

SANDPIPER



DECODING THE CODE

Ann Gardner | Via Latina

As this Sandpiper is being delivered to your mailbox, City Council is moving forward to resolve the controversial short term rental issue. On April 17 the Council voted 4 to 1 that their interpretation of Del Mar's Municipal Code does not allow short term rentals in the City's residential zones, with the exemption of the residential commercial zone. The vote followed conscientious public input that generally focused on interpretation of the Municipal Code and the 1976 Community Plan (as a guiding document), not the pros and cons of rentals of less than 30 days.

The interpretation vote was described as a "baseline" from

which the Council will take the next step at their May 1st meeting. At that meeting the Council will begin to decide if they want to maintain the current "baseline" or if the Council wants to amend the Code and General Plan to allow some form of short term rentals in some residential zones. The Council seemed to agree that it is not their intention to "ban" short term rentals altogether but to see if there are ways to "participate in the sharing economy" that not only does not negatively impact the City's primary residential character, but preserves it.

New short term rentals were put on hold with an April, 2016 moratorium that has been extended several times by the Council; the current moratorium expires on February 2, 2018 and cannot be extended again. Short term rentals in existence before the moratorium was enacted can continue

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The Rich got richer. page 12



Incognito. page 11



*WALK
on the wild side!
page 10*

GET REAL ABOUT THE CLIMATE

California has been a leader in adopting strategies to combat climate change and to reduce air pollution. Attacking pollution from cars and trucks powered by fossil fuels has led to major improvements in air quality and the strict emission standards pioneered by California have been adopted by 13 states and the District of Columbia. Nonetheless, continuing progress requires shifting from petroleum to electricity or alternative energy sources to power vehicles. What will happen to these plans if federal subsidies for electric vehicles disappear and corporate average fuel standards are relaxed? Del Mar may already have the answer. Over 7% of Del Mar residents own electric vehicles, making us regional leaders in adopting clean transportation by a wide margin.

If federal tax credits are removed, we do have state incentives for electric vehicles. The California Air Resources Board (CARB) is using these incentives to accelerate development and deployment of the cleanest feasible vehicle technologies for all vehicle and equipment sectors, from light-duty passenger cars to heavy-duty trucks and off-road

equipment to meet California's mandated goals. These goals include:

- Reducing green house gas (GHG) emissions from the transportation sector to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050
- Reducing GHG emission to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030
- Meeting the federal health-based ambient air quality standards for ozone (smog) by 2023 and 2031 as well as the fine particulate matter (PM2.5) air quality standards. CARB staff estimates meeting the 2031 ozone standard will require oxides of nitrogen (NOx) emission reductions of up to 90 percent compared to 2010 levels.
- Meeting the Governor's goal of deploying 1.5 million zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) by 2025 and the related goal of deploying 1 million ZEVs and near-zero emission vehicles by the start of 2023
- Reducing petroleum use by 50 percent by 2030
- A 10 percent reduction in the carbon intensity of California's transportation fuels by 2020
- Continuing to reduce health risks from exposure to toxic air contaminants such as diesel particulate matter, particularly in disadvantaged communities where exposures can be substantial.

These goals are important for all of us and establish California as a leader in climate change policy. If federal subsidies disappear, we urge the state to step up and increase rebates for electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles. The City of Del Mar supports a revenue neutral carbon fee instead of the current subsidies to the petroleum and coal industries. The Guardian reported that US taxpayers were subsidizing fossil fuel exploration and production alone by \$21 billion a year in 2014, mainly in tax credits. By comparison, there were 116,548 all electric or plug-in hybrids sold in 2015 that qualified for \$874 million in tax credits. Spending 24 times more to subsidize highly profitable global companies like Exxon/Mobil and Shell instead of investing more in innovative clean transportation is a colossal mistake that risks the health of the planet. Meanwhile, let's get to 14% owners of electric vehicles right here in Del Mar. ■



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.

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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

Q OVERSIGHT

The City Council decided to form a new Measure Q (new local sales tax) oversight committee consisting of two members of the Finance Committee, one business owner, and two residents at-large. Council liaisons to this committee will be Terry Sinnott and Sherryl Parks.

The purpose of the Measure Q Citizen Oversight Committee is to review, provide oversight, and report to the City Council on the revenue and expenditure of the Measure Q funds.

The Oversight Committee will not be responsible for providing input on how Measure Q funds will be spent.

SEEKING CERTs

The Del Mar, Encinitas, Rancho Santa Fe and Solana Beach Fire Departments are seeking volunteers for the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program. For more information about the program and upcoming training to learn how to care for yourself, your family and your neighbors during an emergency, contact: alewin@encinitas.ca.gov

EIR HERE NOW

The court-ordered EIR for the Fairgrounds Master Plan is available for public review and comment until May 12. It addresses traffic mitigation, water supply and greenhouse gas emissions. Copies can be found in the Del Mar Library and on the 22nd DAA website at www.delmarfairgrounds.com/

NEW DEFIBs

The City of Del Mar Fire Department has replaced existing AEDs (Automated External Defibrillators) with newer models at the following locations: City Hall, Suite #220, City Council Chambers, Powerhouse Community Center, Public Works Department and Fire Department.

TOP DOWN

The City Council has not completed the rankings to determine high, medium, and low priority work programs. This ranking is needed to align staff time, finances, and other resources. The expectation is that these priorities will get sorted out as the Council makes choices in the budget workshops.

FOLLOW THE MONEY

The City Council Budget Workshops are scheduled to be held on Friday, May 5 from 12:00 to 5:00p.m. and Saturday, May 6, 2017 from 9:00a.m. to 1:00p.m. During the workshops, staff will provide a comprehensive overview of the City's proposed budget for fiscal years 2017-18 and 2018-2019. Budget decisions drive what gets done so this is an important time for public comment. ■

DECODING THE CODE

continued from page 1

to operate for now. Council "reassured" members in the audience who operate short term rentals that the April 17 interpretation does not mean the City was going to shut down these rentals immediately. In fact, Councilmember Worden said that if the Council with community input determines that some current STRs in residential zones will not be allowed to continue, a "soft landing" for the owners should be worked out.

