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SCRIPPS RANCH NEWS

Volume 3 Issue 4 • March 2020

SCRIPPS RANCH
NEWS

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Kyla Yu-Swanson creates fascinating murals, usually featuring native species and colorful tones. (courtesy photo)

A vast canvas

Kyla Yu-Swanson brings art to life with her murals

By Bella Ross

Of all the ways a person can give back to their community, Scripps Ranch High School senior Kyla Yu-Swanson chooses to do so with her paintbrush.

Where others may see a bland wall, Yu-Swanson sees a vast canvas – waiting to be brought to life with a collage of native species and colorful tones thoughtfully crafted in paint.

“Creating public art is Kyla’s quiet yet bold way of changing the world,” said Lois Yu, the artist’s mother. “Her murals beautify and celebrate the communities she created them for. And her designs reflect and raise awareness of something close to her heart: the life and beauty in our natural world.”

Yu-Swanson’s love for work-



Kyla Yu-Swanson puts the finishing touches on one of her creations. (courtesy photo)

ing on murals started when her aunt, an artist living in New York, brought together a large group of people to paint beauty into the rusted entryway of a local health center. The family blocked out two weeks to complete the piece, but a multitude of helping hands brought the

See **CANVAS**, Page 10

LIFE GOES ON

By John Gregory

Life is different as efforts to contain the coronavirus (COVID-19) worldwide pandemic have reached Scripps Ranch.

Residents are dealing with a prolonged period of relative isolation, planning emergency finances and caring for children who no longer have classes to attend for three weeks.

Word of the coronavirus al-

ready had the public on edge as everyone waited for new developments. Local shoppers followed the trend of bulk-buying as they stocked up in case orders were announced to restrict public contact. After all, similar declarations had been given in other countries and even in some areas of the U.S.

Then, the State of California

See **CORONAVIRUS**, Page 3



Members of Walk the Lake pose at Miramar Lake in Scripps Ranch. The group meets the first Sunday of every month to walk, share and build community. (courtesy photo)

Group forms to Walk the Lake

By Laura Hogan

A local group has started to work toward building more community in Scripps Ranch with meetups, exercise and a little coffee.

Walk the Lake was founded by Scripps Ranch resident Shelby Morgan at the beginning of the year as a way to support individuals who have a passion for their health and their community.

The group meets at Miramar Lake the first Sunday morning of the month. Morgan provides coffee for those interested in a little boost or warmth for their walk. Locals are encouraged to join for as much of the five-mile walk as they can – both in time commitment and physical ability.

“I really wanted to build a community within Scripps

Ranch that supports those who have a passion or inspiration for health. And, I thought this would be one of the ways to build that community,” Morgan said.

She initially started the group by posting it on the Scripps Ranch Information Exchange page on Facebook and on her own personal social media accounts. Morgan also invited other residents she knew including Melissa Culver. Morgan and Culver knew one another through high intensity interval training (HIIT) workout classes at the Scripps Ranch Swim and Racquet Club.

“As you can imagine, HIIT training doesn’t allow for us mom friends to really get a chance to socialize with one

See **WALK THE LAKE**, Page 2

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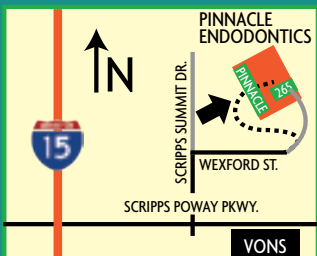
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Robotics Team Inspiration advancing to World Championship!

Team Inspiration, based in Stonebridge Estates, won Inspire Award second place and the Finalist Alliance Award at the FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) Regional Championship on March 1. Out of 36 teams that competed at the Regional Championship, only three teams advance to the World Championship, and Team Inspiration is one of them. The World Championship will be held in Houston April 15-18. Not only did Team Inspiration share their experiences and knowledge locally, they shared with students in Benin, Nigeria, and Togo of Africa; and Bolivia, Brazil and Paraguay of South America. In addition, they traveled to Benin and Paraguay with FRC Team Spyder to host the first national robotics competition and scrimmage in those countries.

WALK THE LAKE

Continued from Page 1

another. The seconds we do have in class we are usually trying to catch our breath," Culver said.

Culver said that while she was initially hesitant to join because of other commitments and time constraints in her schedule, she was glad she carved out the time to join.

"I've attended both meetups and have had such a great time getting to meet new faces and seeing familiar ones. It's fascinating how much we have in com-

mon with people we barely met, and even better – it's people from within our community," Culver said.

Mostly women have attended the Walk the Lake meetups in February and March, but Morgan said she is hoping that more men from the community will join as well. She said that during the walk, the participants are able to decompress about their week with one another as well as learn through advice on everything from nail salon recommendations to kids after-school programs.

"This group is serving its

purpose in the sense that it's getting us like-minded individuals out, moving our bodies ... But, it's also giving us a chance to build authentic and genuine relationships and friendships," Morgan said.

The next Walk the Lake meetup will be held on April 5. April's meetup will be held earlier so individuals can participate in religious and family opportunities as well. For more information and to connect with Morgan about Walk the Lake, visit her page on Facebook: facebook.com/shelbysd or on Instagram: @shelbysd.

