

Popular pups pay a visit

By Kaila Mellos

The Ridgeview Health Center in Scripps Ranch – a senior care community providing assisted living, memory care and skilled nursing – continuously works to improve overall resident happiness. Dog therapy has long been a way to connect and bring calming energy to large groups, and with the help of the Love on a Leash organization, Ridgeview brings in dogs for its residents.

“We become a surrogate-type family for them, and they start to have something to look forward to each week when we visit,” said Susan Subkow, San Diego Central Chapter Leader and member of the board of directors for Love on a Leash.

Since Ridgeview opened, the Love on a Leash program’s Inland Chapter has visited every Thursday. For many, this program is an outlet to connect with others around the center and with furry friends they grow to know.

“They love them, and they look forward to it, especially our memory care residents,” Ridgeview Health Center Life Enrichment Director Megan Ashworth said. “Our residents with dementia just respond really well to animals, especially the [residents] that had dogs themselves in their lifetime.”

The Inland Chapter has around eight dogs that interchange each week, bringing four at a time to Ridgeview. The chapter has a variety of dogs of different sizes that come to visit.

“They come once a week for an hour,” Ashworth said.

The residents look forward to the bonding time they get with these four-legged companions.



This friendly pup appears to be smiling as it visits Ridgeview Health Center. (courtesy of Love on a Leash)

“I have one lady in memory care who, every time the dogs come, we bring her out. Then we put the dog on a chair so they’re more at eye level because she’s in a wheelchair,” Ashworth said. “She

can then put her two hands out and give this dog a neck massage behind the ears. The dog stares into her eyes, and she stares into the dog’s eyes, and

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City Attorney Mara Elliott

Elliott reflects on her career

By Ashley Shah

Mara Elliott is the San Diego city attorney as well as a resident of Scripps Ranch. She is serving the last of two consecutive terms as

‘As the City’s attorney, I am most proud of my work in the gun violence prevention arena.’

—Mara Elliott

the San Diego city attorney, and she will be termed out this year.

“I became a chief deputy city attorney in 2013 and very much enjoyed the leadership role. I had not considered running to replace City Attorney Jan Goldsmith, who would term

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Scripps Ranch Theatre Brings ‘Chapatti’ to the stage

By Jill Alexander



Robert May plays Dan, and Grace Delaney portrays Betty in the Scripps Ranch Theatre production of “Chapatti.” (courtesy of Scripps Ranch Theatre)

Scripps Ranch Theatre (SRT) offers an opportunity to break the winter blues with its production of “Chapatti,” running Feb. 2 to 25.

The play is being directed by Christopher Williams, and stars Robert May as Dan, and Grace Delaney as Betty.

This is how Scripps Ranch Theatre describes the plot: “Romance is a distant memory for two lonely animal lovers living in Dublin. When forlorn Dan and his dog Chapatti cross paths with the

amiable Betty and her 19 cats, an unexpected spark begins a warm and gentle story about two people re-discovering the importance of human companionship.”

Director Williams, 48, is an actor, producer, fight director and stage manager himself. He believes audience members will relate to the theme of loneliness as portrayed on the stage.

“It’s a universal story ... Most people will recognize themselves or someone close to them that has felt the same as Dan and Betty,” he said.

Williams said that coming out of the pandemic, many now understand the need for companionship in a deeper sense.

“To be isolated for so long changed us. The characters in the play aren’t dealing with a pandemic like we were/are, but the human response to loneliness is the same,” he said.

“While the play does deal with difficult issues, Christian O’Reilly (playwright) whisks it with a sense of hope and humor which leads to a

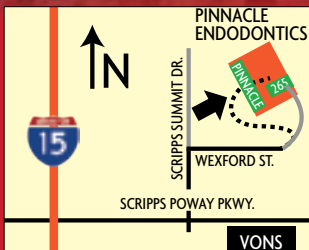
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Guest article: The spirit of giving

By Ananya Modak

“My heart told me to help these kids,” said Dora Wathen, a co-founder of a local program to send toys and clothes to children in need. “I didn’t have a lot growing up and I remember waiting for the big truck coming from the U.S. and how excited we all were to get one present that year.”

This local program started in 2014 as a way to both reuse old toys and bring joy to children. Every year, a little before the holiday season, Susy Cross, a Scripps Ranch resident and Mrs. Wathen’s daughter, sends out a message via the Facebook group Buy Nothing asking for donations of old toys and clothes. Of course, our warm-hearted community responds whole-heartedly, and as soon as they gather enough toys and clothing, Mrs. Wathen travels from El Centro to pick them up. After that, it’s only a matter of time before they’re brought to a town in Mexico and distributed through a local church to the kids in need.

“I love seeing their faces,” said Mrs. Wathen. “It’s like they can’t believe this gift is

just for them.”

As we exit the season of giving, stories like these remind us that it’s important not to exit the spirit of giving. Even though there may not be as many fund raisers or charities in the spring, there are always people who are in need of a little joy.

Maybe you can start volunteering at these programs once or twice a month, or donate old stuff that you don’t need or want, but that could mean the world to someone else. If you can’t do either,

that’s okay. Instead, take time to talk to someone special to you and remind them how much they mean to you. Give them a smile and some of your time – the best gift of all. After all, stories like these show us that whether it’s a truckload of toys or a simple sentence, there is always a way to bring joy to someone’s heart.

The author suggests volunteering for Feeding San Diego: feedingsandiego.org/get-involved/volunteer.

Ananya Modak is an 11-year old Scripps Ranch resident.

Library parking lot update

Work continues on the parking lot expansion project at the Scripps Miramar Ranch Library.

Most of the upper lot is surrounded by a construction fence, and grading has started. Two parking places remain available in the upper lot. These are reserved for those having handicapped placards or license plates.

At peak times the lower lot is at capacity, so use of the overflow parking on Meanley Drive is encouraged. Meanley Drive is off of Scripps Ranch Boulevard opposite the Scripps Ranch High School stadium at the traffic light. The library can be easily accessed via a paved, lighted walkway from this offsite parking (map and directions: srfol.org/lib-loc-hours.htm).

Citizens have been concerned about the removal of more than 40 trees (palm and eucalyptus) related to the parking lot expansion. The Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library organization has learned that plans include landscaping of the affected areas to include planting of native and drought tolerant trees and shrubs in the future.

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Editor & Publisher

John Gregory

john@scrippsranchnews.com

Art Director & Publisher

Jacqueline Gregory

jacqueline@scrippsranchnews.com

Photographers

Lisa Shadburn, Jim Wick

Digital Content Manager

Suzanne Micheletti

Reporters

Jill Alexander, Kaila Mellos, Ashley Shah, Hector Trujillo

Advertising

John or Jacqueline Gregory
info@scrippsranchnews.com

Phone

(858) 945-4465

Mailing address

9984 Scripps Ranch Blvd. #312
San Diego, CA 92131

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Pure Water Program pipeline at Miramar Reservoir (courtesy of City of San Diego)



Construction of the Pure Water Program pipeline at Miramar Reservoir (courtesy of City of San Diego)

NEWS

Pure Water pipeline installation begins

The City of San Diego is beginning to install the new underwater pipeline at its Miramar Reservoir as part of the Pure Water Program. This will be the final segment of a pipeline project that will convey purified water from the North City Pure Water Facility, located off Eastgate Mall, through 8 miles of pipeline to the reservoir.

Completion of the 1-mile branched pipeline along the Miramar Reservoir bed includes pipeline assembly on shore before the pipe is loaded onto barges and permanently installed underwater. More than 1,100 feet of tunneling to reach the reservoir was completed last year, and work is now underway to complete construction of the pipeline at the reservoir.

“The subaqueous pipeline at Miramar Reservoir is a key construction project of the Pure Water Program to help provide for our future water needs,” said Juan Guerreiro, director of the City’s Public Utilities Department. “We recently surpassed 40 percent completion of Phase 1 projects and we appreciate everyone’s patience during construction.”