Public testimony was fairly evenly divided between those who felt the Municipal Code could be interpreted to allow STRs in the residential zones and those who did not. The former cited mention of transient uses (e.g. students and race track employees and patrons) in the Community Plan, unfettered past practice and an unrealistic expectation that every use must be specifically outlined in order to be permitted under the City's "permissive zoning" policy. Ivo Feierabend, longtime resident whose children own and visit at a short term beach rental, pleaded that the banning of STRs would cause "harm to the community ethos."

The other side testified that the "plain language" of the Code explicitly states that residential zones are for one family development, that the word dwelling is defined in the code as used exclusively for residential purposes and implies stay of some permanence. Council noted that residential use includes occupants getting their mail at that location, registering to vote and paying utilities while visitors return "home" after a short term stay. Beach resident David Doyle presented legal decisions citing that lack of enforcement does not create a right to continue a non-conforming use, refuting the case for historical precedent.

Mayor Sinnott voted against the motion advocating instead for a regulatory approach to short term rentals that are, in his opinion, neither allowed nor not allowed by the Municipal Code. However the majority felt it was important to make the interpretation before they could consider regulating or permitting short term rentals when there is disagreement in the community over whether or not they are even an allowed use. ■



Waiting for Jake's to open. Photo Virginia Lawrence.



MAY 2017

DEL MAR PLAZA BECOMES LEAD SPONSOR FOR TWILIGHT CONCERTS

The Del Mar Foundation is pleased to welcome the Del Mar Plaza as the new lead sponsor for the upcoming season of its popular Summer Twilight Concert Series. The Plaza is owned and operated by Del Mar residents Patty and Marc Bruten, who recently purchased the property through their investment firm, Brixton Capital.

"We could not be more excited about partnering with the Foundation to showcase this great public concert series," commented Patty Bruten. "The Plaza is part of the fabric of Del Mar, and Marc and I are committed to making it the community gathering place it was designed to be. It only makes sense for us to team with the Foundation, which is also devoted to building a sense of community while preserving and enhancing the unique character of our town." Del Mar Foundation Board member and Summer Twilight Concerts Chair T. Pat Stubbs agreed: "The Foundation has been hosting these concerts for nearly 35 years. They provide a great opportunity for friends and family to gather together, share a picnic, and enjoy great music and a beautiful sunset over the Pacific. None of this would be possible without the support of our donors and sponsors, and we could not be happier to welcome the Plaza to this group of committed locals."

Bob Gans, President of the Foundation, expressed his gratitude to the Bruten Family for making such a substantial commitment to our community. "Every Foundation Board member, donor, and volunteer is passionate about making Del Mar a great place to live and play, whether it be through providing free concerts, lectures, movie nights, gatherings, or awarding tens of thousands of dollars in grants to a variety of local worthwhile causes. We are grateful to Marc and Patty and the Del Mar Plaza, whose commitment will help us continue to achieve our mission."

This year's concert line-up kicks off on Tuesday, June 20, with perennial favorite "The Blue Eyed Soul Band." They will be followed by "DSB - The Next Best Thing To Journey" on July 11; "The Ultimate Stones" on August 8; "The Mighty Untouchables" on August 22; and the "Sensation Show Band" on September 10. More details will be released soon, so keep following us on Facebook (@DelMarFoundation) or Twitter (@DelMarFound), or check our website at www.delmarfoundation.org.

DOUBLE YOUR MONEY

Nancy Fisher | 24th Street



Jeff Barnouw. Photo Bill Morris.

The editors (all volunteers) of the Sandpiper, its donors, and its Board Members (The Del Mar Community Alliance) are pinching themselves. One of our own, Del Mar resident and fellow editor Jeff Barnouw, has offered a challenge/match grant of up to \$6000 per year for each of the next three years to cover production and distribution of the Sandpiper. For a publication that accepts no advertising (a truly free press), this could translate to the funding of many editions that we sometimes count pennies to produce.

We need the help of our readers (whether you love us or wrap fish with us), and the rules are simple. Jeff will match any "new" money, which can be from existing donors who contribute more than their pledges, or from new donors who give any amount in the coming year. When we have raised \$6000 of "new money" Jeff's grant will be closed out for that year.

Jeff, who's owned a home in Del Mar since 1969, but has spent many years teaching out of state, has whole-heartedly thrown himself into civic activities since his full-time return in 2010. "In my early years in Del Mar," he explains, "I was here, but not quite 'here,' since I was teaching elsewhere. I was even a part of developing the Community Plan, but didn't play a large role since I had a postdoc in Germany in 1972-74. It was good to get back, and I've joined things that really interest me." Among them are the Board of Del Mar Community Connections, the Del Mar Historical Society, the Del Mar Lagoon Committee, and the San Dieguito River Park (SDRP) both as a "dust devil" doing trail maintenance, and as Chair of the Citizens Advisory Committee which gives him a seat on the Board of the SDRP Joint Powers Authority. →

THIS DAZZLING DAY

Susan Morrison | Stratford Court

Pay attention to the thousand suns
dancing on the water,
the sail on the horizon,
the osprey's plunge,
sea dahlias on the bluff.
For this is life,
this is now,
despite the grief
we may bear.



From the Guy Fleming Trail in the Torrey Pines Reserve. Photo Virginia Lawrence.



Del Mar Community Connections

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

MAY 2017

Jo Morgenthal, Program Director

DMCC Survey

Included in your Sandpiper this month is a DMCC Survey. Please take a moment to fill out the survey, as this will help us determine how to best serve you, our community. Even if you are not familiar with DMCC, we still want to hear from you. Once you fill it out, please seal it and then pop it in the mail (a stamp is provided.) Your feedback is essential and the more responses we receive the better programs we can offer!! Please return the survey by the end of the month.