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Residents cope with closings, cancellations

CORONAVIRUS

Continued from Page 1

instituted orders to limit all gatherings to 250 people, among other emergency orders. Major events were cancelled. Smaller events were cancelled. Then, the San Diego Unified School District ordered all of its schools to close from March 16 until April 6 – pending further notice.

Many adults must work from home, gatherings are limited and travel has been restricted. Families with parents required to report to work at their places of business were struck with the dilemma of how to care for their children during the school closures. Those able to stay home still face questions of how to keep their children occupied. It's not easy since most events have been cancelled, museums and amusement parks have closed and some businesses offering activities for kids have been forced to shut down temporarily. Even taking children to the few venues still available offers the risk of exposure.

Local grocery stores were inundated with customers.

Shelves of toilet paper and hand sanitizer were emptied. Cans of soup were grabbed up. Rows of shopping carts outside “new” Vons – normally plentiful – had disappeared. They were all in use. Shoppers inside waited in extended lines that stretched along the aisles of merchandise.

Scripps Ranch shoppers – for the most part – remained polite, friendly and retained a sense of humor.

“Is there toilet paper? Is there water?” one shopper jokingly asked as he entered Trader Joe’s, 9850 Hibert St. “The heck with the water. Is there any wine left?”

Closings, cancellations

- The Scripps Miramar Ranch Library is closed through April 6. All programming and events have been postponed or canceled. Online library services remain available.
- The Scripps Ranch Recreation Center and all programming has been canceled until April 6.
- Jerabek Elementary School FFO’s Spring Fling gala and fundraiser was cancelled.
- The last few shows of the Scripps Ranch High Falcons



Toilet paper was sold out at “new” Vons in Scripps Ranch. (photo by John Gregory)

Playhouse production of “Grease” were cancelled or postponed.

- The Jerabek Elementary School Daughter Date Night was cancelled.
- All high school sports have been stopped.
- The Scripps Ranch Band and Orchestra Festival was cancelled.
- Scripps Ranch Little League will not hold any games or team activities until April 6.
- Scripps Ranch Softball Association cancelled all games and practices until March 29.
- The Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library cancelled the March 15, “Pleasure of Your Company” concert.
- The Scripps Ranch Swim & Racquet Club suspended preschool and childcare programs until April 6. The Easter Egg Hunt was cancelled. Fitness classes will

continue but will be modified to fit the situation. See a detailed list at srsr.com.

- The Scripps Ranch High School’s Spring Semi Formal dance is cancelled.
- City parks remain open.

Stay connected

Scripps Ranch News social media network – Facebook (@scrippsranchnews), Instagram (@scrippsranchnews) and Twitter (@scrippsranchnws) accounts – will provide regular updates each day. Readers may also visit scrippsranchnews.com.

Anyone may share new, local information regarding events that are cancelled, shortages, ways residents and organizations are continuing to keep progress moving and tips about how to cope.

Scripps Ranch News will also send out a weekly e-news edition that will arrive in your email inbox. Sign up at scrippsranchnews.com/signup.

April newspaper: Residents can look for the printed edition of Scripps Ranch News in the mail as usual. Anyone with story ideas may send them to john@scrippsranchnews.com.

NEWS

Development update: three local projects

By Laura Hogan

Scripps Ranch has two major construction projects in various stages of production, and a third that is being contested.

Monarch development

The newly proposed Monarch apartment development has been put on hold as members of the community in the group Voice of Scripps Ranch sued the City of San Diego over the project. Lisa Croner, secretary of Voice of Scripps Ranch, said the hearing date for the lawsuit will be held on March 27.

The San Diego Housing Commission recommended the approval of up to \$100,000,000 in tax-exempt bonds to construct the development at a recent hearing. The approval comes with an agreement stating that 53 of the proposed 264 rental units will remain affordable for 55 years for low-income families. Voice of Scripps Ranch was present at the hearing to express its objections to the development and to ask the commission to deny the bonds.

Voice of Scripps Ranch will hold a meeting March 24, 7 p.m. at the Scripps Ranch Community Center.



The Hub at Scripps Ranch, 9850 Carroll Canyon Road, will include 260 luxury apartments and 10,700 square feet of commercial retail space. (photo by Laura Hogan)

The Hub

The Hub at Scripps Ranch, a Sudberry Properties development, is under construction. See DEVELOPMENT, Page 4

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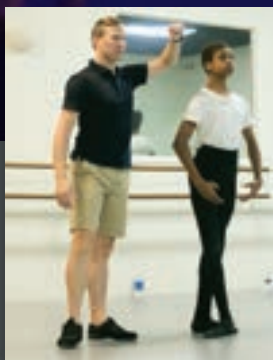
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Monthly Support Salon scheduled

The monthly Support Salon gathering in Scripps Ranch is scheduled for April 7, 6 to 8 p.m. at 9820 Willow Creek Road, Suite 430.

