

SAND PAPER

TO BnB OR NOT TO BnB: THAT IS THE QUESTION

Art Olson | Avenida Primavera

After over two years of dramatic Shakespearian fretting over whether short term rentals are to be or not to be in our little hamlet, the Del Mar City Council has acted decisively to ban them in all but the City's Commercial Zone. Arguing forcefully for a strict interpretation of the Community Plan, and taking their cues from last month's Planning Commission interpretation, the Council decided that since short term rentals are not mentioned in the City's founding document, they are, in fact, illegal. However, in an act of leniency, the Council has granted pre-emptive pardons to those who have had short-term rentals in the past, and said that they will not be subject to prosecution.

In a related action, the City Council has completed an economic impact study of Del Mar's future -- termed "Del Mar First," and has decided that the entire city should be re-zoned Commercial. Professor of Economics at Corinthian University and part time Del Mar economic advisor, Peter P. Neverland, has concluded that overlaying a Commercial Zone on the entire city will result in the highest and best use of the Del Mar properties. He estimates that with every home listed as a business, the increase in business licenses, and related business taxes, will result in as much as an additional five million dollars per year in city revenue. Of this universal business coverage policy he states, "We will be able to out-compete neighboring cities like Solana Beach and Encinitas, which are currently eating our lunch."

Opponents of short-term rentals see this re-zoning maneuver as an end-run around the ban, since its passage would mean that any residence in Del Mar could become a short-term rental. In a hastily assembled press conference to calm potential civic unrest, City staff spokesperson, ConnieAnn Killway, defended the move in her statement:

"The people of Del Mar should be overjoyed by this



Photo Art Olson

zoning change. It gives them the freedom to create whichever business model for their home that they desire without restriction -- not only short term rentals, but other creative entrepreneurial enterprises, like nail salons, hookah bars, massage parlors, ghost kitchens, and party venues. Of course if you have houseguests you may incur a transient occupancy tax (TOT) unless they stay longer than 30 days. In addition just think of the tax benefits from your home being zoned commercial -- you can depreciate your mattresses and box springs, not to mention sheets and pillowcases. Other benefits will include a free membership in the Del Mar Business Appreciation District Association. This includes with it, for each home owner a personalized page on its amazing website www.DM-BADAss.com."

Not everyone in Del Mar is on board with the proposed Short Term Rental ban and zoning changes which are currently scheduled to go into effect later this year. Protest marches are being planned for April 1st to resist the City's actions. □

CONSTABULATORY CONSIDERATIONS

Our community is about to enter into deliberations about one of the most important strategic considerations in the history of Del Mar, how we handle our law enforcement services.

Much analytical work has been done by citizens, staff, and outside consultants. It is now time for the community at large to weigh in. We owe ourselves deliberate and thoughtful interaction based on facts and analysis. It will be important that we approach this important issue with open minds, diligent study, and respect for varying opinions. We need to take a generous amount of needed time to assess alternatives and build a strong community consensus that will enable our City Council to make a smart decision.

Beginning with incorporation decades ago we have always contracted with the Sheriff's Office to provide law enforcement services. The cost of those services has risen over time to a little more than \$2 million annually, with projections of continued increases each year. An important part of our deliberation will be assessing the benefits we get from that level of expenditure versus other possible alternatives.

The studies and analysis to date conclude that the cost of operating our own police department with a higher level of staffing would fall within the same range or slightly lower. This alternative would also require a careful assessment of the benefits we would get versus continuing to contract with the Sheriff, as well as start-up costs. Of course, we already have experience with our valued Ranger program that is restricted by state law to the beach area.

A key part of our community conversation should be an understanding of "community policing", a model that has been adopted by a number of towns. This approach covers necessary enforcement actions and adds emphasis on building relationships within neighborhoods, prevention, education, and service. This community approach is already familiar to Del Mar citizens through our interaction with other city departments such as Lifeguard, Fire, and Public Works.

Del Mar already has a well-earned reputation for robust citizen involvement. Never has it been more important for us all to engage on this vital goal of protecting our neighborhoods. We trust that our Code of Civil Discourse will guide our community conversation. ■

NEWS UPDATES

Gift Horse: Del Mar citizen, Bing Bush, has offered to purchase and donate to the city an "Art of The Horse" sculpture as part of the prestigious Breeders Cup Horse Race celebration this November. A permanent home for the Horse has yet to be determined, perhaps at the Plaza?

City Priorities: The City Council continues to review near and long term priorities with information and analysis being provided by city staff based on resources and staff time available. Final decisions will feed into budget workshops beginning in May.

Granny Flats: The Del Mar Housing Corporation is proposing a modest trial program of incentives for up to six new granny flats of up to 550 square feet with an agreement to rent them as affordable units for a period of 30-50 years. The proposal will be presented for Council consideration in April. ■

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

- The Sandpiper welcomes readers' letters and articles.
- Material submitted must include the writer's name, street address, and phone number, and should not exceed 400 words.
- Material selected to be published may be edited or shortened.

Send to: The Sandpiper, Box 2177, Del Mar, CA 92014; or editor@delmarsandpiper.org



The Sandpiper is published by the Del Mar Community Alliance, a 501(C)(4) non-profit. Its purpose is to advocate the Del Mar Community Plan, to foster informed public and government decision-making regarding issues affecting the community of the City of Del Mar, and to encourage a social and political climate favorable to the protection of the community character of the City of Del Mar and its environs.