Volunteers are the heart (especially at DMCC)...

Del Mar Community Connections' Volunteer Program strives to enrich the lives of our maturing population by providing activities, services and programs to help them remain living in the homes they love. A team of dedicated volunteers from all walks of life assists DMCC to meet the needs of these folks. Working in full partnership with DMCC staff, these volunteers provide extra services that enhance the quality of life for residents. YOU can be a member of that team!

DMCC's Healthy Aging Forum with Dr. Kalina....

On the second Tuesday of every month, Dr. Mark Kalina shares his knowledge with a group of local Del Martians, covering pre-arranged topics under the umbrella of Healthy Aging. This month Dr. Kalina has invited Dr. Erica Oberg, ND to speak about "Supplements to Enhance Life and Health." The topical lecture takes place from 9:30 to 10:30am followed by an open forum ending at 11:30am to discuss whatever questions or concerns you bring to the table. Come and join this popular program on May 9th at the DMCC - 225 9th Street.

Honoring our Founders

This year DMCC will honor its founders at our 2017 Volunteer Appreciation BBQ, taking place on May 10th at the DMCC - 225 9th Street. This is an incredible opportunity to say thank you to those who envisioned and created DMCC, while honoring those volunteers who keep the mission moving forward.

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

So why, we asked, was the Sandpiper the lucky beneficiary of his generosity? For starters, he says, his late wife, Dagmar Barnouw, a pre-eminent scholar of the intellectual and cultural history of Germany who died in 2008, left him in a position to be generous. "She consistently earned twice what I did, and I invested it well, so a lot of my comfort and capacity is thanks to Dagmar." "And the Sandpiper," he feels, "is a pluralistic model. It doesn't represent just a fraction of Del Mar, offers a forum for fruitful disagreement, helps civility, and doesn't homogenize. It's an important engine of the community."

Please stay tuned to the Sandpiper for more information on how you can make your donation to us go twice as far. □

CITY WAITING FOR CURE

Don Mosier | Rimini Road

Construction of new City Hall and Town Hall has advanced rapidly the past month. The southern two-thirds of the parking garage is nearly complete, and the RABC-ECC crew has started work on the podium deck/garage roof. The first portion completed was the southeast corner near 10th Street and Camino Del Mar, the concrete floor for the new Town Hall. This portion will also house the Emergency Operations Center, and is 14 inches thick with literally tons of rebar. Forms and rebar were completed on March 31st and concrete trucks began arriving every 3 minutes on April 3rd.

Work on the rest of the podium deck has progressed while the concrete from the April 3rd pour is curing. The project is now ahead of schedule, and the rain delays seem like a bad memory.

Construction activity now covers the entire site, and the walls and floor for the north end of the parking garage will be completed soon. Kudos to the construction team for making up for lost time. ■



Workers scurrying to complete form work for podium deck pour on Friday, March 31st. View from 10th and Camino Del Mar looking northwest.



The big concrete pour on Monday, April 3rd. The picture was taken from the same viewpoint as March 31st photo.



*Rebar extending above the podium deck outlines the position of the new TV studio and part of the new Town Hall in the southeast corner of the site (lower left of photo) while forms are being installed for the deck under the new City Hall (upper right of photo).
Photos Don Mosier.*



The parking garage level is now full of scaffolding supports for the podium deck forms above. These will be removed once the concrete has cured in about 2-4 weeks.

DECIPHERING DESIGN

Draft Moves Forward

Dolores Davies | Crest Road

At its March 7 meeting, the Ad Hoc Design Review Process Citizens Advisory Committee (known as Ad Hoc), heard a presentation from RRM Design Group, the consultant retained by the City of Del Mar in January 2017, to develop a set of design guidelines to supplement the City's Design Review Ordinance (DRO).

With the substantial research needed to develop the document now completed, RRM has begun drafting the guidelines and solicited feedback on formatting preferences, organizing principles, and the balance between text and graphics. Through the use of text and graphics, the Design Guidelines will provide quantifiable standards and criteria that will reduce subjectivity by adding needed clarity and detail to the DRO standards.

During their presentation, RRM staff presented various samples of table of contents, sample page layouts from other cities, and a detailed outline of the issues and topics to be addressed within the guidelines document. A discussion ensued about the need for the document to be clearly understood, easy to use, and applicable to applicants—both property owners and their architects or other representatives—and Design Review Board members and City Planning staff, who will use the document in their project review and decision making. At the same time, the document also needs to be easily understood by Del Mar residents and neighbors.

At the meeting, discussion also occurred about the need to have call-out boxes of text—color-coded, perhaps—for greater focus. RRM staff stressed that while the Guidelines will need to be accessible in digital and print formats, the use of illustrations, 3-D modeling, and dos and don'ts, should be used as much as possible throughout.

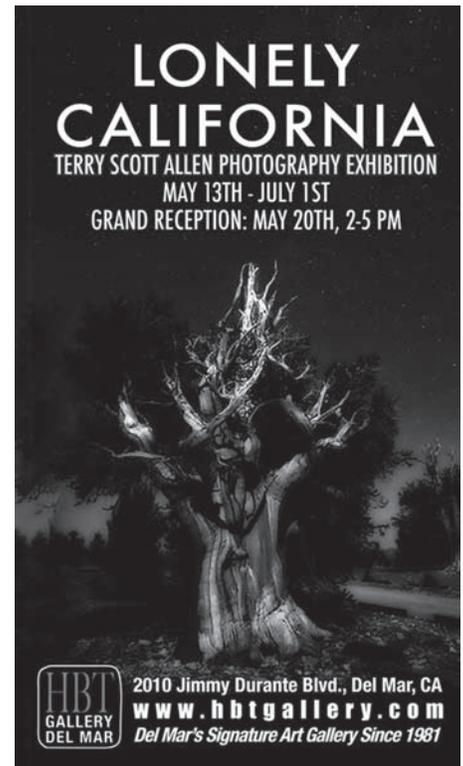
Although the Design Guidelines will relate to all aspects of the building and landscape design process, they will focus especially on those issues that have been most problematic in the past, such as private and public view blockage, privacy, structural bulk and mass, and the conservation of natural topography and vegetation.