Those interested are invited for some fun, laughs and inspiration. This is an opportunity for powerful, professional women to get together, connect and co-create their visions, self-express in a safe environment and give/get support. This event is held monthly. Email katy@purisconsulting.com for more information.

DEVELOPMENT

Continued from Page 3

struction with preliminary preparations for the site development. The project is located at 9850 Carroll Canyon Road and will include 260 luxury apartments in addition to 10,700 square feet of commercial retail space. According to its website, Sudberry Properties collaborated with local planning groups to ensure the surrounding community approved of the construction.



The Watermark retail project at I-15 and Scripps Poway Parkway, is projected to have 275,000 square feet anchored by Whole Foods Market. (photo by Laura Hogan)

The Watermark

The Watermark retail project, also a Sudberry Properties development, will be located near Interstate 15 and Scripps Poway Parkway. A spokesperson for Sudberry Properties said the company projects starting the project this spring, but that an exact groundbreaking has not been scheduled. When asked for a specific timeline of the project, the spokesperson for Sudberry Properties said a press release which will update the community on future tenants and a timeline of expected completion will be forthcoming.

Editor's Note

Due to the current uncertainty of the COVID-19 crisis, some events in this paper may be cancelled after press time. We will post updates on our social media channels as they become available.

Company promotes humane animal practices

By Shannon Barr

If you attended middle school, chances are you've dissected a frog in biology class. Perhaps you felt ethically uneasy about taking a scalpel to a dead amphibian. If so, you were not alone. This practice can be divisive, and some students – like Fern and Sandrina Lee's daughter – feel badly working with dead animals.

"When my older daughter was in seventh grade, she came home and was telling us her experience about having to dissect a real animal specimen in class and how she didn't want to do it," said Sandrina, a Scripps Ranch resident.

She and her husband, Fern, own Rescue Critters®, a company that provides alternative and humane training solutions to veterinary and medical institutions around the world. Their goal is to make a significant impact on the way people learn, reducing the use of real animals in training by replacing them with simulated models – all to cultivate humane practices.



The Jerry K9 Mannikin has its heartbeat checked. (courtesy of Rescue Critters®)

The Lees are the second owners of Rescue Critters®. The original founder started the business in 1998, and the Lees, who moved to Scripps Ranch from Singapore, have been running the company since 2011.

"We have a soft spot for animals," Sandrina said.

They were drawn to the ethics of Rescue Critters® and how it promotes empathy and compassion for animals.

The company's main products include critical care and advanced training animal mannequins, primarily for veterinary; military; and search and rescue groups

but they also market to younger groups. Rescue Critters® created a stuffed toy called the CeePeR Jr., which helps kids learn how to give basic CPR to their pets in case of an emergency at home. Users can learn how to perform chest compressions, check the simulated pulse and execute mouth-to-snout rescue breathing.

"That got us thinking – we're in this business, we might as well develop something for students so that they ... still get to experience the whole dissection process without feeling bad," Sandrina said.

Rescue Critters® recently launched its frog dissection model for middle and high school students, the first of their dissection models.

"We tried to make it as accurate and realistic as possible, so it's been a very tactile experience," Sandrina explained.

It's also safer to use, she said. Their frog models are made of silicon, whereas preserved animals are often treated with formaldehyde, which is a dangerous



The Emily K9 Positioning Mannikin is a dog mannequin used during a training session. (courtesy of Rescue Critters®)

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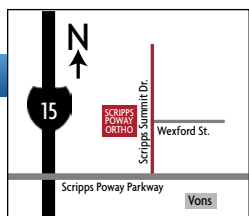
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Outdoor activities such as off the ranch hikes are frequently a part of Welcome Club's schedule of events. Pictured is a morning at Mission Bay Park. (courtesy photo)

Club features both indoor and outdoor activities

By Denise Stewart

A Coffee Klatch at Janet Weigel's, a craft project at Sonya Bolton's, a book club at Diane Rider's, a talk on local Native American history at the Community Center are all among the many activities that will gather members of the Scripps Ranch Welcome Club

together indoors in March.

Walking paths through our local wooded areas, exploring trails at Santee Lakes and taking in the color and culture of Balboa Park's Japanese Garden are also on the agenda. Indoors or out it's all for the enjoyment of Welcome Club's circle of friends.

The club is pushing 40,

and has more than 150 members, but the attitude is vibrant, and the ladies are eager to try new experiences and make new friends.

If this sounds like a group you would enjoy being a part of, check out the website: scrippsranchwelcomeclub.com. There you will find contact information and a warm welcome.

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HUMANE PRACTICES

Continued from Page 5

carcinogen. The frog models – appropriately named Sir Croaks-A-Lot and Lady Anne Phibian — are also reusable, with organ inserts, which require replacement but can be kept to reference again.

The faux frogs offer a realistic dissection experience, enabling students to cut through layers of skin and muscle and dissect internal organs like the heart, brain, kidneys and lungs. The models even have blood vessels that can be examined.

In its early launch, the new model was used for a science project in the Bay Area.

“The student did her research on alternatives to dissection,” Sandrina said. “She used our model and she found that 95 percent of students in her class prefer using our dissection model.”