Founders' Circle

Jeff Barnouw remembering Dagmar Barnouw

Chuck Newton Circle

Diana Marquardt & Rod Franklin

Publishers' Circle

Mary Ann & Bud Emerson, Chuck Freebern, Lynn & Charlie Gaylord, Maryka & George Hoover, Louise Keeling in memory of Dave Keeling, Larry Schneiderman, Nancy & John Wear

Editors' Circle

Penny & Buck Abell, Vava Anderson, Linda & Frank Chisari, Deborah & Paul Cleveland, Ann Feeney & Don Mosier, Mary & Jeffrey Friestedt, Nancy Fisher & Mike Salt, Melissa & Bob Gans, Susan & Judd Halenza, Linda & Jerry Hirshberg, Ellie & Tim Haviland, Rosanne & Joel Holliday, Pat JaCoby, Patti & Joe Jelley, Carol Kerridge, Shirley King & Art Olson, Beth Levine & Henry Abarbanel, Vernie & John McGowan, Bill Michalsky, James Nystrom, Suzi Resnick & Stan Marks, Gloria Sandvik & Harold Feder, Rose Ann & Ira Sharp, Judy & Marc Schuckit, Chic & Joe Sullivan, Jane & Steve Voss

Editors: Jeff Barnouw, Dolores Davies, Bud Emerson, Nancy Fisher, Ann Gardner, Virginia Lawrence, Don Mosier, Art Olson, Tom Sohn, Betty Wheeler.
Webmaster: Virginia Lawrence. Editor Emeritus: John Kerridge.

All staff members and writers are unpaid volunteers. This publication depends upon the contributions of readers like you. Make checks payable to **Sandpiper**, Box 2177, Del Mar, CA 92014. Contributions are not tax-deductable.

POURING CITY HALL

Don Mosier | Rimini Road

Work on the new City Hall and Town Hall continues at a rapid pace as the construction team tries to make up for the many rain days that have slowed the schedule. These delays and a couple of unavoidable change orders have led to minor increases in the budget that are well below the project contingency, and the project completion date of May 2018 still seems attainable. If there are no further rain delays and concrete pouring for the deck above the parking garage can start in April, the project will be back on schedule. The city has hired a new consultant, Eitan Aharoni, AIA, as construction supervisor to bring daily oversight to the project. Eitan also has experience in supervising installation of solar panels on large public buildings and helped (in his first week of the job) preparing the grant application described below.

The City of Del Mar applied on March 6th for a California Energy Commission Local Government Challenge Grant to fund installation of a 66 kW photovoltaic solar panel array on the roof of the new City Hall and a Tesla 50 kW battery storage system to provide up to 5 hours of battery power for the Civic Center. This system will enable the onsite generation of up to 90% of the energy required for the Civic Center and will help the city avoid higher time-of-use charges anticipated for the early evening hours. The Center for Sustainable Energy helped provide technical information for the grant application, and will also provide performance monitoring and public outreach during the system's first year of operation. The anticipated date when proposed award funding will be announced is April 11th, 2017, so let's hope that Del Mar gets good news that day. □



View of the construction site looking northwest from the corner of 10th Street and Camino Del Mar. The construction trailer is visible at the top left of the photo. The eastern half of the parking garage floor, an area of almost 10,000 square feet, was completed in a massive one day pour involving 25 concrete trucks. The western half of the parking garage will gradually descend from 10th Street to the lower elevation of the eastern half, which can be seen by the partial wall separating the two halves in the center of the picture.

Photo Don Mosier.

TO CODE OR NOT TO CODE

Ann Gardner | Via Latina

City Council, provided with 300 pages of background material for their March 20 meeting, agreed to set a de novo public hearing to determine whether or not short term rentals are an allowed use in the Del Mar Municipal Code. A de novo hearing generally means a new hearing or a second chance for the appealing parties to present their case. City Manager Scott Huth said the hearing would be on April 17.

The issue has been a priority since 2015 when the Council, after receiving complaints about the increase in short term rentals in residential neighborhoods, unanimously supported a moratorium on all new STRs, allowing existing vacation rentals to continue operation. The moratorium has been extended twice in an attempt to clarify the issue. In January the Council approved a request by staff to ask the Planning Commission to interpret whether or not the Code allowed STRs because of conflicting viewpoints over its interpretation.

Two groups appealed the February 14 Planning Commission determination (3-2) that "since Short Term Rentals (STRs) are not in the Code they could not conclude whether STRs are allowed or not under the existing code." The groups respectively were 20 residents, represented by Ralph DeMarco, and Save Our Neighborhood Del Mar, represented by Robin Crabtree. Both appeals were essentially based on "findings not supported." Each group was given three minutes to present their case for a de novo public hearing by Council. A light note was reached when Betty Wheeler asked the Council to refund the \$500 filing fee to each appellant because the issue was a community, not an individual, issue. □



The construction management team at their weekly meeting in the onsite trailer. Participants include (clockwise from top) Eitan Aharoni, Project Manager, City of Del Mar; Mike Long from RABC-ECC, Joint Venture (JV), Contractor Team; Kristen Crane, Assistant City Manager, City of Del Mar; Tom Howard, Special Project Manager, City of Del Mar; Chad Hester, Construction Superintendent from RABC-ECC, JV; Lon Hurd, from RABC-ECC, JV, Contractor Team; Jeff Troutman from Miller-Hull, Project Architect; and Steve Sanders, Building Inspector from Esgil. Photo Don Mosier.