At the March meeting, RMM staff said they are on target for producing a complete first draft document for Ad-Hoc Committee and public review at the committee's May 18 meeting. Following release of the initial draft in May, City staff and the consultant are anticipating that a draft of the document for review by the DRB will be available in July, with further City and Planning Commission approvals—as well as needed zoning code changes—anticipated for fall 2017.

Interested members of the public are encouraged to provide feedback on the draft Design Guidelines at the May 18 meeting. In addition, all Ad Hoc committee meetings are televised and can be viewed from the City of Del Mar website. ■

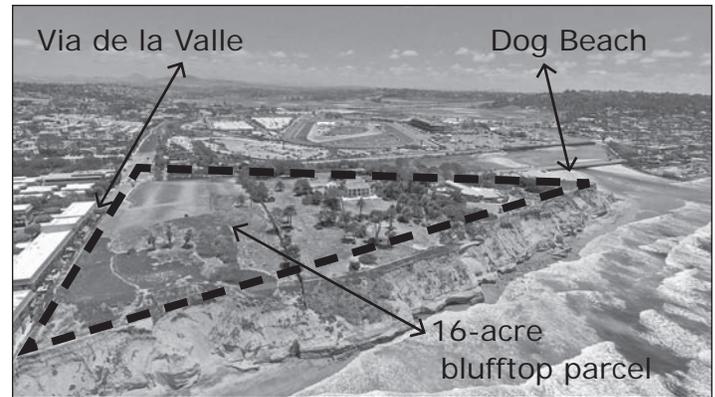
Herbert B.
Turner Gallery
Features
**TERRY
SCOTT
ALLEN**

Terry Scott Allen's "Lonely California" is a collection of photographic images depicting California's remote back country and quiet places.



PARCEL PLANNING BEGINS

Community Meetings to Discuss 16-Acre Del Mar Parcel Set for May 6 and 13 between 10am and 2pm.



The Robert Green Company and Zephyr will hold community events about the parcel of land overlooking North Beach in Del Mar at the corner of Camino Del Mar and Border Avenue on two consecutive Saturdays, May 6 and May 13, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Residents and community members are invited to attend any time between those hours to visit one-on-one with developers, architects, planning experts and others to learn about the project possibilities and provide ideas and input.

Onsite parking will be provided for the event. Attendees are encouraged to wear appropriate footwear and look for event parking signs and monitors. ■

RENT OR BUY

Dolores Davies | Crest Road

At its April 3 City Council meeting, following an extensive presentation by City Manager Scott Huth, the Del Mar City Council voted to schedule a City workshop in June to further examine and discuss the voluminous data and findings referenced in the City Manager's report.

Huth presented a long and detailed report to the City Council, summarizing the City's law enforcement alternatives to the existing \$2.14 million contract with the Sheriff, which continues to escalate by approximately \$100,000 each year. While the report provided information on the alternatives examined by Ralph Anderson & Associates, the consultant retained by the City to work with its Finance Committee to study law enforcement options, the City Manager clearly advocated the Police department proposal as the most cost effective and logical way to go for Del Mar.

"We have been studying our law enforcement alternatives now for 4 years," said Huth. "A stand-alone Police Department could meet Del Mar's needs by providing the sort of community-based policing that we want and are not getting with the Sheriff's contract. It could also give us better response times and more of the kind of staffing we need, while resulting in cost savings of about \$365,000."

While some members of the Council expressed gratitude to Huth and City staff, as well as the Finance Committee, for the prodigious amount of work they had undertaken to get the City to this point, they were reluctant to move forward with a community outreach effort just yet.

"There is a huge amount of data in this report and in the studies that have been completed," said Councilmember Haviland. "I feel like we need more time to get a better grasp on this and perhaps have some discussions amongst ourselves before we go out and solicit community feedback."

While Mayor Sinnott, one of the Council liaisons charged with working with the Finance Committee, thought the Council had an obligation to the community to bring residents up to speed on the law enforcement options to solicit their feedback, Councilmember Druker said he felt that the community had already given the Police Department proposal a thumbs-down, given that those candidates in support of a Police Department were not successful in getting elected. Druker advocated for tabling the Police Department proposal and moving forward with a possible expansion of the city's current Ranger program.

Councilmember Worden remarked that the police department proposal responded affirmatively to three key questions that he felt needed to be answered before moving forward. This included whether or not police services could be provided for the same amount or less than the City was paying to the Sheriff, could a police department deliver those services better, and could the City manage the potential liability and pension costs. →

RANDOM EXCERPTS FROM STUDY

Note: We encourage you to read the entire 53-page report on both Sandpiper and City websites.

To be effective, a community policing model requires law enforcement personnel who have longevity and the capacity to not just "patrol" the city, but "serve" the city. This is achieved through relationship building, public appearances, collaboration and communication with the businesses and residents of the community. This enables greater input and feedback and problem solving and works to establish trust and familiarity with law enforcement personnel.

A stand-alone Police Department which incorporates the City's existing Ranger Program and Parking Enforcement efforts would allow for a community-based policing model that provides Del Mar with continuity, better response times and additional staff at a reduced annual cost.