The Lees have continued expanding the company's animal training alternative products. Within the next few years, Rescue Critters® plans to develop more dissection models, further promoting the welfare of animals.

Visit rescuecritters.com.

Singing group Bella Voce shares the joy of music

By Shannon Barr

Taking her first piano lesson at six years old, Dawn Yocom developed a love of music early. She majored in music performance, earning a teaching credential in music and education. Yocom currently owns a private studio where she teaches piano and voice, and has sung in musical theater, choirs and various groups throughout the years.

So, it only makes sense that she took on the director role for a local women's singing group when the need arose. She sang with the Scripps A Cappella Singers, formerly known as the Scripps Ranch Madrigal Singers. Over the years, directors came and went, and soon there was a need for someone to step into the director role.

"In order for the group to survive, I took over the job of directing it and singing with it," Yocom said.

Eventually, that singing group came to an end, but not for everyone.

"When that disbanded after about 35 years of singing together, many of the women wanted to invite other friends in and continue singing," Yocom said.

In response to continuing the joy of singing as a group, the Scripps Ranch-based acapella women's ensemble group, Bella Voce emerged. The name is Italian for "beautiful voice" and was established about two and a half years ago.

The group sings a vast range of music, including Renaissance, contemporary, sacred, folk, spirituals and holiday-themed songs. It also performs at a variety of locations, including community events, churches, parties, retirement residences and libraries.

"We're always looking out for opportunities to sing," Yocom said. "We don't need to get paid, necessarily. We're looking for volunteer opportunities as well to highlight peoples' lives with music."

Bella Voce's goal is to cultivate friendship while sharing the love of music with others.

"It's a joy in our lives, and it brings such joy to others as well," Yocom said.

The group currently comprises 10 members and they are eagerly aiming to expand.

"We're not as diverse as we would like to be," Yocom said.

Although members range in age from their late 40s to 70s, they welcome younger



The Scripps Ranch-based women's ensemble group Bella Voce has 10 members, but would like to expand and diversify. (courtesy of Bella Voce)

women, hoping to bring in members who share their joy of singing.

"We're looking for people who like to sing to come out," Yocom explained. "We're a very friendly group and we do social events among ourselves."

As the director, Yocom runs the weekly to bi-weekly rehearsals – the cadence depends on whether they have an upcoming gig. The women gather at each other's homes in San Diego to practice. Yocom said she teaches the music, but many of the

women are knowledgeable in music reading, so they also help each other learn.

Upcoming shows include a performance during the Scripps Ranch Old Pros' Fourth of July 2-Mile Fun Run, where the group will sing the National Anthem, and a performance at the Scripps Miramar Ranch Library in September.

Those interested in joining Bella Voce, or having the group sing for an event, can contact Bella Voce through the website capric19.wixsite.com/bella-voce.

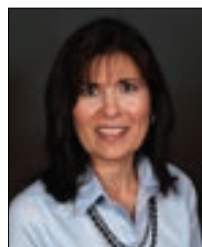
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LEISURE

Garden Club speaker focuses on orchids

By Denise Stewart

The Scripps-Mesa Garden Club scheduled orchid expert Chuck McClung at its meeting March 24 at the Scripps Ranch Library Community Room at 6 p.m.

McClung is the author of "How Orchids Rebloom."

"I've developed what I've been told is a simple, structured, easy-to-follow approach to how orchids rebloom," he said. "I completed my master's degree in botany in 1996 from Washington State University and have worked in ecological and botanical research for the University of Illinois - Chicago, Oregon State University and the University of Montana.

"Long ago, I gained a lot of knowledge working in commercial greenhouses and nurseries. But it was all my over 20-years' experience in large, family-owned independent garden centers and nurseries where I really honed my skills helping others find happiness successfully growing and tending to their favorite plants."

In addition to the March meeting, the gardeners have booked several outings this spring to local nurseries to hear talks by local farmers, seed cultivators and agricultural historians.

The Scripps-Mesa Garden Club began in 1993 and since that time has encouraged gardeners from both sides of I-15 to share their gardening knowledge and experiences with their community. Plant enthusiasts are invited to attend the meeting this month at the library. Later in the growing season, the club will be meeting off-site and on garden tours. For more information, contact rgale1943@gmail.com.

Musician's album nominated for award

By Terry L. Wilson

Scripps Ranch musician Patrick Yandall's "When It's Hip" album has been nominated for Jazz Album of The Year at the San Diego Music Awards, which will be held March 23 at the House of Blues in downtown San Diego.

"This is my 22nd album. I've been nominated numerous times over the years, and so far, I've always been the bridesmaid and not the bride. Maybe this will be my year to catch the bouquet," Yandall said.

"Twelve years ago, Life's Work Entertainment in Los Angeles nominated me for Jazz Artist of The Year. I've also had Grammy consideration for four of my albums, but I'm still waiting for that first win," he said.

Yandall was born into a musical family. His father was a performer doing "gigs" at local clubs and events in Michigan. Subsequently, young Patrick was bitten by the show-biz bug about the same time most kids his age were learning how to ride a bicycle.