APRIL 2017

BLUEGRASS AND BEYOND

Bill Morris | Del Mar Foundation

The “Bluegrass and Beyond” concert series was launched in 2004 by the Del Mar Foundation’s Cultural Arts Committee, led by Betty Wheeler, a former DMF Board member and former Cultural Arts chair, with support from the San Diego Bluegrass Society. The inaugural performance brought together acclaimed instrumentalists Todd Phillips, David Grier, Matt Flinner, and Gabe Witcher on January 18, 2004. Now entering its 14th year, Bluegrass and Beyond strives to bring nationally-recognized bluegrass and acoustic musicians to the Del Mar Powerhouse. With seating limited to about 120 attendees, the Powerhouse is a very intimate venue, providing up-close views of world class musicians. For many reasons, most concerts sell out quickly! Past performances include 15-time IBMA Dobro Player of the Year Rob Ickes, three-time IBMA Female Vocalist of the Year Claire Lynch, the legendary Desert Rose Band featuring Byrds founding member (and Del Mar-area local in his youth) Chris Hillman, and outstanding young bands such as The Barefoot Movement and the Railsplitters.

I’ve attended many of the Bluegrass and Beyond concerts in my role as photographer and Communications Chair for the Del Mar Foundation where they have become one of my favorite events. Even behind the back row, I always feel like I am right up close to the musicians. The upstairs seating provides an even more unique view that you’re just not going to experience at many other venues. Over my comparatively recent tenure, I have been fortunate enough to see Laurie Lewis and the Right Hands and Rob Ickes with Trey Hensley in 2014; The John Jorgenson Quintet, The Claire Lynch Band, Blue Highway and the Railsplitters in 2015; The Gibson Brothers, and the Barefoot Movement in 2016; and most recently the Railsplitters in March of 2017. I can’t wait to hear who the Bluegrass and Beyond series brings to the Powerhouse next!

For the earliest opportunity to buy tickets for Bluegrass and Beyond concerts, follow us on Facebook (@DelMarFoundation) or Twitter (@DelMarFound), or sign up for our email list at delmarfoundation.org and be sure to check Bluegrass Concerts as an area of interest. You’ll be among the first to know about upcoming events.

CAMPUS CEILING WORK

Lily Nilipour | Torrey Pines High School Senior

At Torrey Pines, we are relatively privileged in the sense that equality among students is perceived rather widespread throughout campus. All students are offered the same courses, and everyone has similar opportunities to take those courses as well as participate in extracurricular activities.

Therefore, it may seem like the discussion of gender issues on campus at Torrey Pines, and other high schools in the area, would be irrelevant. But, no matter how equal the two genders are perceived to be, there still remains some discrepancy in a different manner.

“Gender issues on campus aren’t so apparent unless they are really searched for — which is both a good and bad thing,” fellow student and Girl Scout representative on women’s rights Maya K. said. “On one hand, that means that students are perceived to be treated, for the most part, equally regardless of their genders. But that also means that the unequal treatment of genders can be easily overlooked because it is actually normalized.”

Although the basic rights and opportunities are spread equally between us, those are simply that: basic rights. We should already be ensured those same basic privileges, as do all girls and women across the country and world. What it comes down to, then, is the way girls and boys are treated by adults and the way they interact with each other.

“In some of my past AP science classes, there have been fewer female students than male students which led to minor cases of unequal treatment,” Maya said. “However ... TPHS offers the same classes to all students, so in that sense, students of all genders have nearly equal opportunities on campus. It is how students of one gender are treated by those of another that varies.”

Minute details that often go unnoticed actually play a large part in gender issues and discrepancies. Even the most seemingly harmless instances, such as a girl apologizing when a boy bumps into her in the hallway, highlight a mentality that is still present in students. In classes, girls, often unconsciously, feel like they have to temper or qualify their contributions to class discussions, while boys speak unprohibited and assertively. I have seen too that, in an argument or debate over a certain topic, people will take the boy’s word over the girl’s, even if it is in fact untrue.

So, despite general equality between sexes, there is still work to be done. It would perhaps be unappreciative and frankly wrong to say that we have widespread inequality at Torrey Pines, but naive to say that it is perfect. Any sort of close attention to the differences between the actions and demeanors of boys and girls would reveal that there are still certain social rules that are held to each gender. And, until both genders can acknowledge and address that issue with full awareness, it will continue to be perpetuated on campus and off. ■

WHAT THE KIDS ARE SAYING

A 100-Year Chat

James, age 9, and Liam, age 10

It was an awesome experience for Liam and me to meet and interview someone who is about to have her 100th birthday.

Katie Sanford who has lived in Del Mar for many years, was born in Illinois and lived with her 3 sisters and parents on a farm.



from left: James, Katie, Liam. Photo Carol Kerridge.

When we asked her about some of her favorite childhood memories, she quickly told us that she loved the freedom of wandering around the nearby woods, and picking wild strawberries and cranberries with her sisters. They liked to play in the barn and loft and had fun finding and collecting eggs, just like it is on Easter. Katie and her older sister bonded really well and enjoyed climbing up on the roof of the house to lean over the front porch and eavesdrop on their parents as they sat on the swing talking.

Sadly, Katie told us about the time when their mom died. She was only 7 years old. It was then that their family life changed and they traveled to live with different relatives.

The sisters moved to California to stay with family when Katie was 10 years old. There were no school buses then, so Katie would roller skate to school down a big hill, but carried her skates up the hill when she went home after school. Most of the time she had skinned knees by the time she got home since there were no knee pads.

In High School, she loved to swim and received her Jr. Lifeguard certificate. The final test was to rescue their big burly instructor while he pretended to drown.

When Liam asked Katie about the Great Depression, she said that everyone had to work, even the kids. Life was hard and sometimes there was not enough food for a meal.

continued on page 7



Del Mar Community Connections

PO Box 2947 Del Mar, CA 92014 www.dmcc.cc 858-792-7565

APRIL 2017

Jo Morgenthal | Program Director

Come eat -- Tuesday Lunch Club....