1. Costs. The current contract cost totals \$2.1 million. Costs have risen steadily at an average of 4% annually over the last 5 years.
2. Slow response times especially for Priority 3 and 4 calls (reckless driving, hit and run, loud parties, prowler, vandalism, trespass, alarm activation, family disturbance, group disturbance, etc.)...the actual response times call into question whether Del Mar is receiving its contracted one officer 24/7 level of service
3. Lack of patrol presence.
4. Frequent turnover of Sheriff's Deputies and Management

These four key factors would not be acceptable if found in our other City provided services.

Ongoing operational costs of Police Department would include salaries, benefits, pension, overtime, workers comp, equipment maintenance, services and supplies, training, insurance, and legal services...will fall under the new pension reform regulations...we are obligated under our current contract to pay for Sheriff pension costs.

Del Mar's total law enforcement annual cost is \$2.7. The estimated costs for the Del Mar Police Department (not including one-time start-up costs of \$2-3 million) is \$2.3.

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"The report answers all these questions with a 'yes,'" said Councilmember Worden. "There's a lot of appeal in moving forward. It would be very premature and inappropriate to end the dialogue tonight." ▣

The Del Mar Community Alliance, the non-profit publishers of the Sandpiper, invites the community to a celebration of our 20th anniversary!

SANDPIPER

20TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY

Sunday, May 7

from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Powerhouse Park & Community Center

music by Strange Brew from 4 to 5:30 p.m.

Games from 4 – 5:30 p.m. • Food from 5:30 – 7 p.m.

Beer & Wine from 4 – 7 p.m. at the Community Center

PLAY

Have a field day with us, for kids and adults of all ages!
Laser Tag, Hula Hoops, Silly Races, and much more!

DRINK

Karl Strauss Beer... \$5 per bottle
Red or White Wine... \$5 per glass
Water and Lemonade... FREE

EAT

Pizza Slice: Veggie or Meat... \$5 each
Pulled-Chicken or Pork BBQ Sandwiches... \$10

MEET

Meet the Sandpiper editors and share your varying opinions about our community.

Del Mar families can reserve their spot online (delmarsandpiper.org) or RSVP to Rose Ann Sharp at (239) 777-9411.



WALK THIS WAY

Ann Gardner | Via Latina

The City will be asking you for input on how to make walking along Camino del Mar between 9th and 15th streets more inviting and well, in some places, walkable. Although the community input process may not begin until next month with implementation expected in 2018, the Del Mar Village Association has already made “some easy to do” suggestions to implement in time for the Breeder’s Cup in November. Their “no funding needed” list includes: public areas to be used for kiosks, performance arts, and banners and signage at strategic locations. Staff says they will take a look to see what is “doable.”

In the meantime City Council has approved adding \$26,000 to Del Mar’s contract with Spurlock Landscape Architects to work with the community on the development of a downtown streetscape plan for the aforementioned six block corridor. Their first meetings will be with the Traffic Parking Advisory Committee, Business Support Advisory Committee and Del Mar Village Association, moving to a community-wide workshop in June. According to staff “street scape” refers to capital infrastructure such as curb, gutter, sidewalks, bike lanes and lighting along with visual aspects such as landscaping.” Councilmember Druker emphasized the importance of landscaping, specifically trees, in reflecting the character of Del Mar in its business district. Council agreed and added providing options for improved lighting as a priority.

Enhancing pedestrian mobility in the downtown area has been a vision for Del Mar since the 1995 Community Plan and 1996 Downtown Streetscape Plan were adopted. Completed projects between 13th and 15th include disabled access intersection improvement, reconstruction of sidewalks, bulb-outs and some street furniture. In 2016 Spurlock began meeting with the organizations above to get their ideas on addressing the “vibrancy and vitality” of the downtown area, but the public input phase was delayed by other significant plans, particularly the new City Hall.

Basic parameters for considering the next steps →

RANDOM EXCERPTS

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Annual savings could recover the projected start-up costs in 5-7 years.

If the community wants a department that has the same level of familiarity, involvement, and approachability as other City Departments, then a Del Mar Police Department is one of the few ways of achieving that desire. Significantly increased personnel, supervision and services will certainly result in greatly reduce response times, greater continuity, and increased community involvement.

It is important to note that the Sheriff’s Department staff, Del Mar’s Park Ranger, and the Parking Enforcement staff that serve Del Mar are a highly professional staff and serve the Del Mar community very well. ■



*Sidewalk ends at corner of Camino del Mar and 12th Street
Photo Ann Gardner.*

stretching to 9th street are to leave two travel lanes in each direction and no roundabouts. Druker agreed saying that it was important to keep the project scope as simple as possible “to get it in the ground” as soon as possible. We can all start playing our part now. Take a stroll along Camino del Mar noting where the sidewalk ends, or detours, or ends up behind cars; where there are opportunities for more landscaping and street furniture and bring your ideas and even photos to the public workshop in June. ■



*Sidewalk ends between 11th and 12th Street.
Photo Ann Gardner.*

SHORES SHARING

Tom Sohn | 26th Street

In January 2017, the City Council approved a Memorandum of Understanding with the Winston School for a collaborative shared-use master planning effort with the Winston School and the adjacent Shores Park. Up until that point, the Shores master planning effort, led by the City Council-appointed Shores Advisory Committee, and the Winston Schools master planning effort were proceeding independently of one another. The MOU captured the idea of treating the entire parcel of land as one canvas as opposed to improvements and redevelopment of the Winston School being done separate and apart from the redesign of the Shores Park.



Kathy Garcia explains the timing for community input on the Shores Park.
Photo Tom Sohn.

During 2015 and 2016, the Shores Advisory Committee, along with architectural consultant Schmidt Design Group, worked to obtain input and insight from the community and surrounding neighbors on the desired amenities and activities for the Park and to prioritize these amenities and activities based upon overall community interest. This work resulted in three concept diagrams ("bubble diagrams") for the Park that showed the preferred park amenities, solely contained outside of the footprint of the Winston School.

