIFFS AUTO SHOW

When: Saturday, Sept. 12 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Where: Point Loma Avenue and Sunset Cliffs Boulevard.

As for the future of the Sunset Cliffs Auto Show, Fleming said: "It's only going to get bigger. But we want to keep the focus on the community. We want people to come on out and have a good time."

Fleming added, "This year's vehicles are jaw-dropping."

Event proceeds are donated back into the community, including groups like Ocean Beach MainStreet Association, the community's business improvement district.



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New whimsical mural floats onto Rosecrans Street

By Dave Schwab
TIMES OF SAN DIEGO

POINT LOMA – Muralist Sarah Stieber’s colorful and thought-provoking works seem to explode off the wall and straight into your brain.

But in the case of her most recent mural at 1053 Rosecrans St., the fully clothed, sunglass-wearing, sneaker-clad female subject seems to be comfortably gliding carefree alongside you underwater.

The untitled work was commissioned by the Point Loma Association, a community nonprofit.

Stieber has another previously painted airport-themed mural titled “Sky’s The Limit” adorning the outside of the Monsaraz Hotel on Rosecrans Street.

Times of San Diego caught up with Stieber recently while she was putting the final touches on her latest work, a submerged swimmer on the side of a building that houses the Little House of Flowers business and the Realty office of Diane Sullivan and Anne Herrin.

Sullivan and Herrin’s Realty office is



Artist Sarah Stieber works on her mural at 1053 Rosecrans St. (Photo courtesy of Sarah Stieber)

currently hosting a pop-up gallery of Stieber’s multi-faceted art creations now through September. A special community Gallery + Mural Walkabout featuring Stieber’s inspiring art is set for Sunday, Sept. 20.

Stieber spoke of what’s involved in her artwork process. “When a community comes to me to do a mural, it ends up being a very collaborative process,” she said, noting all of her murals are

“totally different” and “unique” while adding that her goal “is to make it (art) reflective and tailored specifically for the community.”

Toward that end, Stieber did her homework with this mural by canvassing the neighborhood, soliciting locals’ opinions about what mattered to them.

“What I gathered is that this is a really beautiful, upscale waterfront neighborhood and that Point Loma loves that beachy feel,” Stieber said. “They’re not about swimming pools – they want the ocean, want to be swimming there. So, I came up with this concept that would encapsulate all the things they wanted.”

Because the Point Loma Association and the community were already familiar with her work, Stieber noted they trusted her judgment in choosing and articulating her latest community mural’s theme.

Stieber has always loved art and was always encouraged by her family to pursue it despite the difficulties of making a living doing it as a profession. “My

first-ever mural was created in 2018,” she said, adding she’s spent three very intense weeks working every day on this latest mural, which is the very first one she’s done with spray paint.

“It’s a labor of love, but I’m so happy with it,” she said.

About her work philosophy, Stieber noted, “If art can’t make you think, or give you a different perspective or give you a scene to throw yourself into – what’s the point?”

Asked what advice she’d give to aspiring muralists, or artists in general, Stieber said: “So many people let the fear of failure stop them before they even get started. So, I really encourage people to adopt a growth mindset. Consider failures to be just another learning opportunity and fake it till you make it.

“My philosophy in art and in life is that every opportunity is just invented by someone: It may as well just be invented by you. Artists can absolutely take that on. Get after it. Don’t be afraid.”



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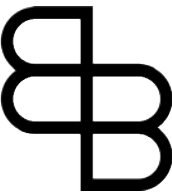
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