Shore areas, including picnic and barbecue areas, paths and shore fishing, remain accessible during the project. For safety reasons, in-water recreational activities at Miramar Reservoir have been suspended during the pipeline project, and boats, canoes, kayaks and float tubes are currently not allowed.

Pure Water San Diego is the City’s phased, multi-year program that will provide nearly half of San Diego’s water supply locally by 2035. Pure Water will use proven purification technology to clean recycled water and produce safe, high-quality drinking water. The program offers a cost-effective invest-

ment for San Diego’s water needs and will provide a reliable, sustainable water supply.

There are currently 12 Pure Water projects under construction in the City. When complete, Phase 1 will produce an annual average of 30 million gallons per day. Phase 2, now in the planning stages, will produce an additional 53 million gallons a day.

For more information about the City’s Pure Water Program, visit purewatersd.org.

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SCRIPPS RANCH FIRE SAFE COUNCIL

Thanks to those helping with fundraiser, commemoration

By Karen Herreros

The first thing we want to say is a big thank you to our sponsors and golfers who supported us in our 16th annual fundraiser at Oaks North Golf Course.

Special thanks go out to The Glen, Filippi's Pizza Grotto, Nutmeg Bakery, Stanley Steemer and Valley View Casino, and many others for their generous support.

We use the funds from this event to help continue to educate our community about wildfire safety and preparedness.

Our thanks also go to the SRCA for helping us put together the 20 year commemoration of the Cedar Fire. We had a great event at the Community Center with San Diego Fire Department Chief Colin Stowell and San Diego Police Department



Capt. Mike Holden who gave us very good information about how things are much better now than 20 years ago.

The first responders have much better communication among all the agencies and additional equipment that wasn't available to them 20 years ago.

Councilmember Marni von Wilpert also added some very good informa-

tion regarding how we are all better prepared. SRCA President Bob Ilko filled us all in on a lot of things that went on in 2003 during and after the fire that a lot of people weren't aware of.

We also held an expo at Hoyt Park a couple of days later with representatives from the Burn Institute, Red Cross, SDG&E and the California Department of Insurance.

We also had a fire truck and engine from Station 44 with lots of first responders who gave great explanations of their equipment and showed residents how to use fire extinguishers.

We are hoping to have these expos at least twice a year to help to continue to educate our community.

Scripps Ranch Fire Safe Council, srfiresafecouncil@gmail.com, www.srfiresafe.org, (858) 201-3711.

MARA ELLIOTT

Continued from Page 1

out in 2016, until a couple of City department heads suggested that I run. I couldn't stop thinking about it once it was mentioned to me," Elliott said. "I ended up running because I was concerned that issues that were important to me – protecting communities, gun violence, etc. – would not receive the attention they deserve under other candidates."

In her two terms, she has worked diligently on several projects including measures to improve gun violence prevention.

"The Office has a national reputation for its gun violence prevention model that includes gun violence restraining orders. We received State grant funds to create a regional center for gun violence prevention ... I want San Diego's model to become the State of California's model before I leave office in December 2024," Elliott said.

Alongside her gun violence prevention project, she has created services to help those experiencing domestic violence.

"Your Safe Place, a Family Justice Center, located in downtown San Diego, offers

free and confidential services to anyone who is experiencing domestic violence or human trafficking. I am looking forward to announcing a dedicated shelter for our clients before I leave office," she said.

'I am hoping my story encourages those who do not have the presumed pedigree to run for office.'

—Mara Elliott

In addition to these projects, Elliott has explored ethical loopholes to ensure there is a just government in the city.

"I am unveiling an Ethics Reform Package beginning in January to address ethical loopholes. My package should fortify the public's trust and make our government more transparent and equitable," she said.

She is proud of the progress that has been made through these projects.

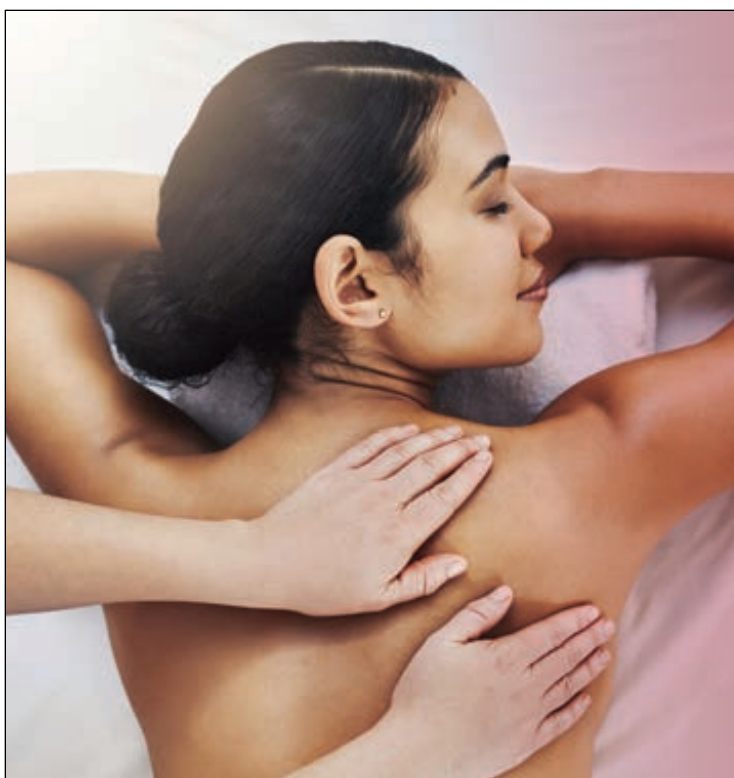
"As the City's attorney, I am most proud of my work in the gun violence prevention arena. This is a program I built from scratch, and there was a significant chance I'd fail, but we've convinced other municipalities and our State's leadership that our program works and can be replicated," Elliott said. "Our work has saved countless lives."

As her term comes to end, she is thinking of her future plans. In addition, she is hoping that her successor will be able to continue some of the projects that she has worked on.

"I have not decided on a position yet, but I do not see myself taking a long vacation after my city service ends," she said. "To fill in my role, I am endorsing Heather Ferbert, who is the current chief deputy city attorney, because I have worked with her, and believe she would be well fit for the role."

Elliott graduated from McGeorge School of Law in 1994. She has passed the bar exam in California, Kentucky and Colorado, and can practice law in all three states.

"A woman had never led the San Diego City Attorney's Office in our City's 160 plus year history," Elliott said. "I also raised children the entire duration of my term. Last, I am the child of a longshoreman and Mexican immigrant. I am hoping my story encourages those who do not have the presumed pedigree to run for office."



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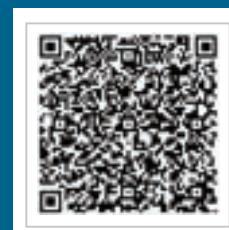
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SCRIPPS RANCH WOMEN'S CLUB

Club kicks off scholarship programs

By Mary Rea
Publicity chair

SRWC General Scholarships

The Scripps Ranch Women's Club (SRWC) has been in existence for more than 33 years and has many time-honored traditions. One of the most rewarding is providing scholarships to one or more female Scripps Ranch High School (SRHS) graduating students. With pride and excitement, we kicked off our Scholarship Program for 2024 on Jan. 16.

Specific information regarding the SRWC Scholarship application process and eligibility criteria is available through the SRHS Counseling Office as well as on the SRWC website at srwomensclub.org/our-community-support. In general, eligibility is based on a GPA of 3.5 or over, contributions to the community and participation in social and/or community organizations.