On the first and third Tuesday of each month, Del Mar seniors are invited to join DMCC for the Tuesday Lunch Club, TLC. Held at the Del Mar Community Building, TLC is an amazing opportunity to socialize, learn, laugh and of course EAT!!! Catered by different local restaurants i.e. Urban Plates and Board and Brew, and with different educational or entertaining programs, TLC always provides a different experience. With grant support from the Del Mar Foundation, all seniors are welcomed at no charge. Advanced registration is required and transportation is provided if needed. Wheelchair accessible transportation is also available. Join us!

Monday Explorers -- Adventures around San Diego

Our Monday Explorers had the wonderful opportunity to tour the Stuart Collection at UCSD this past month. Led by Mary Beebe, the Director of the Collection, the group of Del Mar seniors were led on an in-depth walking tour. The trip garnered rave reviews, helped along by an amazing no host lunch at the Faculty Club. Our next adventure will take us on Monday April 17th to Kit Carson Park in Escondido to tour the Queen Califia's Magical Circle Garden. Advanced registration is required. We hope to see you there!

Spring Tea --

Please join DMCC for this year's Spring Tea, taking place on April 26th from 2:00pm to 4:00 pm at St Peters Church. This is a great opportunity to spend an afternoon with friends and community members. Entertainment will be provided by the Script in Hand Players, featuring our own Mary Ann and Bud Emerson. Advance registration is required. Come pour a cup with DMCC!!!

For more information about these and other DMCC programs, or to join our mailing list please contact the Del Mar Community Connections office at (858) 792-7565 or dmcc@dmcc.cc

EAST SIDE WEST SIDE

Ann Gardner | Via Latina

Del Mar is one of many coastal cities changing traffic lanes to accommodate and encourage more pedestrians and bicyclists and at the same time move toward more livable communities. All we need to see is a young mother pushing a baby stroller along a narrow, sloping dirt path on Camino del Mar south of Fourth Street to put this priority into perspective.



A family with two children and a dog now have to walk in the parking lane or the bike lane at the intersection of Camino del Mar and Carmel Valley Road. Photo by Virginia Lawrence

Del Mar staff is working to resolve some of the concerns associated with changes proposed for the intersection at Carmel Valley Road and Camino del Mar where an initial plan calls for reducing the two northbound lanes to one in order to create more pedestrian and bicycle space along the ocean. The change was considered after a temporary narrowing occurred during repair of the Anderson Canyon collapse without any apparent disruption of traffic. The reduction would exchange Carmel Valley Road's "free" right hand north into Del Mar for a right turn at the signal onto the one lane of Camino del Mar.

Speakers from nearby Del Mar Terrace showed up in droves to complain about the lack of notification and the heavy traffic coming down Torrey Pines grade to continue north through Del Mar or turn right on Del Mar Heights Road toward the Heights and I-5. They predicted traffic jams at the intersection especially during commuter hours. The Council apologized for the apparent lack of notification to its San Diego neighbors and staff is researching this concern and others raised at the Feb. 14 Council meeting. Council liaisons Dave Druker and Sherryl Parks are working with them. Results will then go to the Traffic and Advisory Committee for review and input from neighbors before going back to the Council.

The proposed changes are part of the City's overall Camino del Mar Master Plan adopted in 1996 and segment #5 →

COMMENTARY

To Way or Thruway

Bud Emerson | Klish Way

For many years I have never understood the logic of our road configuration at the southern end of Del Mar. We have one lane going out and two lanes coming in! A blatant contradiction of our Community Plan vision of slowing traffic, narrowing lanes, and encouraging pedestrian character.

We fought the city of San Diego ferociously to narrow the bridge over the tracks to one lane in each direction, until they finally relented and deeded their half to us. Our main rationale was to slow traffic coming into town. Yet as soon as the light releases stopped cars, they enter into what has become a virtual Camino Del Mar speedway, cars accelerating up to 50mph and higher, then powering through the light at 4th into residential neighborhoods—go figure!

Adding to this speedway regime, we introduce a two lane jockeying exercise with cars whipping through the free lane intersection from Carmel Valley Road. In the middle of that tangle come bicyclists trying to maneuver safely over to a narrow cycle lane. It is not a pretty sight. And it is not safe. It sends the wrong message to drivers. And it is not consistent with the values of our Community Plan.

We got it right at the north end of town and at the bridge on Jimmy Durante Boulevard - slow down cars!. Why not be consistent at the other end of town?

Think of this a "to or through" systems issue. The most important strategic decision made by drivers is at the Genesee off ramp on I-5. There are 3 choices if you want to go "to" Del Mar and 2 choices if you want to go "through" Del Mar. "Through" drivers calculate whether a coastal or freeway will get them past Del Mar faster. Similar "road diet" measures to slow coastal traffic are being implemented from Solana Beach through Leucadia.

We now have on the City Council agenda a proposal to correct this problem by narrowing the northbound lanes from two to one. The plan also adds a new protected pedestrian and bicycle path on the west side which will further civilize the highway.