"Dad had all kinds of in-



Patrick Yandall's "When It's Hip" album was nominated for Jazz Album of The Year at the San Diego Music Awards. (courtesy photo)

struments laying around and I started playing a little trumpet in grade school, but I gravitated toward the guitar when I was in fourth grade and stuck with it," Yandall said.

"I grew up in Michigan and began playing around town when I was in the ninth grade. A friend of my brother had a band that was playing clubs and they asked me to play with them. I'm only 13; I asked, 'can I

even go in there?'" he explained. "The club manager said it was okay for me to play, but I had to stand outside when the band took a break. So, I stood outside, and this was in Michigan, in the winter. Some of those breaks were pretty cold."

Rock was the music of choice in the clubs, but Yandall began to take a new musical path that would eventually lead him to a career as a jazz musician.

"Like most kids, I started playing rock, but the instrumentals in songs by the Allman Brothers began to sway me towards jazz improvis. I began picking up jazz influences in other artists' music and that was how it all started for me," Yandall said.

"Technically, there's quite a difference from playing rock on a guitar to playing jazz on a guitar. Since my dad was a musician, I started young and developed an ear for music. Because of that, I could listen to and learn rock songs very quickly. For example, if I heard a song by 'Aerosmith,' 30-minutes later I could play it perfectly, but jazz wasn't that easy to pick-up.

"Jazz was a different world and that intrigued me. Most jazz musicians will tell you that the learning never stops. Because of that, I'm always doing something new. Jazz is challenging and it isn't for everybody. You either dig it or you don't.

"The albums I've recorded over the years have a mix of blues and contemporary jazz. Now I'm into smooth jazz, like you would hear on

See PATRICK YANDALL, Page 9



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Theatre presents quirky comedy 'Love Song'

By Ken David

A quirky romantic comedy that reveals multiple layers as it explores the power of love, in all its forms, hits the local stage when Scripps Ranch Theatre (SRT) presents "Love Song," March 27-April 26 on the campus of Alliant International University, 9783 Avenue of Nations.

Written by John Kolvenbach and first produced in 2006, the play tells the story of Beane, an emotionless, extreme introvert who is burglarized by the pixieish Molly and then falls in love with her. His sister, Joan, and her husband, Harry, Beane's self-appointed caretakers, are suspicious of the relationship, but Beane's newfound joy is contagious.

As director Kevin Hafso-Koppman explained, Beane begins the play withdrawn from life in general and not having an opinion on many things. But the burglary and the burglar have a strangely transformative effect on him.

"What this burglar does is turn his perspective of the world upside down and all of a sudden everything is illuminated to its fullest potential," Hafso-Koppman said. "Everything from food to love to what the air smells like is completely changed for him. I think where the quirky comes in is that (Beane) goes a little too far almost into the ridiculous from our perspective. But it's one of my favorite things about the play because he starts behaving in these ways and



Bringing the quirky comedy "Love Song" to the Scripps Ranch Theatre stage March 27-April 6 are (front row, from left) Martina Lopez, Assistant Director Jillian Jones, (back row, from left) Paul Eddy, Director Kevin Hafso-Koppman, Javier Guerrero and Leigh Akin. (photo by Ken Jacques)

soaking up life and the world around him."

The play marks Hafso-Koppman's directorial debut at SRT. He has acted previously at the theater in "Death Trap" and "The Sunshine Boys." He last directed John Logan's "Red" at the Oceanside Theatre Company.

In the play, Paul Eddy will play Beane; Martina Lopez, Molly; Leigh Akin, Joan; and Javier Guerrero, Harry. Jillian Jones is assistant director.

Hafso-Koppman noted that as the play unfolds, audiences are in for pleasant surprises.

"Sometimes it feels like you're watching your average comedy that's a little left of center," he said. "But then it's making poignant points about the choices we make, how we live in the world around us and participate in our own life."

As they work through re-

hearsals, the director said he and the actors are discovering new things every day about the play.

"As we've worked on it, I've discovered how much more there is to mine out of it and to say with it beyond a quirky comedy. I feel like it's a lot more than that," Hafso-Koppman said.

Scripps Ranch Theatre is on the campus of Alliant International University, 9783 Avenue of Nations. "Love Song" will run March 27-April 26, with showings Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. The March 28 "opening night" performance will be followed by a post-performance reception including snacks and the opportunity to meet the cast and production team. To reserve seats, call (858) 578-7728. For ticket price information, visit scrippsranchtheatre.org.

PATRICK YANDALL

Continued from Page 8

KIFM Radio, 98.1. Jazz to me is George Benson and Wes Montgomery. That's the kind of music that influenced

me early in my career to be a professional jazz guitarist."

Yandall has been playing clubs in the San Diego area since the late 1980s. His music has been featured in several movies including

"Fruitvale Nation," "Girls" on HBO and "The New Girl" on Fox, to name a few.