Eligible students interested in pursuing a scholarship from the SRWC are encouraged to submit an application package, including transcripts, a letter of recommendation and a personal



Pictured at the SRWC Scholarship Luncheon 2023 are (front row, from left) SRWC Committee members Betty Robertson and Lynn Parke; (back row, from left) Jackie Calkins, SRWC Scholarship Awardee Melanie Calkins, SRWC Committee members Judy Gagnon, Helen Smith and Sharon Worman. (courtesy of SRWC)

essay. The final deadline for submitting applications and related documents is April 12, 2024.

Once the scholarship applicants have been screened by the SRWC Scholarship Committee, the finalists will be invited to an interview in early May. From the perspective of our Club members, the best part of this process is the interview where we have the opportunity to interact with the finalists in an enjoyable, conversational exchange and

learn about their goals and ambitions for the future.

This year, the SRWC Scholarship Committee is co-chaired by Club members Betty Robertson and Barbara Hunter. Without a doubt, the Scholarship Committee is one of our most popular committees with members looking forward every year to meeting and interviewing applicants.

"It is amazing to see the wide variety of accomplishments from these young wo-

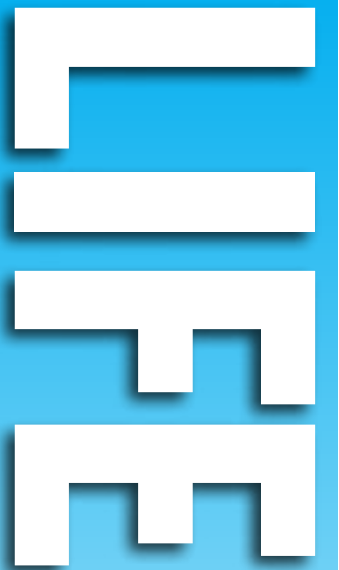


SRWC Scholarship Recipients from 2023 Melanie Calkins and Grace Li at the SRHS Awards Ceremony. (courtesy of SRWC)

men who were raised and educated in our community," said Co-Chair Barbara Hunter.

"We highly encourage local seniors to apply for scholarships because not only do we recognize their unique accomplishments, but we also provide assistance with educational expenses for college," added Betty Robertson, our other co-chair.

See **WOMEN'S CLUB**, Page 6



Beautiful orchids

By Denise Stewart

Scripps-Mesa Garden Club meets monthly at the Community Room of the local library on the fourth Tuesday evening at 6 p.m. This month's presentation on orchids and getting them to rebloom will be a delight for the flower lovers in the club. Chuck McClung, a botanist, orchid specialist and author of "How to Get Orchids to Rebloom," is scheduled to share his expertise with the local gardeners. As the year goes on, the club will be learning and improving their gardening techniques with other experts' presentations. Tours of local gardens are also on the agenda when the days lengthen. The club's website scrippsmesagardenclub.com is available to anyone who wants to learn more about horticultural interests and about the club.

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Owners/Scripps Ranch residents, Bill and Cynthia Collins, are celebrating their 42nd Valentine's Day Anniversary!

Sustainable SR: Somebody say stop

By Rani Jayakumar

Most environmental or sustainability advice is about all the things you can do to help the planet: reuse bags, buy an EV, use solar, recycle. This is, of course, important. Studies show that when you have easy or direct steps to take, you are more likely to do them, and stick to them.

But sometimes the best way to help the planet is to STOP doing things. Here are a few things you might consider stopping:

- **Stop buying things you don't use or need.** In this time of consumerism, consider scaling back. We spend an average of \$18,000 per year (in the U.S.) on unnecessary purchases, leading to more resource use all around. Find non-material options instead for gifts and items you need.
- **Stop using disposables.** This could be something you need or don't – but when you buy disposable items, you have to throw them away, and they have to go somewhere. (There is no "away!") Use what you have already, until it wears out.
- **Stop guilt-tripping.** You don't need to go on a guilt-trip of yourself or your family members to be more eco-friendly. Instead, take small, steady actions that add up to bigger wins over the long term. Each person goes at their own pace on the path to sustainability.
- **Stop hoarding.** When we take, or insist on only using something ourselves, we separate ourselves from others in our community. A strong neighborhood



depends on sharing, helping, borrowing and lending, becoming more resilient in hard times.

• **Stop. Just stop.** Take a moment. When you do nothing, you aren't consuming anything except oxygen and time. Let the beauty of this planet wash over you. Enjoy the moment, your community, the world just as it is.

If you're worried that stopping what you're doing is too much to ask, start by simply slowing down. Make the switch one item at a time.

The important thing is to pause and take a look at how you want to live your life. Maybe what you want is to use just what you need, over and over, guilt-free, sharing what you can. Perhaps you want to participate more in the community, teaching others or helping anything and anyone that needs it. It just might be

that what you want is to love this great big blue and green world so it will be just as beautiful for generations to come.

Rani Jayakumar lives with her husband and two children in the San Francisco Bay Area, where she teaches mindfulness and music, and organizes sharing events.

Upcoming Events:

- Feb. 10 – Garden Share, Scripps Miramar Ranch Library, 2 p.m.
 - Rainwater Harvesting Tour coming in March. Updates will be posted at www.scrippsranch.org/rainwaterharvest24
- Sustainable Scripps Ranch is a standing committee of the Scripps Ranch Civic Association. To learn more about Sustainable Scripps Ranch, visit scrippsranch.org/ssr or email SustainableSR@scrippsranch.org.*

WOMEN'S CLUB

Continued from Page 5

Scholarship recipients will be selected in late May and awards will be presented at the SRHS Awards Ceremony on May 29. The Women's Club plans a luncheon on June 22 to honor all of the scholarship recipients as well as their mothers.

Business Scholarship

In addition to the SRWC Scholarships, the Women's Club offers the Kimbra Sellers Scholarship which was established by Brian Sampson in honor of his late wife Kimbra Sellers who was a past president and long-time member of the SRWC. This scholarship is awarded to a female graduating senior currently attending Scripps Ranch High School or living in Scripps Ranch, and planning to pursue a career in business.

'The business backgrounds of my committee members help create a fun and meaningful exchange.'

—Lynn Parke

Eligibility requirements for the Kimbra Sellers Scholarship include a 3.0 GPA or above, part-time work or volunteer background that provides practical experience, and a brief essay that demonstrates a strong interest in a career in business. Interested students may apply either to a two- or four-year college.

Similar to the SRWC Scholarship, detailed information regarding criteria and the application process can be obtained from the SRHS Counseling Office and the SRWC web site at srwomensclub.org/our-community-support. Completed application packets are due by April 12.

Club member Lynn Parke is chairing the Kimbra Sellers Scholarship Committee. This committee consists of members with strong business backgrounds.

"The business backgrounds of my committee members help create a fun and meaningful exchange, offering perspective and advice for applicants' future careers," Lynn said.

Similar to the SRWC Scholarships, the recipient of the Kimbra Sellers Scholarship will be determined in late May, presented with an award at the SRHS Awards Ceremony, and honored with her mother at a luncheon hosted by the Women's Club on June 22.

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SCRIPPS RANCH WELCOME CLUB

Women plan fun events for 2024

By Denise Stewart

A 43-year tradition of friendship and fun is enjoyed by local women who belong to the Scripps Ranch Welcome Club. They will soon be celebrating the anniversary of the founding of the club at their monthly meeting in the Community Center on the evening of Feb. 12 at 7 p.m.

In addition to the celebration, Paul Carrozza, a retired San Diego firefighter, will provide a cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and automated external defibrillator (AED) demonstration at the general meeting. He has 30 years' experience as a

firefighter here in San Diego. He has continued to serve as an American Heart Association CPR instructor since his retirement.

The monthly meetings of smaller groups at book clubs, card games, Bunco, trail walks, and crafts resumed as soon as the holidays were over. A brunch and movie outing began the 2024 Gadabouts adventures with a special event at the start of the year. While there was a choice of films, seeing the movie "The Color Purple" had a special sparkle to it. The mother of Brenda Russell, who wrote the musical score for the production, is a Welcome Club member.

Meanwhile, the organizers of the varied activity groups are planning a trove of events for the new year. Some of them have already taken place.