The bottom line is we want to reenforce pedestrian and slow speed priorities consistent with our Community Plan. Cars are welcome but on our terms. We need to reassert protection of our quality of life. ■

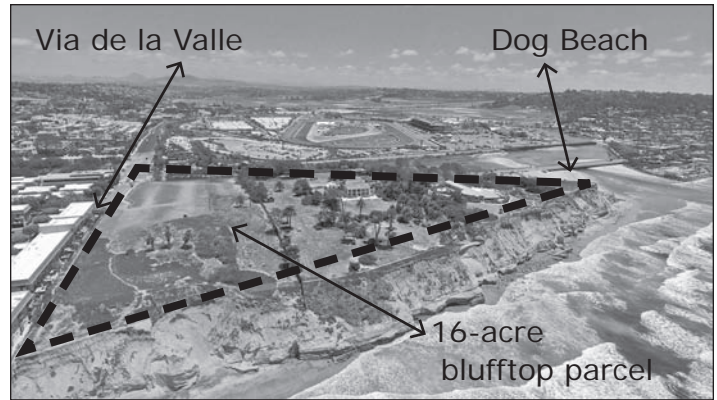
of the "eight-segment" 2013 Sidewalk Connectivity Project to improve pedestrian access, bicycle safety, drainage and roadway paving along Camino del Mar, Jimmy Durante Blvd. and Via de la Valle. In addition to modifying the Carmel Valley Rd. intersection, Segment #5 also includes a double left turn lane from southbound Camino del Mar to eastbound Del Mar Heights Road. The City is also drafting a Complete Streets Policy which focuses on sustainable actions integrated into public improvements including mechanisms for storm water retention and active transportation, as part of the Climate Action Plan implementation. ■

SUCCULENT SUCCESS

Julie Hill | Caminito Del Pasaje

Every year, the Garden Club hosts a Community Meeting as an educational program to thank citizens for their support. At this year's meeting, the Powerhouse was full despite the storm to hear Jeff Moore, Owner of Solana Succulents, speak to the title of his book of the same name, *Under the Spell of Succulents*. Pat Welsh, Longtime Delmartian and bestselling author did the intro, reminding all that the drought still had a hold on California because our aquifers are not totally restored. So succulent gardening is still the order of the day, and beauty and variety can be had if only we look a bit deeper into what is available. Pat cited Jeff's "Underwater Garden" at the Home Show that "blew her away."

Jeff showed successful succulent gardens in different So



SIXTEEN ACRES AND WHADAYA GET?

Bud Emerson | Klish Way

A large 16-acre blufftop, oceanfront parcel will soon be proposed for new development in Del Mar. The property is located in the furthest northwest corner of Del Mar, bordered by Dog Beach in the south, Solana Beach city limit on the north, and Camino Del Mar on the east (across from the Brigantine restaurant). The site is adjacent to four acres of city owned walking paths overlooking the beach and race track.

The preliminary concept for the site is a mix of resort buildings, restaurants, and meeting space in addition to public spaces based on suggestions from the community.

The developers, Robert Green Company and Zephyr, say they want to "maximize opportunities for the community to enjoy this incredible space."

An outline of the planning process, including community involvement, will be announced soon.

The new owners have experience in developing high end and mixed use properties in Carlsbad, Dana Point, Balboa Park, Palo Alto, Jackson, San Diego, and La Quinta. ■



Susan Pfleeger, Diane Hall and friends. Photo Julie Hill.

Cal locations, plus individual plants that most of us did not know existed. The range of colors, especially in Aloes and Agaves (the title of his newest book) was remarkable. Purples and Oranges, Yellows and all shades of Good Old Green, filled the screen and the table of plants for

WHAT THE KIDS ARE SAYING

continued from page 5

She told us about some of the poorer men called hobos who had no jobs and traveled around looking for work. Sometimes they would build fires in the woods and sleep there, wrap newspaper around their waist to keep warm, and beg for food at nearby homes. If anyone gave them food, they would leave a mark on the door so that other hobos would know that they might get food from the folks at that house.

Although Katie had some very different childhood experiences than we have had, there are several similarities between us. We feel very lucky getting to know her.

Happy 100th Birthday, Katie. ■

sale. One agave had large leaves with purple brushstrokes in perfect order. Whaletooth agave was shown in groups that put the displays at the Home Show within reach for home gardeners.

Jeff showed the Spiral Agave, the hit of the talk, growable at higher elevations. Perfect spiral layers in seafoam green made us all want to head for the hills. But most of what Jeff showed and talked about was for the here and now, and since we may think the Drought may be fixable soon, population increase in San Diego will put demand for water at increasing levels, and so our landscape must follow suit. But no sacrifices need be in order...everything we saw was *Sunset Magazine* worthy.

The Del Mar Garden Club installed and maintains the gardens at the Post Office, Community Center, Library, and Main Lifeguard Station next to Poseidon. We are a working Club, and we can be seen with our gloves and clippers at each location on a regular basis. We have installed medians and corner gardens in the Village of Del Mar. Yes, we accept and welcome donations. Please send your monetary good will to Kathy Finnell, President, PO Box 2832, Del Mar, Ca. 92014. Thank you in advance. ■



June Strasberg
July 9, 1921-March 8, 2017

If you believe that a face can tell a story, Del Mar's beloved June Strasberg's twinkling eyes and infectious smile told of a very happy life.

June, who celebrated her 95th birthday last summer, died peacefully at home on March 8. She loved to tell the story of how her husband Nate, promising her paradise, brought her to Del Mar in 1958 from her first love, New York City. "It better be paradise," she told him, "because you can take the girl out of New York, but you can't take New York out of the girl." It was, and both became active in the early Friends of Del Mar, City Council campaigns and formation of the Community Plan. After Nate's death June became active in Del Mar Community Connections and in 2008 was honored by the Sandpiper for her community spirit. Her son Bim, twin brother to Jo and part of the early Del Mar Power House quartet, played bass with guitarist Peter Sprague at the celebration. In addition to her two children, June is survived by two grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews who came regularly from New York to visit their favorite Aunt.