To put a little smooth jazz into your life or event, contact Patrick Yandall at pyandall@san.rr.com

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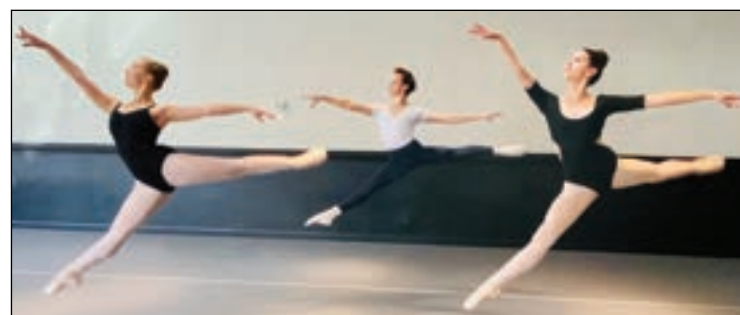
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CANVAS

Continued from Page 1

project to completion in less than four days.

“This is a good experience for personal growth and just seeing what kinds of work that you can do with art,” Yu-Swanson said. “When I was little, I wanted to be an artist, so it’s really interesting seeing how that works because I wanted to pursue that in the future. It’s also a good way to try a new kind of art and give back to various communities.”

From as young as two years old, Yu-Swanson’s mother said even her stick figures looked more advanced than the rest. When she wasn’t actively working toward being an artist, her daughter’s talents shined through, Yu said.

“It’s something she’s done on her own and I would say it’s something she hasn’t even put a big emphasis on, but she was always very good at it,” Yu said. “She always had a very competent hand in drawing and painting.”

Among her larger pieces is a mural on the face of the UCSD field station in the Kendall-Frost Marsh Reserve. Yu-Swanson described this piece as an opportunity to get in touch with her passion for environmentalism, something that inspires a lot of her work. She said it was one of her favorite pieces.

“I got really frustrated about halfway through that project because I don’t have the greatest confidence in my technical abilities. But once I got out of that rut it was actually really fun and I enjoyed especially painting all these little designs in the background,” Yu-Swanson said. “In person, it looks really cool.”

Similar to most high school seniors, Yu-Swanson is awaiting responses from universities she hopes to attend next year. Despite her love for the arts, she plans on studying a STEM-related field.

“I would like to continue doing art as a hobby,” Yu-Swanson said. “If I could find a way to make it intersect with whatever academic area I’m doing, that would be pretty cool.”

In the meantime, she is working on designing her own adult coloring book that she would like to see published sometime in the future.

Yu-Swanson said she is open to commissions and has painted signs and utility boxes for neighbors in the past. Anybody who is interested can email kyla.yu.swanson@gmail.com.



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Youngsters compete in gymnastics meets

Young gymnasts from Scripps Ranch competing on the Poway Gymnastics team have been doing very well so far during the 2020 gymnastics meet season.

Poway Gymnastics competed in the Corona Open, hosted by Gymnastics Pacifica, the first weekend of March.

Eden MacMartin scored a 9.850 on her level 7 floor routine. It was her career best and highest score of the season. She won floor with her 9.850 and was extremely excited about her performance overall for the whole meet.

Scripps Ranch resident Brandi Kikuno is also level 7 and had a great meet as well. She scored a 9.450 on vault, 8.775 on bars, 9.275 on beam and a 9.650 on floor. She came home with the Poway Gymnastics highest all around at a total of 37.150.

Mallory Hundley, an excel gold gymnast, scored a 9.550 on bars, a 9.500 on beam, and a 9.300 on floor. She



The Level 7 team from Poway Gymnastics competed at the Long Beach Open. The theme of the event was Mardi Gras. (courtesy of Poway Gymnastics)

also had the team's highest all around with 37.150.

Long Beach Open

The Poway Gymnastics team competed at the Long Beach Open, hosted by AGA, on the weekend of March 1. Two Scripps Ranch residents did very well at the event, which was held at the Long Beach Convention Center.

Brandi Kikuno scored her season high with a 38.600

and won the all-around. She scored a 9.725 on vault, a 9.625 on bars, a 9.650 on beam, and a 9.600 on floor.

Amanda Maatta, also a Scripps Ranch resident, scored a 9.150 on beam, and a 9.125 on floor.

Both Amanda and Brandi contributed to the Level 7 first place Team Award at the Long Beach Open. This was their first First Place team Award for level 7 this season.



Scripps Ranch made it all the way to the CIFSDS Division 1 Championship Game before losing an exciting but heartbreaking game to Rancho Bernardo on Feb. 29. (photo by Ralph LoVuolo)

Falcons end season in CIF championship

The Scripps Ranch High School varsity boys soccer team closed its exciting season by going all the way to the Boys Soccer 2020 CIFSDS Division 1 Championship Game, only to lose to Rancho Bernardo on Feb. 29. The game was lost on penalty kicks in a heartbreaker.

It was a very physical game, with a lot of pushing and shoving. The officials were definitely letting the boys play. Neither team could score during the

regular 80-minute game, sending it into a 15-minute OT. The aggressive play continued and neither team scored. It came down to penalty kicks. Rancho Bernardo scored on two of the five shots that they were given. Scripps Ranch was not able to score any goals.

A large Scripps Ranch crowd came out to Mission Bay High School to watch and cheer on the varsity soccer team for the CIFSDS Championship Game.