On Feb. 10, Scripps Ranch Theatre's upcoming production of "Chapatti," a romantic comedy set in Ireland, will draw club members and their guests for the evening. A potluck supper at a member's home will precede the performance. Patronizing our local arts establishment is a Welcome Club tradition that fits very well with the social side of the club's personality.

One of the best attended events of the club's calendar will be enjoyed again in February. A coffee gathering

which features lots of interaction with friends, along with the sharing of delicious brunch dishes, is planned.

In the rest of the year to follow, these regular monthly happenings will be enhanced by innovative ideas that are being generated by the club's members. As the diversity of membership grows, so do the experiences and interests that women share with the group. Always open to new

ways to enjoy one another and the social opportunities in our community, novel day and evening activities are being considered.

While Welcome Club's focus is on enhancing the social life of local women, their support of local charities is also a strong tradition. This holiday season they gave monetary support for military families with a generous donation to their toy drive.

Mega Semiannual Book Sale at library

Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library will hold a special book sale on Saturday, Feb. 3, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Scripps Miramar Ranch Library.

In addition to a huge selection of nearly new and gently used recent bestsellers, classics, children's books – from board books and picture books for tots to easy readers and chapter books to great reading for teens and pre-teens – fiction and nonfiction, and CDs and DVDs, this sale will include rare, out-of-print, antiquarian and collectible books – all at bargain prices.

Shoppers will also have the choice of saving even more by filling the popular Big Yellow Bag for one low price.

All proceeds help support the library and are used to purchase new books and media for the library's collection, as well as fund programs for all ages, and provide equipment and amenities not included in the city budget.

Scripps Miramar Ranch Library is located at 10301 Scripps Lake Drive in Scripps Ranch near Miramar Lake. Overflow parking is available on Meanley Drive off Scripps Ranch Boulevard (map and directions: srfol.org/lib-loc-hours.htm). Call (858) 538-8158 or visit www.srfol.org for information.



Shoppers grab books at bargain prices and fill the Big Yellow Bag for one low price at the Mega Semiannual Book Sale. (courtesy of SRFOL)

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Piano concert set at library

The “Pleasure of Your Company” music series welcomes back celebrated pianist Dmitry Kirichenko on Sunday, Feb. 11, at 2:30 p.m. in the Scripps Miramar Ranch Library Center.

His playing, described by Paris music critic Claude Taelman as “warm sensitivity heightened by his delicate touch and great technical mastery,” is a perfect match for the library’s fine Schimmel piano.

The program will include works by Debussy, Mozart, Schubert and Chopin.

A graduate of the Moscow and Odessa conservatories, Dr. Kirichenko has performed throughout the United States and Europe.

There is no charge for the concert, which is sponsored by the Scripps Ranch Friends of the Library, although donations are appreciated. Masks are recommended but not required at this time.

The Scripps Miramar Ranch Library Center is located at 10301 Scripps Lake Drive. It should be noted that due to a parking lot expansion project, onsite parking is currently



Pianist Dmitry Kirichenko will perform a live concert on Feb. 11, in the Scripps Miramar Ranch Library Center. (courtesy of SRFOL)

somewhat limited. Overflow parking is available on Meanley Drive off Scripps Ranch Boulevard, from which the library can be easily accessed via a paved walkway (map and directions: srfol.org/lib-loc-hours.htm).

Visit www.srfol.org or call (858) 538-8158 for information.

POPULAR PUPS

Continued from Page 1

they could keep going all day if we let them.”

Many fantastic experiences stem from memory care patients’ time with the different dogs.

“They cling on, especially the memory care patients. They may not remember what they had for lunch, or they may not remember their roommate’s name, but they’ll remember the dog they had when they were 12 years old. They’ll say, ‘Oh my gosh, this looks just like Sparky, the dog I had,’ and it evokes many wonderful memories for them,” Subkow said.

While interactions are happening with the dogs, it’s also a time when the residents get to see others they may not usually get the chance to speak with, and they bond over a common subject.

“It’s just about having something in common for most people, and when they don’t have anything else to talk about, they’ll say, ‘Oh my gosh, I love dogs,’ ‘Did you have dogs as a teenager?’ ‘Did you grow up with dogs?’ All great things that start these bubbly conversations,” Subkow said. “All of a sudden, the room is bursting, and they’re having a little conversation they may have never had before had those dogs not come to see them.”

Going week to week to all these different places, it is hard not to notice that the residents love the time they spend with the dogs, no matter how big or small they may be.

“They become attached to the animals, and



A furry friend seems excited to receive attention from a resident of Ridgeview Health Center. (courtesy of Love on a Leash)

I would say the main thing is that people are just looking forward to the interaction with somebody who is not there to give them medication, help them get clothed – not staff, but just something joyful to look forward to; and the dogs bring a ton of that to these folks,” Subkow said.

There are no plans for this joyful weekly event to stop, and Ridgeview is thrilled to bring this to their residents.

“We’re so grateful for Love on a Leash’s partnership. They’ve come for almost two and a half years straight now and make the residents’ week every time,” Ashworth said.

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SCRIPPS RANCH FARMER'S MARKET

Cool 3D creations offered by BMB Customs

By Jill Alexander

Dragons, turtles and frogs, oh my!

If you're looking for a neat gift or conversation piece to put on display in your home or office, look no further than Brandon M. Bailes.

The 26-year-old Bailes, who resides in Scripps Ranch, creates all of the above and so much more in 3D via his business BMB Customs.

He sells his creations at the Scripps Ranch Farmer's Market and Family Festival on Thursdays, and said it's a wonderful place to highlight his wares.

"If you can imagine it, I can create it. Things that I have sold include dragons of various sizes, frogs, turtles, foxes, flowers, fidgets, key chains, ornaments, guitars, movie props and various custom items," he said. "I like selling at this market because it's my local community and the Scripps Ranch Farmer's Market owners and staff have been super encouraging and positive. The atmosphere can be described as smiles and laughter."

Bailes began selling at the

Scripps Ranch Farmers Market in September 2023, selling small-scale items as mentioned. He can also produce large-scale items such as masks and droids, as well as create custom items.

Additionally, he is also building an online website.

"BMB Customs is my full-time job," he said. "I have been creating and printing 3D items since 2020, just over three years ago."

Buyers are typically adults purchasing for their children, grandchildren, friends or other relatives. However, many children make purchases with their own money.

"My 3D prints are unique and colorful. They demonstrate a manufacturing process of the future and can solve many problems of daily life," he said.

The 3D items are printed with up to four colors native in the printing process, as opposed to the competition of painting the products afterward or printing items in a single color.

Bailes attended Concordia University Irvine (Biology/Pre-Occupational Therapy) and is self-taught regarding



BMB Customs offers all kinds of unique and fun items which make perfect gifts. (courtesy of BMB Customs)

all aspects of 3D printing, including the software, design- ing and the mechanics of the See **3D CREATIONS**, Page 12

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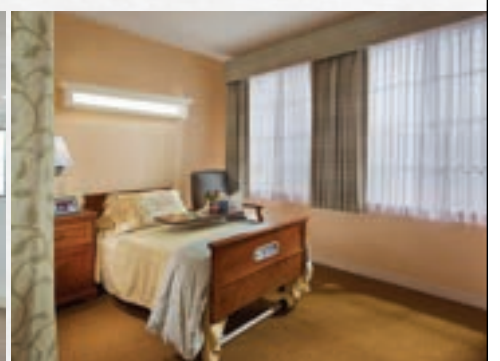
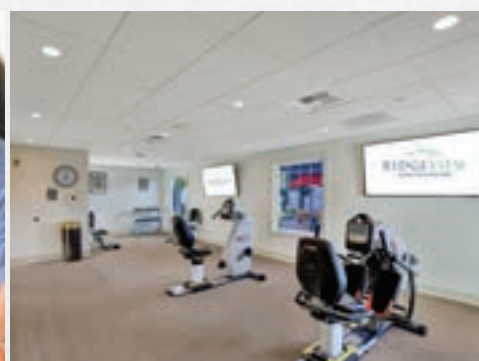
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The Norman Rockwell Award winner at 10283 Rue Finistierre (photo by Lisa Shadburn)



The Clark Griswold Award winner at 10272 Aviary Drive (photo by Lisa Shadburn)

Announcing the Home Lighting Contest winners

Flint Super Real Estate sponsored the Lighting Contest

The 2023 Flint Super Real Estate-Scripps Ranch News Home Lighting Contest came to a close in December with another vast array of bright, colorful outdoor displays adding to the holiday spirit in Scripps Ranch. The lighted displays were enjoyed by young and old alike as residents explored the neighborhoods decorated with festive lighting provided by the many entrants in this year's contest. Here are the winners:

Norman Rockwell Award

"An elegant display that accentuates and coordinates with the beauty and elegance of the home." This year's Norman Rockwell Award winner, located at 10283 Rue Finistierre, titled "Goodman's Candy Cane Lane," was submitted by John Goodman.