A celebration of life is planned for Monday, April 10th at 10:00 a.m., St. Peters Episcopal Church at Parish Hall, 334 14th St., Del Mar, CA 92014. Light lunch will follow.

Text Ann Gardner. Photo Virginia Lawrence 2008.

ELECTRIC SWITCH

Don Mosier | Rimini Road

Del Mar has been working with other North Coastal cities to investigate the option of purchasing cleaner sources of energy using a state authorized program of Community Choice Aggregation (CCA), more commonly known as Community Choice Energy (CCE). This program would involve the county and several cities joining together to purchase electricity and then partnering with existing utilities (SDG&E in our region) for distribution and billing.

The city has begun efforts to understand the benefits and risks of joining a regional CCE. These efforts include staff level meetings with the cities of Encinitas, Solana Beach, Carlsbad, and Oceanside to discuss a possible feasibility study and attending a full day conference on CCEs on March 10th in Rancho Bernardo. This conference was sponsored by the Climate Action Campaign (full disclosure, I am now on their board) and was attended by Councilmember Ellen Haviland, city staff, SAB members, and me. The highlight of the meeting for me was a presentation by Rex Parris, Mayor of Lancaster, CA. Lancaster formed their own CCE several years ago, and it has been successful in reducing energy costs and providing new local jobs. The Mayor helped recruit a Chinese firm that makes batteries that store solar energy, leading to even higher efficiency and more local jobs. Lancaster has even adopted a policy that all new residential construction has to be net zero energy consumption----and this is in a city with a conservative Republican mayor and council. Mayor Parris said that cleaner energy and more local jobs is not a partisan issue, and that he supports a cleaner future for our kids and grandkids. Let's remember that as Del Mar begins to discuss local Community Choice in energy procurement and rate setting.

Community Choice is one way to meet the goals of the City's Climate Action Plan (CAP) adopted last June. One of the goals is to achieve 100% clean energy sources by 2035. That seems a long time away, but we need to take action now to achieve that goal. In January of this year, I accepted the Council's appointment as CAP Facilitator to help support the city staff and the Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB) implement important elements of our Plan. Fortunately my six years on the SANDAG Energy Working Group as the North Coastal representative was invaluable experience for dealing with both building energy consumption and regional transportation challenges. ■



For much of March fog cloaked the railroad overpass just south of the lights at Camino Del Mar and Carmel Valley Road.

Photo Virginia Lawrence.

DEAR DON DIEGO CLOCK TOWER,

from Nancy Fisher | 24th Street

You probably don't remember me, but we first met in 1957, when we were both four-years old, shiny and new. Your clock told perfect time, your bathrooms were state-of-the-art, and I was (as my late father described me) a ballistic missile waiting to be launched.



Fair Board members unveil the Don Diego Clock Tower at its new location at the O'Brien Gate. Photo Nancy Fisher.

The image on your richly-tiled clock was of the fairground's Ambassador of Good Will, Don Diego, as portrayed by actor Tommy Hernandez. The character, designed to be a symbol of hospitality, was based on the real life of Don Diego Alvarado whose family had a large land grant in Del Mar in the 1800s – but you probably know that.

No day at the fair could begin without a visit to you. A stop at the bathrooms, first, and then the instructions that every kid knows as well as the Pledge of Allegiance: "If we get separated, meet us at the clock tower."

As the years went by, things changed - but not much. The biggie was that, when we made it to Earl Warren Junior High School, our parents would feel safe dropping us off at the main gate, knowing that we'd be meeting a group of friends at the clock tower. Romances bloomed, life-sized pandas that would occupy our bedrooms until →

TOWERING MEMORIES

"It was ALWAYS the place to meet. The bathrooms were awful and it was where we found out what time it was (back in the day!). Tom and I both still work the fair every year (Tom with EMT/first aide and I as an ambassador), and it's going to be so strange not having the clock tower there –really curious to see where its new location will be!"

– Retired Del Mar Fire Captain Tom Wolf and his wife Lori.

"The clock tower was very important to us! We would meet other families there and explain to our daughters and the other kids that this was where we'd meet if we got separated."

– Former Del Mar Mayor and current Fair Board Member, Lee Haydu.

"Definitely the Don Diego Clock Tower is iconic from my teen years. I have a horrible sense of direction so it was great to look around and get my bearings from the tallest structure around. It was the meeting place for everyone, had a known bathroom, and there were always people waiting for their "lost" party to show up. I also remember seeing Raquel Tejada (Raquel Welch), the Fairest of the Fair, under the tower for PR one year!"

– San Dieguito High School friend and frequent Del Mar Fair-going companion, Susan Pignotti.

"My very first job ever, at age 15, was for the 22nd Ag District (fairgrounds), and I worked in the building north of the clock tower in front of the old grandstand. My job was to walk around in a blue vest telling people not to touch the woodworking exhibits from high school students, and the clock tower was very important to us as it was the official time we used for our shifts. I also got to meet Tommy Hernandez one time in the offices. Very big deal at that age! Kudos to the fair board for not letting Don Diego become a faded memory."

– Retired Solana Beach Fire Chief David Holmerud.

college were won, and the cool kid from eighth grade learned that mixing corn dogs, cotton candy, and the Tilt-a-Wheel didn't look so cool when he was losing his lunch in front of the clock tower.

When my friends of a certain age learned that the Fair Board had commuted the sentence of the crumbling clock tower from death row to relocation, we rejoiced. The legend of Don Diego, and of our Twiggy haircuts, lives on. ■

ASK DR. RICH

Rich Simons | Upper East 11th

Every month, Rich Simons answers readers' most perplexing questions.