However, after entering into the MOU, the Schmidt Design Group, along with the Winston School's architect, OBR Architecture, were task with combining the community's input on the Park along with the needs of the Winston School and their redevelopment efforts.

On April 12, the Shores Advisory Committee was presented with the results of combining these two master planning activities in the form of three new bubble diagrams. The intent of the new bubble diagrams was to include prior community input and marry it up to the Winston School redevelopment. The diagrams represent three possibilities on what the overall property could look like once complete. The diagrams generally included more amenities for the Shores Park than the previous concept diagrams. All three diagrams shrunk the footprint of the Winston School while typically expanding the footprint of the Park and expanding public use. In addition, all three concepts included some form of parking structure with additional green-park usage on top of the structure. Due to the unique topography of the Shores space, views were considered and generally preserved for neighbors east of the property.

The Schmidt Design Group was scheduled to present →

UNKNOWN EATER Seating Zones with Ocean Views



Photo courtesy Dan Sbicca

The Unknown Eater visits Sbicca in Del Mar. On the east side of 15th Street, between CDM and Stratford Court, this is not a new find but an existing dining spot that remains successful. The patio tables, with ocean views, begin to disappear after 5 pm in the spring and summer; yet there are view seats upstairs as well. Many unique seating zones exist, including the wine room, reservations required, on the 2nd floor. Outdoor heaters keep most patrons comfortable. Friends and I started with wine on a late afternoon accompanied with several starters including coconut calamari and P.E.I. mussels; all were delivered within a reasonable time. It was half price wine night (each Tuesday and Thursday) which adds to the enjoyment. We then ordered dinners that consisted of roasted pork prime rib, Scottish salmon and roasted rainbow trout; we shared a citrus salad as well. The staff was friendly as usual. The food was appealing. Did I mention it was half price wine night? It can be loud in the bar, yet typically OK; in other areas the voices sink into the evening. Sbicca has a good full service bar that includes an excellent selection of wine; beer by the bottle is available. Prices were in the middle to upper range. Sbicca is a gem that is an easy walk any time of the year! Happy hour from 4pm to 6pm. Reservations at 858.481.1001

these three concept diagrams to the City Council on May 1. In addition, in mid-June, the City will be scheduling an additional community workshop to gain further input from the community allowing the Schmidt Design Group to "cherry pick" the most preferred amenities and concepts from the three bubble drawings and ultimately present a single design to the community and the Council for approval. ■

ASK DR. RICH!

Rich Simons | Upper East 11th

Every month, Rich Simons answers readers' most perplexing questions

Q: The news these days is full of financial advice for people in their 40s and 50s who might be concerned that they haven't saved enough for "retirement." Experts seem to agree that the wisest financial strategy available to such folks is foregoing their \$5 morning latte and investing those savings in various miracle stocks, which will yield a shining pot of gold at the end of the retirement rainbow. That, and pack a lunch. Beyond that, they don't seem to have a clue. – Can you help out here? f.b.

A: The painful truth is that it's virtually impossible for anyone trying to sustain a family to even think about retirement, let alone plan and save for it. Why? Because at the same time they're supposed to be socking away those retirement funds, these people's finances are being sucked dry by the cost of raising children, the expense/extortion of sending those children to college, the financial needs of their aging parents (e.g., drugs Medicare doesn't cover), car loans, the interest on their credit-card debt, home repairs, cell phone bills, medical emergencies, dental work, and the rising cost of everything: health care, food, clothes, and of course beer.

To make matters worse, corporate America is busily riding itself of people in their "prime earning years," precisely because they do make a decent salary. So, 40- and 50-somethings can add to their list of financial stressors the prospect of unemployment, underemployment, self-employment, retraining or bankruptcy.

Indeed, for those of us who already drink green tea in the

morning, work at home, eat leftovers for lunch, shop at St. Peter's and wear the same socks three days in a row, there doesn't seem to be much hope. For us, the prospect of living to 90 or 100 is terrifying, because it would take at least 340 years at our current earning level to undo the financial devastation incurred during the first 25 to 30 years of our working lives.

There has to be a better way.

Fortunately, there is. It's called "happy math."

My wife and I recently discovered the magic of happy math while wading through a sea of unpayable bills and wondering what in the world we were going to do. Using conventional math, our situation looked dire. But using happy math, our financial worldview was transformed. We now use happy math for everything, and our finances have never looked better.

Happy math works like this: Suppose you buy a coat at a thrift store for \$20, but that same coat would cost you \$200 at Macy's. That means you have "saved" \$180, which you are now free to spend somewhere else.

Using the \$180 you saved on the coat, let's say you then go to Best Buy and get a \$600 HDTV on sale for \$180, thus saving another \$420. Flush with those savings, you then score a \$5,000 piano on Craigslist for \$400, netting you savings of \$4,600, plus the extra \$20 from the TV coup. You now have \$4,620 in savings, which you can use to buy that Groupon for a two-person luxury cruise to the Galápagos Islands valued at \$12,000.

Using the \$7,380 you saved on the Galapagos trip, you are now in a position to buy a used Mercedes-Benz with a Blue Book value of \$15,000 — which leaves you with only \$7,720 in savings, I'll grant. But hey, now you're driving a Benz!

If you've ever wondered how governments can continually boast about budget "cuts" while increasing spending,

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Photo illustration Art Olson

BREEDERS' BARN

Tom Sohn | 26th Street

The 34th running of the Breeders' Cup will be held November 3 and 4 at the Del Mar Race Track with social events during the week leading up to the racing for event participants and the general community.

At the December 19 Council meeting, Staff presented a proposal from the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club (DMTC) for the construction of a tent in Powerhouse Park to be used for "Barn at the Beach" events over a seven-day period. However, when the specifics were presented to the Parks and Recreation Committee on January 11 concerns were raised about parking, noise, lighting, and the amount of park space to be taken up by the tent.