This display featured lighted candy canes leading up to the home, lighted reindeer and a large display of Buddy from the movie "Elf."

"The movie 'Elf' is our favorite Christmas movie, and so my wife found that Buddy Elf blowup thing and we always get a kick out of that every year," Goodman said.

Decorating the family home for Christmas goes all the way back to when Goodman's grandfather used to decorate his home.

"This year, I started decorating right after Thanksgiving," he said.

Decorating the outside of their home is a one-man job, Goodman said.

"I like the icicle lights. It kind of reminds me of winter," he said.

The icicle lights hang from the top of their garage as well as from the second floor ledge outside his son's room, along with another lighted reindeer.

"It's always fun to climb up on the ladder to try and get that up there every year. It's an adventure," Goodman said.

He uses a long pole to place the strands of white lights along the edge of his roof.

"Let me tell you, it's a good workout," he said.

The Clark Griswold Award

"The most over the top lights." The Clark Griswold Award winner, at 10272 Avi-

ary Drive, titled "O'Day Lights," was submitted by Ben O'Day.

"We started decorating when my kids were a little younger ... We just slowly added more and more things as the kids got older," O'Day said. "We have a lot of fun with it every year. The kids help out a lot. I've got three girls who are really into the holidays, and as soon as they found out there was a lighting contest maybe three years



The Nostalgia Award winner at 11808 Caminito Sanudo (photo by Lisa Shadburn)

ago, they got pretty excited. So, we've been going all out since then."

The O'Day display is highlighted by an abundance of See **LIGHTING CONTEST**, Page 12



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The Grandma Got Run Over Award winner at 11626 Timberlake (photo by Lisa Shadburn)



The It Takes a Village Award winner at 11551 Swan Lake Drive (photo by Lisa Shadburn)



The It Takes a Village Award winner at 11581 Swan Lake Drive (photo by Lisa Shadburn)

LIGHTING CONTEST

Continued from Page 11

lighted shapes which are built by running lights through pex tubing which has been bent to whatever shape is desired. They build about two or three new shapes each year.

“The kids love it because they can program it and set it up with different colors and different patterns,” O’Day said.

A new highlight is a snow machine that shoots out bubbles.

“When we saw people drive by or kids walk by, we would turn it on and kind of surprise people with snow shooting over the sidewalk,” O’Day said. “I think we’re just going to keep adding a little bit each year and just keep the pace going as long as my kids are into it. It’s been a great family tradition.”

The Nostalgia Award

“Reminds me of my childhood. Best classic holiday lights.” The Nostalgia Award winner, at 11808 Caminito Sanudo, titled “Merry and Bright,” was submitted by Shana Kinnerup.

Grandma Got Run Over Award

“Funniest or best use of inflatables.” The Grandma Got Run Over Award winner, at 11626 Timberlake, titled “The Inflatables,” was submitted by Matthew Granum.

It Takes A Village

“Best decorated group of homes. Gather the neighbors!” The It Takes a Village Award winner, at 11551 Swan Lake Drive and 11581 Swan Lake Drive, titled “Surfin’ Snoopy Winter Wonderland” and “Swan Lake Twinkle,” respectively, was submitted by Bob and Lisa Wood, and Kathleen McKerry.

Prizes for this annual lighting contest were provided by Flint Super Real Estate.

The 2023 Flint Super Real Estate-Scripps Ranch News “Homes for the Holidays” Lighting Contest was extremely popular again this season, especially among residents who used both the printed and online maps to plan a night of touring the many colorful displays, according to

numerous positive comments appearing on Scripps Ranch social media pages as well as emails during the past month.

Thanks go to all the residents who decorated their homes with outdoor lights this holiday season and entered this year’s contest. A special thanks goes to Flint Super Real Estate for sponsoring this fun and festive annual Scripps Ranch holiday tradition.



Brandon M. Bailes

3D CREATIONS

Continued from Page 10 printer.

“My plans are to add a focus on teaching the next generation how to use 3D printers and how to think in a way that adds 3D printing capabilities to their toolbox of problem-solving. Additionally, my goal is to set up a warehouse and a print farm to boost production capacity with more emphasis on custom orders,” he said.

Current inventory is \$5 to \$350 per item and prices for special/custom orders are based on quantity, size and material.

“I am looking to take on more custom/bulk orders with corporate clients. I am also happy to work with individuals with 3D printers that aren’t functioning properly to bring the printers up to ideal conditions,” he said.

Visit Brandon M. Bailes at the BMB Customs booth at the Scripps Ranch Farmer’s Market and Family Festival, held from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. each Thursday at 10045 Carroll Canyon Road.

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SRHS strives for another title

By Hector Trujillo

With only seven games left in the regular season, the Scripps Ranch High School roller hockey team looks to harness some of the early energy it enjoyed under new head coach Jonathon Gauthier.

‘As long as we can get better every game and, as long as the kids are having fun while continuing to learn, that is really all that matters.’

—Jonathon Gauthier

After suffering back to back losses to start the season against Del Norte High School and Westview High School, the Falcons managed to turn things around by going on a three-game winning streak beating Cathedral Catholic High, Escondido Charter High and Poway High.

“It’s been pretty fun so far,” Gauthier said. “The kids are good and they work hard. I like it.”

Scripps Ranch High is once



Garion Barber rushes the puck during a 9-12 loss to Del Norte High on Jan. 8. (photo by Jim Wick)

again competing in the Metro Conference made up of six schools that play each other three times in the regular season.

Scripps Ranch is also looking to make another trip to the championship just like they did last year as the team continues to be led by the efforts of standout forward Garion Barber and the great defensive play of Julien Thibault.

“I really want to see the improvement from game to game,” Gauthier said. “We got some new faces. As long as we can get better every game and, as long as the kids are having fun while continuing to learn, that is really all that matters.”

Gauthier served as an assistant to Greg Friedman for six seasons before taking over the helm this year.

Scripps Ranch High will play its next game on Jan. 24 against Escondido Charter High, followed by a match versus Poway High School on Jan. 25 before taking on Del Norte High on Jan. 31 when they will look to avenge the loss from Jan. 8 suffered at the hands of the Nighthawks.

The Falcons will then close out the season with a match against Westview High School on Feb. 1, Cathedral Catholic High on Feb. 7, Escondido Charter High on Feb. 8 and the finale versus Poway High on Feb. 15.

The five-time champion



SPORTS

Cale Flaherty looks to pass against Del Norte High in a game on Jan. 8. (photo by Jim Wick)

Falcons won back to back championships in 2019-20, with a 41-1 record over that span that culminated with a 7-4 victory over Westview in the Metro Conference

championship at the Escondido Sports Center. Scripps Ranch High fell just short of another title last season, falling to Del Norte High in the final.