SDUSD shuts down athletic events

The Scripps Ranch High School Athletic Department announced it will not hold athletic events at this time due to precautions against coronavirus. Here is the announcement:

"San Diego Unified School District is closing its schools effective Monday, March 16th and plans to reopen on Monday, April 6th unless conditions call for an extension.

"Effective immediately, all San Diego Unified School District Athletics are officially shut down.

"There will be more information that comes out at a later time in regards to CIF and the district's plan to restart athletics."

The recent announcement demonstrates how quickly school district policies changed last week as the district responded to the COVID-19 crisis and state guidelines. An announcement several hours earlier by the SRHS Athletic Department updated policies on its webpage regarding the conduct of high school athletic events during the outbreak of the coronavirus, stating teams would be allowed to play at that time, but audiences would be restricted.

While games have now been cancelled, it's possible play will begin after classes resume.

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*Photos by
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ROLLER HOCKEY CHAMPIONS!

For the second year in a row, the Scripps Ranch High School roller hockey team played in and won the CIF San Diego Championship game. On March 2, the Falcons faced off against Westview High School and came away with a 7-4 victory to win the 2020 CIF Metro Conference Championship. Both teams were evenly matched, but in the third period the Scripps Ranch players showed why they were the number one seed, breaking away for the victory. Scripps Ranch ended its season only losing one game.



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TO HOME

Home sales, prices edge up in February

Sales of previously owned homes ticked up in February, as did prices, according to housing statistics compiled through the San Diego Multiple Listing Service by the Greater San Diego Association of Realtors® (SDAR). Single-family (detached) home sales in the past month edged up only about a half percent, while attached properties (condominiums and townhomes) saw a healthy 9 percent increase over January. Compared to last February, total home sales of detached and attached properties were up about 4 percent. "It's still too early to predict the full economic impact of the 'coronavirus,' but it can't be denied that mortgage rates are about as low as you are going to find them," said SDAR President Carla Farley. "Borrowers who lock in today's low rates will benefit significantly in the long term."

Scripps Ranch home sales for February 2020

- Single family homes sold: **21**
- Average Days on the market (single-family homes): **27**
- Median price of single family homes sold: **\$1,010,000**
- Attached homes sold (condominiums or townhomes): **15**
- Average Days on the market (attached homes): **23**
- Median price of attached homes sold: **\$499,000**

Top-down home exterior updates

(StatePoint) Whether you want to boost the beauty of your home for your own enjoyment or you're looking to sell in the near future, experts recommend taking a top-down approach to evaluate the outside of your home.

"When making updates to your home exterior, it's helpful to think of how all the parts of the whole work together to create a unified look," says Kate Smith, chief color maven with Sensational Color.

With that in mind, here are a few remodeling ideas to get you started:

The roof

A new roof not only adds aesthetic appeal, it can add value too. Indeed, Remodeling's Cost vs. Value 2020 report shows that a roof replacement can have a return-on-investment of more than 60 percent.

Composite roofing is particularly durable, long-lasting and low-maintenance, and an all-around smart investment. Not only does a high-quality roof help home-sellers get foot traffic,



Sprucing up? Go for high-impact projects that boost curb appeal and add value to the home. (StatePoint)

but the low-maintenance aspect really resonates with house-hunters. An attractive, more affordable alternative to the real thing, the composite slate and shake roofing options available from manufacturers like DaVinci Roofscapes, for example, reduce pesky maintenance concerns, offering impact-, fire- and wind-resistance, as well as the peace of mind that comes with a strong warranty.

This is also a good choice for both those with a clear color palette in mind and

those who might need some direction. Free resources on the DaVinci Roofscapes site include a Color Visualizer offering users the ability to see how different colors may look on their home exteriors, as well as a variety of free e-books with project inspiration and advice. To learn more, visit www.davinciroofscapes.com.

"Using these free color tools can be both fun and empowering," Smith says. "They take the guesswork out of crafting a pleasing exterior color palette for the

home and help create increased curb appeal."

Siding

If your home sports traditional siding, you may have noticed that the tiles contract and expand in fluctuating weather conditions and temperatures. What's more, the color of these often-times thin and flimsy materials can fade quickly.

Rather than replacing siding with more of the same, consider composite siding built to resist impact, fire, mold, algae, insects, salt air and high winds. The hand-split shake siding available from DaVinci Roofscapes is made of virgin resins, UV and thermal stabilizers, plus a highly specialized fire retardant. Whether you add accent panels with composite siding or go for the whole house, this can add a hassle-free aesthetic benefit to your home and boost its value.

Walkways

Cracked or uneven walkways and steps are not only an eyesore, they can pres-

See **EXTERIOR UPDATES**, Page 17

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The right tools for pruning

(StatePoint) If you are like most homeowners, you need to prune trees, shrubs, bushes and other plants in your yard from time to time. But do you know which tool is best suited for each particular job? Experts say that choosing tools wisely is key to maximizing beauty and minimizing damage to plants.