Q: What's the deal here, Doc? The other day I went to do something I haven't done in a long, long time – gas up our car. My wife has always taken care of that for a number of years. So at the pump I was confronted by a gadget that I guess is a modern gasoline disposal unit. There were no service station attendants about so I tried to operate the thing myself. The instructions came flying at me in a flurry: push this button, lift that lever, insert some card . . .oops, take it back, now enter your social security number and your mother's maiden name, press the lever you just lifted, grasp the dispensing hose, fling open the flap covering the cap, unscrew the cap, insert hose, squeeze a different lever . . . and now pray you got it right and came in under the time limit. If not, you have drawn the "go back to go" card. No gas for you, buddy, if you can't get it right.

I remember, Doc, not too long ago you suggested that "senior citizens" (like me) should always have a kid around the house to handle all the new electronic gadgets we've got, who understand what the hell "wi-fi" is . . . or "roku" . . . or "hdm4." Has this cancer spread now to outside the home, to where I have to carry a kid around with me all the time? – sign me "Rip van Winkle" →



Rip Van Simons getting gassed up. Photo illustration Art Olson.

The short answer to your question, Rip, is: yes! Haven't you noticed at the grocery stores that they are encouraging you to check out your groceries by yourself? And at the airport if you want a ticket or boarding pass you have to operate a thing kind of like a slot machine? So, yes, Rip, for the rest of your life you will need to have a young person at your side, who was born knowing everything. I generally recommend someone between the ages of 9 and 12. They're born knowing pretty much everything about computers and systems, and by 9 that knowledge has been updated and refined, but after 12 they become "you know what" – creatures that think they ABSOLUTELY KNOW EVERYTHING!

So what's going on here, Rip? I'm sure you know that some folks have jobs and some don't. But did you know that a lot of those folks who have jobs are working their buns off to ensure that even more folks don't. That's right – by automating absolutely everything in sight! Examples are all over the place. You have already noted the situation at gas stations. And when was the last time you saw an elevator operator? At your bank, have you noticed that where there used to be four tellers, now there is only one? Maybe you know that people don't build cars anymore – robots do. And we are only a year or two away from the day when all cars will drive themselves. Goodbye, cab drivers – and Lyft and Uber and all like'em.

Ah, I know what you want, Rip. Same as everyone else our age. We'd like to drive up to a gas station and find a polite young man there in a white shirt and a bow tie. And while he gasses up our car he'd wipe the windshield and check the oil and the pressure in the tires all around. And then he'd say we're giving away free glasses today and hand us one and say we hope we'll see you again sometime soon.

Well, Rip, you can kiss that sweet dream goodbye. Like the man said, you can't go home again. Alas. ▣

UNKNOWN EATER

Those lamb chops!

The Unknown Eater visits Beesalt Balcony in Del Mar. On the second floor above Camino Del Mar, on the east side at 12th Street, this is a wonderful find. Patio views to the west and not too much road noise below. Outdoors under a covered deck where heaters are available if needed. Friends and I had dinner here recently and enjoyed several starters including Bee's Board, a mix of cheeses and Italian Salami followed with a trio of dips and pita; all were satisfying. The lamb chops, double-cut, are a hit; the Paella is balanced and the salmon filet was well prepared. The salads were a good accompaniment with Greek infusion. The staff was welcoming and helpful. The food was warm and inviting. Did I mention the lamb chops? Conversation can carry on without shouting. A reasonable selection of wine and beers is available. The prices were in the middle range. Beesalt is walkable and is worth a visit! ▣

DEL MAR COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Highlights for APRIL 2017

DEL MAR FARMERS' MARKET
Every Saturday
from 1-4 pm in the Upper Shores Park

DM Library Kids - Chess Club. All skill levels welcome to play. Sunday, April 2 & 9, 2:15pm.

City Council Meeting.

April 3, 2017, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM @ City Council Chambers

DM Community Connections - Tuesday Lunch Connection. Tuesday, April 4th and 18th, 12 noon to 1:30pm, Del Mar Community Building, 225 9th St.

DM Library Adults - Adult Yoga. With certified instructor Lynne Truong. Please bring a mat & towel. Tuesdays in April, 12pm.

DM Library Kids - Homework Help for Preschool - 7th Grade by Torrey Pines High School Students. Tuesdays April 4, 18 & 25, 3:15pm

DM Library Kids - Celebrate "El Dia de Los Ninos/El Dia de Los Libros—Children's Day/Book Day 2017." Pacifica Animal Productions. All children will receive a book, bookmark & stickers. Tuesday, April 4, 10am

DM Library Kids - Pre-School Story Time. Ages 3 - 5 yrs. old. Stories, songs and finger plays including simple concepts in stories and characters. Wednesdays in April, 10am.

DM Library Adults - Conversational Spanish Instruction. With native speaker Lucy. Wednesdays in April, 6pm

DM Library Kids - Love on a Leash. Reading to dogs has been shown to improve a child's reading skills, confidence and self-esteem. Wednesday April 5 & 19, 1pm. (1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month.)

DM Foundation - First Thursdays: San Diego Baroque Soloists. Thu, Apr 6, 7-8:30pm Powerhouse. Open to subscription holders only!

DM Community Connections - Board of Directors Meeting. Saturday, April 8th 9am to 10am, Del Mar Community Building, 225 9th St.

DM Library Adults - Knitting Circle. All levels welcome. April 8 & 22, 10am. (2nd & 4th Saturday of the month.)

Quarterly Special City Council Meeting.

April 10, 2017, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM @ Del Mar Council Chambers at Southfair

Planning Commission.