ADVERTORIAL

Rumble Boxing is coming to Scripps Ranch!

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Scripps Ranch, do you Rumble?

Founded in 2017 in New York City, Rumble is boxing-inspired group fitness designed for all levels from beginner to advanced. Rumble was brought to San Diego by local Megan Hughes and partners in Del Mar Highlands Town Center. They are thrilled to be opening their second Rumble location in Scripps Ranch, and have plans to open more studios in the near future!

Rumble is a 45-minute, 10-round full-body boxing and strength workout crafted around specially designed water-filled, teardrop-style boxing bags. Rumble delivers serious results in a fun, high-energy setting. It is a workout that’ll get you energized, sweat-drenched and maxed-out with endorphins like no other.

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CLEAR ADVANTAGE: Falcons wrestler Elijah Hosseini has his opponent off-balance as he takes him down in a dual meet against Mira Mesa High on Jan. 10. (photo by Jim Wick)



POWER MOVE: Ryan Stadtherr of Scripps Ranch High drives his opponent off the ground during wrestling action against Mira Mesa High on Jan. 10. (photo by Jim Wick)

WINTER SPORTS



UP AND IN: Senior Michelle Kramer goes in for a layup during a 60-55 Scripps Ranch High victory against Morse High on Jan. 9. Kramer has scored more than 1,000 points in high school basketball. (photo by Jim Wick)



TOURNAMENT CHAMPS: The girls 10U (2014) Scripps Ranch United soccer team won the Coronado Holiday Cup held Dec. 9-10. The team was coached by Sam Tawfik. (photo by Ralph Corey)



RACING UP THE FIELD: SRHS senior Nate Bottomly pushes the ball up the field during a 1-1 soccer tie against Poway High on Jan. 5. (photo by Jim Wick)



CLOSE ACTION: Junior Chloe Adams of Scripps Ranch High maneuvers around the goalie in a 2-0 soccer victory against Christian High on Jan. 9. (photo by Jim Wick)



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Jeremy Waller

SRHS grad is GM for pro VB team

By Hector Trujillo

Scripps Ranch High School graduate Jeremy Waller was recently named as the general manager and vice president of operations for the San Diego Mojo, which will be competing in the inaugural womens Professional Volleyball Federation season in 2024.

Waller played baseball at Scripps Ranch High School in the early 2000s before moving on to play for the Palomar College Comets in 2004. He then went on to play on scholarship with San Diego Christian College before transitioning to coaching youth travel baseball followed by coaching stints at Mt. Carmel High and Grossmont College.

“While I was at Grossmont College, I really thought about what I wanted to do for myself just from a career perspective,” Waller said. “It was either follow the path of my dad and uncles, which was venture into coaching at the major league level, or go a different route – and I chose to become an entrepreneur.”

His family is heavily involved in the sport of baseball, with Waller’s father and two uncles reaching the professional level along with his four brothers who all played at the collegiate or pro level as well. After coaching at Grossmont, Waller started an online scheduling platform business for youth travel baseball teams with one of his siblings which then progressed to hosting baseball tournaments.

“I want to make my friends, family and the greater community proud of what we’ve

put together,” he said. “This is something that is groundbreaking.

There’s been attempts for volleyball leagues in the past, but nothing on this level or this scale on a national level.”

The San Diego Mojo’s official brand reveal was on Nov. 9, 2023, in downtown San

See **SRHS GRAD**, Page 16

Team makes end of season push

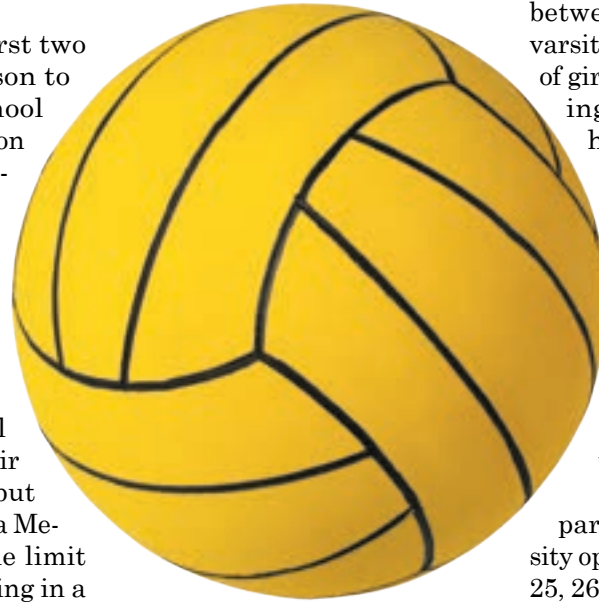
By Hector Trujillo

With only a few games left in the season, the Scripps Ranch High School womens water polo team looks to close out strong and bounce back from its slow start versus some tough competition.

After losing the first two matches of the season to Del Norte High School and El Camino High on Dec. 1, the Lady Falcons bounced back to earn a hard-fought 9-7 victory over San Diego Academy (SDA) the following day. SRHS then endured a 12-2 loss to San Marcos High School immediately after their game against SDA, but managed to push Mira Mesa High School to the limit on Dec. 12 before falling in a 9-10 nail-biter.

Showing true grit and determination, the Lady Falcons then rebounded on Dec. 14 with a resounding 18-5 win versus Canyon Hills High School, followed by a month-long break before their rematch with Mira Mesa on Jan. 10.

“We lost that first game versus Mira Mesa that we shouldn’t have lost and had three starters out that day,” said head coach Brad Oestreich. “I would expect Point Loma to be our toughest competition left.”



who has been a force to be reckoned with for opposing teams, along with fellow seniors Chloe Kuperstein and Abigail Leader.

“We are a young team,” Oestreich said. “We had a total of 30 girls that came out for the team this year between junior varsity and varsity. They’re a good group of girls that I’ve been coaching for three years and have been coming together for the last month here in their senior season.”

Another standout player has been senior southpaw Emily Konold who has brought an extra burst of energy for her teammates.

Scripps Ranch will take part in the San Diego varsity open tournament on Jan. 25, 26 and 27, hoping to come in hot with a road victory over Grossmont on Jan. 24.

“Winning can be contagious and teams sometimes just need to feel what it is to win again, not only to drive them to work harder, but also to continue to build on what they already have,” Oestreich said.

Point Loma High School and Scripps Ranch High close out the season on Feb. 1.

Despite the mixed results so far, the Lady Falcons have gotten some noteworthy performances starting with senior captain Olivia Dummer,



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Over 60 softball signups are open

Most people end their recreational sports careers in their 30s or 40s, but not these guys. The Scripps Ranch Old Pros have a men's softball league for players that are 60 years of age or more. This league is ideal for senior softball players who have recently retired or have flexible work schedules. The seven inning games are played at Sycamore Canyon Park each Tuesday afternoon at 1:30 p.m. beginning March 12 through June 11.

The Tuesday afternoon softball league uses senior friendly rules designed to minimize player injuries. For example, sliding is not allowed, so players can overrun second and third base and remain safe as long as the player beats the throw.

In addition to enjoying a little friendly competition, one of the best parts of the



The Fall 2023 Tuesday Softball League Champions celebrate. Managers were Joe Wulkowicz and Steve Fiorina. (courtesy of Scripps Ranch Old Pros)

league is hanging out with teammates and making new friends after the game. The league provides refreshments and snacks throughout the playoffs and championship game. Filippi's torpedo sandwiches were a big hit this year, following the final game.

League commissioners

Steve Northcote and Kevin Clark have been involved with Old Pros softball for more than 30 years. Email swnorth@san.rr.com or kclark@vitrek.com with any questions. Sign-ups for the March 2024 league are online at <https://srop.org/softball/> and are limited to the first 60 players.