The applications were subsequently revised and finally approved by the Parks and Recreation Committee and the Business Support Advisory Committee.

At its April 17 meeting, the Council approved the Coastal Development permit and an Operations Permit for the tent, and the Barn at the Beach activities, which will run from October 29 – November 4. The tent will require three days to construct and two days to take down, thus occupying a portion of Powerhouse Park for twelve total days.

The tent will measure 50 x 140 feet (7,000 square feet) with an additional 1,620 square feet of deck area to wrap



Placement of tent in Powerhouse Park. Graphic from City Council Staff Report.

around the west and north sides of the tent. This represents about 22% of Powerhouse Park leaving approximately 32,000 square feet for public use, including all public pathways and access to the beach through the park. The adjacent playground and the restrooms will remain open. Among the events taking place at the Barn at the Beach are a Taste of San Diego sponsored by the DMVA, a Del Mar Foundation party, and a Viewing Party sponsored by the Breeder's Cup and DMTC, all of which are open to the public.

Speakers at the April 17th meeting were generally in favor of the of the Barn at the Beach. The Council unanimously approved the permit applications and waived any rental fees associated with Powerhouse Park. "It's... important to signal that the city and our community groups are all together in trying to support a successful Breeders Cup," stated Mayor Sinnott. "This will be a value to the community above and beyond what we typically get out of horse racing," said Council Member Haviland. □



Graphic from City Council Staff Report.

DR. RICH HAPPY MATH

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it's because they are using the fabulous, number-neutering principles of happy math. But it isn't just for governments. Using happy math, anyone can go from having practically no money whatsoever to living a rich, satisfying existence supported by a cloud of ever-expanding savings.

My wife and I used to worry constantly about our financial future, but now we estimate that by the time we are 90 and ready to slow down a little, we will have accrued millions in savings — all because we discovered happy math before it was too late. →

So if you are approaching midlife and suddenly find yourself in the office of some wonky financial adviser who is recommending that you give up your morning latte, I recommend that you stand up and leave immediately. This will instantly save you \$300, which, using happy math, you can then use to start charting your way toward financial independence.

I want to share the miracle of happy math with everyone because I am concerned about the future. I hope this has been helpful. □

ELIXIR

Sustainable smoothies and more

Don Mosier | Rimini Road

Long-time Del Mar resident and owner of Americana, Randy Gruber, has opened a new take out food and juice bar next to his restaurant. Elixir features organic, locally sourced fruits and vegetables that are cold-pressed



Randy Gruber and K.C. Vafiadis, the perfect tenant:landlord relationship. Photo Don Mosier

into an amazing variety of juices and smoothies that are bottled daily onsite. Many of the drinks feature house-sprouted organic almond mylk (lest you confuse it with the cow-sourced product) including organic coffee and espresso drinks. There is also locally sourced kombucha on tap, as well as a variety of gluten-free bread and bakery items sourced from The Curious Fork in Solana Beach. There are tasty sandwiches available for lunch, and new treats to try every day. Their paninis are delicious.

Randy was clearly excited to be starting a new venture, and he has committed to serving a local clientele with sustainable practices. There is a \$1 refund for glass bottles that are then cleaned and reused. All products are recyclable, and the local sourcing reduces the environmental impact of transportation. He really is setting a model for business practices in Del Mar that reflect well on our community.

Starting a new commercial venture in Del Mar is not without its risks, and Randy credits his landlord, K.C. Vafiadis, →



Saturday, May 20: 8:30 am - Bird Walk; 10:00 am - Wild Wonders: Presentation of native birds, mammals, and reptiles; 11:00 am-2:00 pm - Family-oriented events:

Birds and Binoculars - Participants will use binoculars and telescopes to observe and learn about the bird species found in the lagoon.

The Art of Nature - Participants will utilize specimens found in the lagoon to create artwork.

Seedballs - Participants will mix native seed and soil to create seedballs which will then be distributed within the Park to increase native plant communities.

Animals of the Park - Participants will try to properly identify a skull to the correct animal and then learn about their importance in the environment.

Marine Life - Biologists will have aquatic animals they have found in the lagoon to observe and learn about their role in marine ecosystem.

Directions: Take the I-5 freeway to Via de la Valle. Go east; turn the first right on San Andres by California Bank and Trust. Take a left through Park gate and follow signs to park in the Staging Area.

with being a big supporter in offering the space and helping with city permits. K.C. joined Randy and me during my visit, and is clearly enthusiastic about her tenant and his new business. I was amazed at how efficiently the 848 square feet space was organized, and at the variety of products offered. □

DEL MAR COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Highlights for MAY 2017

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

City Council Meeting. May 1, 2017, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM @ City Council Chambers.

DM Community Connections - Tuesday Lunch Connection. Tuesday, May 2nd and 16th, 12 noon to 1:30pm, Del Mar Community Building, 225 9th St.

DM Library Kids - Homework Help & Creative Writing. Homework Help for Preschool - 7th Grade by Torrey Pines High School Students. Tuesdays in May, 3:15pm.

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

DM Library Adults - English Language Café. Tuesdays in May, 4:30pm.

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, May 3 & 17, 1pm. (1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month.)

DM Library Adults - Fair Housing Workshop. With the Legal Aid Society of San Diego. Wednesday, May 3, 6pm.

DM Foundation - First Thursdays: Ruby Blue Trio. Thu, May 4, 7-8:30pm Powerhouse. Open to subscription holders only!

DM Library Adults - San Dieguito Lagoon Lecture. Co-hosted with the San Dieguito River Conservancy. Thursday, May 4, 6pm. (Older American month programming)

Special City Council Meeting - Budget Workshop. May 5, 2017, 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM @ Del Mar Council Chambers at Southfair

Special City Council Meeting - Budget Workshop. May 6, 2017, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM @ Del Mar Council Chambers at Southfair

DM Community Connections - Health Forum with Dr. Kalina. Topic: Supplements to Enhance Life and Health. special Guest, Dr. Erica Oberg, MD Tuesday, May 9th, 9:30am - 11:30am, Del Mar Community Building, 225 9th St.