April 11, 2017, 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM @ Del Mar Council Chambers at Southfair

DM Community Connections - Health Forum with Dr. Kalina. Topic: Overcoming and Mastering Body Pain. Tuesday, April 11th, 9:30am - 11:30am, Del Mar Community Building, 225 9th St.

Parks and Recreation Committee.

April 12, 2017, 4:45 PM - 5:45 PM @ Del Mar Council Chambers at Southfair

DM Foundation - Young Del Mar: Easter Egg Hunt. Sat, Apr 15, 10-11am Seagrove Park. Check-in starts at 9:30. Event starts at 10:00 sharp. Registration required.

City Council Meeting.

April 17, 2017, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM @ City Council Chambers

DM Community Connections - Monday Explorers, Tour Queen Califia's Magical circle Garden at Kit Carson Park. Monday, April 17th, 9:30am to 2pm, Meet at Del Mar Community Building, 225 9th St.

Traffic and Parking Advisory Committee.

April 18, 2017, 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM @ Del Mar Council Chambers at Southfair

Del Mar Historical Society monthly meeting. Tuesday, April 18, 5:00 pm, in the conference room at 225 9th Street. The public is encouraged to attend.

San Dieguito Lagoon Committee.

April 19, 2017, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM @ Del Mar Library

Ad Hoc Development Review Process Citizens' Advisory Committee. April 20, 2017, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM @ Del Mar Council Chambers at Southfair

Sustainability Advisory Board.

April 20, 2017, 7:30 AM - 9:30 AM @ Del Mar Council Chambers at Southfair

DM Library Adults - Book Talks and Treats. Staff & readers share reviews and recommendations of recently read books. Copies are available for check out. Coffee and snacks. Friday, April 21, 2pm. (3rd Friday of the month.)

DM Foundation - Special Events: New Earth Day Del Mar. Sat, Apr 22, 4-8pm Powerhouse. A symposium of presenters at an evening with food and craft beer.

Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley meeting.

Monday, April 24th, at the Council Chambers off Jimmy Durante.

Finance Committee.

April 25, 2017, 4:30 PM - 6:15 PM @ Del Mar Council Chambers at Southfair

Business Support Advisory Committee.

April 25, 2017, 9:00 AM - April 23, 2017, 11:00 AM @ Del Mar Council Chambers at Southfair

DM Community Connections - ROMEO Men's Lunch.

Tuesday, April 25th, 12pm to 1:30pm, Sbicca --215 15th St.

Design Review Board.

April 26, 2017, 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM @ Del Mar Council Chambers at Southfair.

DM Community Connections - Spring Tea. Wednesday, April 26th, 2:00pm to 4:00 pm, St. Peter's Church -- 334 14th St.

DM Library Adults - De-Clutter Your Life. How & where to get Started. Wednesday, April, 26, 6pm.

DM Library Kids - Puzzle Club. With Ms. Gretchen. Puzzles for all ages and skill levels provided. Wednesday, April 26, 1pm. (4th Wednesday of the month.)

VISIT THE SANDPIPER ONLINE!



www.delmarsandpiper.org

SANDPIPER

DEL MAR'S COMMUNITY JOURNAL
Box 2177, Del Mar, CA 92014

DATED MATERIAL

POOCH PROTECTION PASSES

Scott MacDonald | Luzon Avenue

In the most recent legislative session, the State of California passed new legislation called the Canine Protective Services (CPS2) Act. Modeled after the CPS (Children's Protective Services), the CPS2 requires the State and cities in the State to protect canine residents from abuse. According to Margret Boxer, Director of the Canine Action Group, "Canine mistreatment has increased in recent years to unacceptable levels, and this bill is overdue."

The legislation includes a provision requiring employers to give employees 30 days paid leave when they adopt a rescue dog. This provision, called "pawternity leave," encourages adoption of rescue dogs from certified animal shelters and provides for a transition period for dogs, many of whom have been mistreated.

Under the legislation, each city is required to establish a canine protection administrator. At the Del Mar City Council meeting Monday, Feb. 13, the Council agreed to set up an ad hoc committee to formulate rules and regulations. Anyone interested in serving on the new ad hoc committee should apply at City Hall. The Committee will have 7 members, including at least 2 dogs.

According to State Representative Paul Wolf, sponsor of the bill, it is time to recognize our four-legged citizens and protect them. He cited several unacceptable conditions which are now illegal in California:

- Failure to keep the water bowl filled
- Failure to provide nourishing food at least twice daily
- Failure to reward good behavior with treats
- Failure to keep dogs vaccinated
- Failure to provide sufficient exercise (for example)



- At least 200 throws of tennis balls per week
- Tug of war competition at least twice a week
- Multiple walks daily
- Failure to make available a supply of sticks, pinecones, or bones to chew
- Failure to provide socialization time such as play dates with other canines
- Deliberately humiliating a dog
 - Pretending to throw the ball but only faking the throw
 - Picking up dog poop before the dog has time to finish or move away
 - Walking a dog on the beach or in a dog park while on an attached leash
- Unfairly punishing a dog
 - Yelling at a dog because he or she is barking at another dog walking by
 - Punishing a dog for chewing items left readily accessible like shoes
 - Punishing a dog when he or she does not come when called if the dog is occupied consuming discarded food or trash
- Failure to provide shelter
 - Providing a suitable bed such as the master bed
 - Providing access to couches and soft chairs
 - Providing an opportunity for at least 16 hours a day of sleep
 - Abandoning a dog
 - Failure to take the dog on trips including walks to Starbucks
 - Leaving the dog home alone when it is not nap time

Punishment for the above violations varies but usually includes more treats for the affected dog. More details will be available after the ad hoc committee finishes its work. ■