Acro-Gym team earns medals in competition

(courtesy of Brenda Beyer)

Jordana Beyer, a seventh grader at Marshall Middle School, along with teammates Alani Do and Silver Weddle, won two gold medals and one silver medal in the 11-16 age group division at the international Acrobatic Gymnastics competition in Columbia on Dec. 8-10, 2023. Teams from Brazil, Canada, Puerto Rico, Mexico and Colombia participated in the competition. These athletes are from the SoCal TTC gym under the coaching of Patricia Noble.

SRHS GRAD

Continued from Page 15

Diego with Super Bowl 44-winning quarterback Drew Brees and three-time Olympic gold medalist Kerri Walsh Jennings, who is the team's co-owner, being among those attending.

"So many people are excited, and we've received a lot of support from corporate partners, community groups, schools, volleyball programs and others as to what we're doing and the way we're going about it," Waller said. "The men's game is so terminal. Like most men's sports, it's all about force and execution, so there's not a lot of excitement in that."

In his current role as general manager, Waller has had conversations with members of the San Diego Wave front office and sees the relationship as complimentary to each other. There is no doubt

that soccer and volleyball are among the two sports that are gaining in popularity as exemplified by the success of the Wave in its first two seasons and the fact a women's collegiate volleyball match on Aug. 31 held in Nebraska had more than 92,000 fans attend, which broke the previous record set in the 1999 Women's World Cup final.

"It's really about uplifting women's sports and putting it in a position where it should be," Waller said. "One of the things we like to see is how well the National Women's Soccer League is doing. Obviously, you have the WNBA that was really the first to emerge. You have the NWSL and now you have volleyball. You're seeing this tremendous amount of momentum and I'm just happy to be part of it."

The San Diego Mojo will play its home games at Viejas Arena on the campus of San

Diego State University under head coach Tayyiba Haneef-Park and assistant coach Deitre Collins-Parker, who was the head coach of the San Diego State women's volleyball team from 2009 to 2019.

The San Diego Mojo open the regular season on the road against the Atlanta Vibe on Feb. 1 with the first home game coming on Feb. 23 versus the Grand Rapids Rise.

"I think having a young daughter, it makes me much more aware of the importance of having true influential role models that are of value," Waller said. "We will be the epitome of competitive spirit, but a servant's heart. From the moment we step foot on the court we're out there to win a championship, but when we step off the court it's really about how we can help others and help grow this sport in our community."

WORDS & PICTURES



TRUE COLORS

A bright rainbow displayed its brilliant colors in the waning months of 2023 in north Scripps Ranch. (photo by Lisa Shadburn)



GOODBYE 2023

Colorful fireworks marked the end of the year during a celebration at SeaWorld on New Year's Eve weekend. (photo by Lisa Shadburn)

Harlem Globetrotters

Don't miss your chance to be a part of the world-famous Harlem Globetrotters global tour as they take the court with moments of extreme basketball innovation and unparalleled fan fun. See the Globetrotter stars live as they dribble, spin and dunk their way past their relentless rivals, the Washington Generals. You'll be amazed by new levels of mind-blowing trick shots, expert ball-handling skills and big laughs with new, unrivaled opportunities for pre-game, post-game and in-game fan engagement. You might even find yourself mid-court as part of the all-new, fan-filled Halftime Skills Showcase. Feb. 18 in Pechanga Arena.

HarlemGlobetrotters.com

Art explores kelp forests

On Feb. 8, Birch Aquarium at Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UC San Diego is opening *Hold Fast*, an immersive art installation that explores local kelp forests and climate change through the lens of three local artists and scientists who are using their unique skills and talents to take climate action.

Guests will weave through a labyrinth of cyanotype-printed giant kelp by photo-based artist and marine scientist Oriana Poindexter, dive into the details of local species via gytaku prints by artist Dwight Hwang and witness up-to-the-minute kelp forest mapping by Scripps Oceanography PhD student Mohammad Sedarat.

"Warming waters and giant kelp don't mix. We have to be realistic about the outsized impact that climate change has on our local giant kelp forests," said Megan Dickerson, Birch Aquarium's director of exhibits and co-curator of the installation. "But at the same time, local people are doing beautiful things. This *Hold Fast* installation posits that the actions of local artists and scientists can give us hope that together, as a community, we can make collective change as we also acknowledge climate trauma."

Through immersive experience and the stories of inspiring artists and scientists, *Hold Fast* invites us to identify how putting our talents to work in the climate crisis can bring joy while protecting the ocean planet.

Hwang is a classic Japanese gytaku artist who aims to tell stories through his animal and fish prints. In *Hold Fast*,



Giant Kelp Study Original by Oriana Poindexter; cyanotype photograph created with giant kelp (*Macrocystis pyrifera*) collected by the artist while freediving off Point La Jolla, 2022. (courtesy of Birch Aquarium)

his prints focus on local kelp forest animals found off La Jolla shores, allowing guests to get an even closer view of these fascinating species.

Poindexter is an artist and marine scientist who is documenting the changes in La Jolla's local kelp forests through photo-based artwork. In *Hold Fast*, her life-sized cyanotype prints on fabric create a stunning kelp forest for guests to explore without getting wet.

Sedarat is a PhD student at the Smith Lab at Scripps Oceanography whose research explores the impact of climate change on La Jolla's kelp forest. In *Hold Fast*, his work provides up-to-the-minute kelp forest mapping that explains why critical giant

kelp ecosystems have not returned since recent marine heatwaves, and explores what we can do to bring them back.

UC San Diego Library is hosting an accompanying exhibit, *Ebb and Flow: Giant Kelp Forests through Art, Science and the Archives*, at Geisel Library through April 21. Uniting archival material with contemporary art, this exhibit showcases works created as a result of continued observation of the local giant kelp forest environment by artists, scientists and community members over the past 134 years.

Hold Fast will be on display until September. Advanced reservations required. Visit aquarium.ucsd.edu for more information.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY 26

'The Cocktail Hour'

Trinity Theatre Company presents "The Cocktail Hour," running through Feb. 4 at Trinity Theatre in Mission Valley, 1640 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 128. This witty, perceptive play blends mordant humor with moments of affecting poignancy. The time is the mid '70s, the place: a city in upstate New York. John, a playwright, returns to his family's house, bringing with him a play he wrote about them. He hopes to obtain their permission to proceed with production, but his wealthy, proper parents are cautious. John's sister is concerned that her character has such a minor role. Their confrontation takes place during the ritual of the cocktail hour, and as the martinis flow, so do the recriminations and revelations, both funny and poignant.

trinitytc.org

'Fun Home'

New Village Arts presents "Fun Home," based on the graphic novel by Alison

Bechdel, Jan. 26-March 3. This will be a fully staged musical presented on the newly named Ray Charles Stage in the Conrad Prebys Theatre at the Dea Hurston New Village Arts Center. The storyline follows the journey of Alison as she reflects on her upbringing and grapples with her relationship with her enigmatic father. The narrative unfolds through different stages of Alison's life, seamlessly blending humor, heartache and poignant moments as it explores themes of acceptance and understanding.

newvillagearts.org

JANUARY 27



"Vipers" by Diane Falkenhagen (courtesy of the artist)

Concurrent jewelry exhibition

The La Frontera exhibition explores the complexity of the U.S.-Mexico border as a physical reality, geopolitical construction and state of being through the medium of jewelry – an object

See **UPCOMING EVENTS**, Page 19



Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo (courtesy of LJMS)

BALLET, MUSIC & MORE!

La Jolla Music Society (LJMS) is pulling out all the stops in February, showcasing the wide variety and depth of artistic offerings carefully curated each season by Artistic Director Leah Rosenthal.