There are a few things to keep in mind as you go about selecting tools for your pruning jobs, big and small, and landscape designer Doug Scott of Redeem Your Ground in Atlanta, Ga., is sharing a few insights to get you started:

- For most basic pruning around the yard, bypass or hand pruners, also known as garden or pruning shears, are go-to tools. Best for making clean cuts through living plants and tree branches, they work much like a set of heavy-duty scissors and are capable of getting into tight spots for close, precise cuts. Scott advises against a common pitfall here: the urge to save money.

“Since pruning shears see so much use, it makes sense to buy the best ones you can afford. From my experience, inexpensive models simply don’t last very long,” he says. “A well-cared-for, high-quality set of bypass pruners, however, can be a lifetime investment for the average homeowner.”

- For larger branches, Scott says anvil-style shears can be a good choice. They feature one sharp blade closing against a flat, wide blade and work much like a knife cutting against a cutting board. However, he warns that they should be used selectively, as they crush plant stems more than bypass-style pruners.

- When it comes to branches of more than 1/2-inch (12.7 millimeters) in diameter, loppers are the best choice. Like hand pruning tools, there are bypass loppers, which operate much like a large, long-handled



Regular pruning is necessary to keep your yard looking beautiful and well-maintained as well as to improve the health of plants. Be sure you're equipped with the proper tools and knowledge to do so effectively.

set of bypass shears, while anvil-style loppers use just one cutting blade.

“Bypass loppers generally cut with more precision, while anvil-style loppers are typically capable of generating more cutting force,” Scott said.

Still have questions? New online resources can help. Scott has partnered with Exmark, a leading manufacturer of commercial mowers and

equipment on a new video series for DIY homeowners called “Done in a Weekend.” Among the videos is “Cut It Out,” which explains the differences between different pruning tools, as well as provides tips for pruning more effectively with less effort. To view the video, as well as access the other videos in the series, which cover a range of home and garden topics, visit Exmark.com/DIY.

EXTERIOR UPDATES

Continued from Page 16

ent a tripping hazard to you and guests. Evaluate whether it’s time to give yours an overhaul. Be sure to select low-maintenance materials that complement the look of the other elements of your exterior. This is a good time to consider lighting that adds drama to the walkway at night and makes for safer walking.



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TRAVEL SERVICES

Travel Advisor, Scripps Ranch
Over 35 years of experience specializing in ocean cruises, river cruises, escorted European vacations and personalized European adventures. For appointment call Jayne Gomes, Cruise Company of So Cal at 858-271-7303. References available.

HOW TO PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED AD

ONLY \$10 TO APPEAR IN TWO COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS
Place your classified ad in Scripps Ranch News and The Poway Eagle for \$10 total. Submit 40 words or less to info@scrippsranchnews.com.

HEALTH & BEAUTY

Luib Health Center
Meditation: TRANSMISSION is a specialized form of Group Meditation; a conduit for spiritual energies from the hierarchy of Masters of Wisdom, a dynamic aid to personal growth & stress relief. Mondays at 6:30 pm with Dr.Cat.

Mobile-Geriatric Massage/Lee
Looking for great clients, who deserve and appreciate a great Massage, and know the value of a great therapist. You will love me, and I'm a great dedicated therapist who has over fifteen years experience. (licensed CMT), with all modalities of massage. \$80 per hour. Call 619-203-0269 or email lteenawahine@hotmail.com.

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NEW LISTING

12473 Grainwood Way | Whispering Ridge, Scripps Ranch



PENDING

11264 Red Cedar Drive | Classic Scripps Ranch



SOLD | REPRESENTED BUYER & SELLER

10615 Vista Valle | Classic Scripps Ranch



SOLD | MULTIPLE OFFERS | REPRESENTED SELLER

11315 Lake Rim Road | Conservatory, Scripps Ranch



SOLD | MULTIPLE OFFERS | REPRESENTED SELLER

9469 Calle del Lago | Santee



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Featured Properties of the Month

COMPASS



2123 De Mayo Road

4 Bed | 4 Bath | 3176 Sq Ft | Asking \$3,495,000

Enjoy panoramic ocean and sunset views from this gorgeous home! Walking distance to Del Mar beaches and close proximity to Torrey Pines Reserve and Village!



11724 Creek Bluff Drive

5 Bed | 3.5 Bath | 3831 Sq Ft | Asking \$1,649,000

Rolling Hills — Stunning estate home fully remodeled and upgraded throughout with custom elegant touches! Located on a premium view lot with a resort style yard.



6601 Wesley Place

3 Bed | 3 Bath | 2273 Sq Ft | Asking \$949,000

Gorgeous single level, open modern floor plan located on desirable cul-de-sac. Huge lot with pool, spa, kids play set and vegetable garden. Fully owned solar. Top ranked schools.



4627 Ocean Boulevard #410

1 Bed | 1 Bath | 730 Sq Ft | Asking \$639,000

Beautifully remodeled, open floor plan with custom kitchen and assigned underground parking space. Building features pool, sauna, clubhouse/recreation room.

Local Business Spotlight

SUMMER SURF CAMP AT LA JOLLA SHORES: ENROLL TODAY FOR EARLY BIRD RATES!

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