Parks and Recreation Committee. May 10, 2017, 4:45 PM - 5:45 PM @ Del Mar Council Chambers at Southfair

Planning Commission. May 10, 2017, 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM @ Del Mar Council Chambers at Southfair

DM Community Connections - Volunteer Appreciation - Honoring the Founders. Wednesday, May 10th, Del Mar Community Building, 225 9th Street

DM Library Kids - Art for Kids. Ages 5+. With Sandra Dodd. Wednesday, May 10, 3:30pm. (2nd Wednesday of the month.)

DM Foundation - Young Del Mar: Cinema by the Sea Movie Night. Fri, May 12, Sundown - 10:00pm Del Mar Shores Park

DM Community Connections - Board of Directors Meeting. Saturday, May 13th 9am to 10am, Del Mar Community Building, 225 9th St.

DM Library Kids - Kids Chess Club. All skill levels welcome to play. May 14, 21 & 28, 2:15pm.

City Council Meeting. May 15, 2017, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM @ City Council Chambers.

DM Community Connections - Monday Explorers, Tour of the San Diego Botanic Garden - Encinitas. Monday, May 15th, 9:30am. Meet at Del Mar Community Building, 225 9th St.

Traffic and Parking Advisory Committee. May 16, 2017, 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM @ Del Mar Council Chambers at Southfair

Del Mar Historical Society monthly meeting. Tuesday, May 16, 5:00 pm; conference room at 225 9th Street. The public is encouraged to attend.

San Dieguito Lagoon Committee. May 17, 2017, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM @ Del Mar Library

Sustainability Advisory Board. May 18, 2017, 7:30 AM - 9:30 AM @ Del Mar Council Chambers at Southfair

Ad Hoc Development Review Process Citizens' Advisory Committee. May 18, 2017, 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM @ 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, May 19, 2pm. (3rd Friday of the month.)

DM Foundation - DMF Talks: Dr Todd Coleman from UCSD on "Wearables" or skin motivated devices. Mon, May 22, 6-8pm Powerhouse

Friends of San Dieguito River Valley - Monthly meeting. Monday, 22 May, at City Hall on Jimmy Durante Blvd.

Finance Committee. May 23, 2017, 4:30 PM - 6:15 PM @ Del Mar Council Chambers at Southfair

Business Support Advisory Committee. May 23, 2017, 9:00 AM - May 21, 2017, 11:00 AM @ Del Mar Council Chambers at Southfair

Design Review Board. May 24, 2017, 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM @ Del Mar Council Chambers at Southfair

DM Library Kids - Puzzle Club. With Ms. Gretchen. Puzzles for all ages and skill levels provided. Wednesday, May 24, 1pm. (4th Wednesday of the month.)

DM Library Adults - Del Mar Rose Society Show. Roses on display all day. Friday, May 26; Rose Weekend Concert with Ross Moore. Friday, May 26, 11am. (Del Mar branch Signature Event)

DM Community Connections - ROMEO Men's Lunch. Tuesday, May 30th, 12pm to 1:30pm, Sbicca --215 15th St.

DM Library Adults - Meditation. Healing the mind, body and spirit with meditation, with Laura Baugh, RN. Wednesday, May 31, 1:30pm

VISIT THE SANDPIPER ONLINE!



www.delmarsandpiper.org

SANDPIPER

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DATED MATERIAL

COMPROMISING MY GENERATION

Climate Deniers

Lily Nilipour | Torrey Pines High School Senior

Climate change has been a constant topic of concern in both the world and our local community. From rising temperatures and greenhouse gases to California's past prolonged drought, environmental issues are an essential part of conversation throughout all demographics. Even just in the past few weeks, a worrying crack was discovered in the Peterman Glacier — one of the biggest in Greenland — which, if soon separated, could contribute to the growing trend of melting land ice increasing sea levels.

However, the current political rhetoric surrounding these environmental topics seems to undermine their importance. President Donald Trump recently signed an executive order asking the Environmental Protection Agency to suspend or reevaluate many measures taken by the →

department under former president Barack Obama.

"Scientific evidence overwhelmingly suggests that climate change is caused in large part by human behaviors," classmate Joyce L. said. "Although I don't expect global industries to forfeit profit in order to preserve the environment, the government must take a stronger stance in favor of research and reform. It should not be a liberal or conservative agenda, but a human responsibility to protect future generations."

By proposing massive budget cuts to the EPA, Trump and his administration appear to simply be putting more of an emphasis on economic development in industries like that of fossil fuels. Yet, a much more sinister message is purported, whether intentional or not: that economic growth and businesses are more important to the American public than the preservation of the environment. And, even if Trump argues that his policies are still in the interest of controlling climate change, it is impossible for the government to regulate every industry, company, factory, etc. involving such preservation. Loosening EPA regulations may ideologically seem sound, but in practice can result in the dismissal of careful procedures in favor of profit.

As the youngest group of voters, many high school students find it quite surprising that the current administration can so easily overlook what could potentially be the most urgent issue in the world for the future. Our generation, especially here in California, has experienced some effects of rapid climate change and have read and heard about others. The future of our generation is being compromised; the future of the planet is hardly being considered.

Perhaps what is most troubling is the idea that people and businesses may soon be allowed to disregard the well-being of the environment and their own posterity, all simply for the fleeting reward of profit — and all in denial that climate change is even a dangerous phenomenon. As Joyce mentioned, the responsibility to protect the future lies in today's adults' ability to plan ahead. When even that simple responsibility is not attended to, it contributes greatly to the rift that divides so many people in this country today. ■



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