- Appearing for the first time ever in San Diego, the world's foremost all-male comic ballet company performs top-notch ballet that's also uproariously funny! Famed for performing en travesti and on pointe, Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo's program spoofs some of your favorite works with virtuosity and technical prowess. These dancers amaze even as they exaggerate the foibles, accidents and underlying incongruities of serious dance. They celebrate their 50th anniversary this year with their first ever San Diego show, in the Dance Series on Friday, Feb. 2, at 7:30 p.m. in the Balboa Theatre.
- The Balourdet Quartet brings its stellar excellence to the Discovery Series on Feb. 4, at 3 p.m. in The Baker-Baum Concert Hall.
- On Feb. 10, the Blue Note 85th Anniversary Celebration Tour comes to town starring The Blue Note Quintet at 7:30 p.m. in The Baker-Baum Concert Hall as part of the Jazz Series.
- It's truly a special event in February when America's greatest living soprano, Renée Fleming, makes her LJMS debut, accompanied by LJMS SummerFest Music Director Inon Barnatan on the piano, in The Baker-Baum Concert Hall. On Feb. 14, Valentine's Day, these two musical luminaries will perform an all-new program inspired by Fleming's 2022 Grammy

Award-winning album "Voice of Nature: the Anthropocene." For the performance's second half, the National Geographic Society provides an original video, with awe-inspiring glimpses at the creatures, plants and landscapes of our planet to accompany the musical selections.

- The Arod Quartet returns to La Jolla after their sensational Discovery Series debut in 2022. The quartet performs on Feb. 17, at 7:30 p.m. in The Baker-Baum Concert Hall as part of the Revelle Chamber Music Series.
 - The newly named artistic director of the Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz Performance, Ambrose Akinmusire, has paradoxically situated himself in both the center and the periphery of jazz throughout his career, masterfully weaving inspiration from other genres, arts and life in general into compositions that are as poetic and graceful as they are bold and unflinching. Catch this phenom with his trio in their local debuts on Feb. 23 at 6 and 8:30 p.m. in The JAI.
 - Experience the wonder of our underwater world through riveting stories by Emmy Award-nominated director, Nat Geo photographer and accomplished musician Andy Mann. "Making Waves: Summit to Sea," a Changemaker Production, comes to The Baker-Baum Concert Hall as part of the Speaker Series on Feb. 29, at 7:30 p.m.
- Details and tickets are available at the La Jolla Music Society box office by phone at (858) 459-3728. The Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center is at 7600 Fay Ave.
TheConrad.org

a comedy by Terrence McNally

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'CHAPATTI'

Continued from Page 1

good deal of laughter and warmth. It's a story built on serendipity, the kindness of strangers and the resilience of spirit," Williams said. Williams worked with Delaney almost 20 years ago when she was a student of the Actor's Academy at MiraCosta College, and he directed May as Gov. Ned Newly in "The Outsider" last season. Williams grew up in Connecticut "playing and obsessing over soccer and visual art."

"I thought that was going to be my life until I moved to Phoenix with my family and discovered theatre: Shakespeare in particular. The stage has been my main focus since my sophomore year of high school," he said. "While working professionally, I've had the opportunity to teach various theatre courses in colleges and conservatories, which fills a great part of my soul. I also spent 10 years working in film as a producer, actor and key visual artist." Williams said there's nothing like doing what one loves.

"Theatre is my job. Whether acting, directing, producing, managing, designing, etc., I make my living there," he said. The production of "Chapatti" will be held on the campus of Alliant International University with performances on Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. There will be a preview performance on Friday, Feb. 2. Patrons can purchase tickets online at scrippsranchnews.com/tickets/ or contact SRT Patron Services at (858) 395-0573.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Continued from Page 18

repeatedly used for communication throughout human history. Mingei International Museum presents this traveling exhibition in conjunction with a concurrent La Frontera exhibition at CECUT- Centro Cultural Tijuana. Exhibition dates: Mingei International Museum, Jan. 27-Aug. 4. CECUT-Centro Cultural Tijuana, Feb. 6-June 9. Mingei.org

'A Splendid Decennium'

The Gaslamp Museum at the Davis-Horton House is thrilled to announce its new exhibit, "A Splendid Decennium: Victorian to Vanguard." The exhibit will infuse the House with works from internationally-acclaimed fiber artist Marty Ornish, exploring a decade of political, environmental and feminist perspectives through textile art. This is a retrospective exhibit in two parts, uniting the Gaslamp Museum at the Davis-Horton House and the Villa Montezuma Museum. The exhibition will span both properties and can be viewed separately, but guests are encouraged to visit both for

a comprehensive experience of Ornish's work. Exhibit runs Jan. 27-April 27. Davis-Horton House, 410 Island Ave. (619) 233-4692 gaslampfoundation.org

FEBRUARY 8

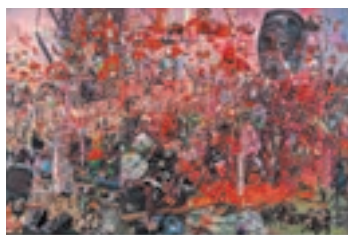
'The Age of Innocence'

The Old Globe announces the Globe-commissioned world premiere of "The Age of Innocence," based on Edith Wharton's Pulitzer Prize-winning classic. "The Age of Innocence" is set in 1870s Gilded Age New York City, where high society clashes with love. When the glamorous Countess Ellen Olenska sweeps into town, she upends the lives of everyone around her, especially the dashing lawyer Newland Archer. "The Age of Innocence" plays at the Donald and Darlene Shiley Stage, part of the Globe's Conrad Prebys Theatre Center, from Feb. 8 to March 10, with the official opening night on Feb. 15. TheOldGlobe.org

FEBRUARY 9

Art lecture by Elliott Hundley

The Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego



By Elliott Hundley (courtesy of MCASD)

(MCASD) presents a lecture featuring Elliott Hundley. Known for his dense multimedia compositions that reference both art history and mythology, Hundley's work weaves together scenes from the past with familiar imagery taken from the contemporary world. Feb. 9, 6:30 p.m., Jacobs Hall at MCASD La Jolla, 700 Prospect St. mcsad.org

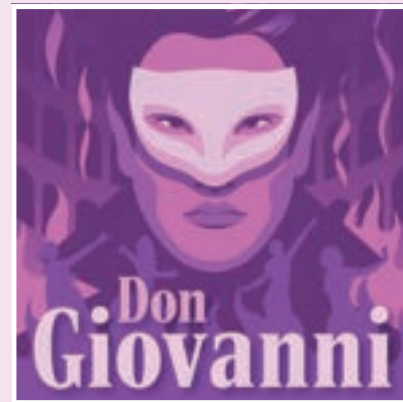
FEBRUARY 17

Knife sharpening

Seven Oaks Woodworking Club in Rancho Bernardo will sharpen knives, serrated knives, scissors and non-powered gardening tools on Saturday, Feb. 17, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at 16789 Bernardo Oaks Drive. Pick up same day or Monday, Feb 19. 7oaksrb.com/info.php?pnm=-358fe8075e148e

'DON GIOVANNI'

San Diego Opera presents Don Giovanni, Feb. 2 and 4. Based on the story of legendary womanizer Don Juan, Mozart's "Don Giovanni" is a tale of seduction and doom featuring some of the most iconic operatic music ever written.



(artwork by Jordi Ferrándiz)

The San Diego Opera's unique production will be a contemporary take on the classic featuring the San Diego Symphony Orchestra on-stage, modern costumes and state-of-the-art theater lighting and projections for a complete and stunning visual and auditory experience.

Considered to be a perfect opera, this tale features stunning visuals and the orchestra on stage, heightening Mozart's glorious music. Mozart's "Don Giovanni" features some of the greatest operatic music ever written. This special version showcases Mozart's incredible score by placing the singers, chorus and San Diego Symphony front and center. The singers and chorus will be fully staged and costumed, accompanied by state-of-the-art theater lighting and projections, for a complete and stunning visual and auditory experience.

San Diego Opera's Principal Conductor Yves Abel returns to lead the action, which features the exciting house debut of baritone Germán Enrique Alcántara in the title role.

The two performances in February will be at the San Diego Civic Theatre, both sung in Italian with English and Spanish text projected above the stage.

sdopera.org

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