The San Diego Union-Tribune





MICHAEL SMOLENS Columnist

## How decades of prudence positioned county for this

You tend to learn a thing or two over the course of nearly three decades in public office.

One is when you become part of the leadership of a county government that's on the brink of bankruptcy, you make difficult choices, stabilize the budget and cautiously build a deep reserve to avoid getting in that situation again.

That's what Dianne Jacob and Greg Cox did with other long-serving, nowformer members of the Board of Supervisors, along with some capable top administrators.

Jacob and Cox joined the board in 1993 and 1995, respectively. They have enacted many policies in the years since, but nothing is more central to their tenure than their fiscal stewardship. The county now has a \$6.2 billion budget with more than \$2 billion set aside in reserves.

That puts San Diego County in a better position to confront the coronavirus pandemic than many local governments.

It wasn't easy to go from  $near-bust to AAA\, credit$ rating, and their tightfisted ways certainly weren't popular with everyone. Critics maintained county employees have been shortchanged, departments understaffed and that lowincome residents were not receiving enough of the services they need.

Shortly after he took office in January 1995, Cox attended a retreat to discuss, among other things, the county's sorry finances

# **CITY CODE TIPSTER APP ON THE WAY**

Next step in modernizing San Diego's compliance enforcement division

#### **BY DAVID GARRICK**

#### SAN DIEGO

San Diego is transforming how it handles violations of the city's municipal code - including sewage leaks, abandoned properties, excessive noise, illegal garage conversions and vehicle repair in residential areas.

The city two years ago computerized its system for keeping track of code violation complaints, which is allowing workers to spot patterns,

trends and potential efficiencies in how they handle a typical annual caseload of 5,000 complaints.

Officials also are preparing to allow code compliance complaints to be reported on the city's popular Get it Done! tipster app, which could significantly increase the number of complaints by making reporting more convenient.

But no changes are planned to how the city prioritizes code enforcement cases by category. Imminent health and safety hazards are still top priority, followed by significant violations requiring expert inspections, then quality-of-life violations and then neighborhood nuisances

The division will continue to re-

main reactive and complaintbased, with the only proactive cases resulting from code officers spotting egregious violations while traveling to and from complaint investigations and enforcement actions.

Leslie Sennett, who leads the division for the Development Services Department, said proactive cases are rare because officers can't be sure that a resident or business hasn't secured a permit for something that appears to be illegal.

We never want to bother someone with something that's not founded," Sennett said during a phone interview last week.

Short-term, Sennett said the city plans to temporarily suspend investigation of low-level quality-of-

complaints COVID-19 pandemic. But the pandemic has not prompted any other significant changes.

"There have been minimal impacts, and the division is still receiving requests for investigations," she said. "Some staff is telecommuting from off-site locations."

Sennett said the biggest recent change for the division is using Accela software to compile cases and make them available online, so they can be tracked by the person who filed the complaint and the person who allegedly violated city code.

The shift to computers also has allowed city officials to spot patterns and find new ways to conduct SEE CODE • B10



Michael Hart and his wife, Michele Harvey, who have run the Julian News in Julian since 2004, nestle in their tiny, cluttered office.

LABOR OF LOVE IS NEWS TO JULIAN

The main problem was the county's trash system and particularly an ill-fated trash-to-energy plant.

Not long before, Cox had been mayor of Chula Vista, which he said carried reasonable reserves. The county budget at the time was \$2.2 billion "and our reserve was two and a half million dollars.

Employees hadn't received a general pay raise in five years, he said, and many county facilities were in need of repair or replacement.

"I was kind of awestruck," he said last week. "... . It was a pretty bleak situation."

Jacob, who had been  $chief \, of \, staff \, to \, a \, previous$ supervisor, ran for the board SEE SMOLENS • B4

Michael Hart and Michele Harvey both found a voice and community service in publishing weekly newspaper

#### **BY J. HARRY JONES**

#### JULIAN

Just once. Michael Hart and his bride of 17 years, Michele Harvey, took a few days off to stay at an inn at Joshua Tree.

"It was sort of our honeymoon years after we got married," Hart, 67, said.

"Just once we took off three days in a row." Harvey said. "Those three days and two nights were really all we could stand to be away."

Since the summer of 2004, Hart and Harvey, 69, have been putting out the weekly Julian News. The newspaper was established in 1985 and had a handful of owners before they purchased the business for \$200.000.

"He puts in 70 to 90 hours a week," Harvey said of her husband. "Make that 65 to

#### 70," said Hart.

"I'll bet its at least 80," she said.

It's a labor of love that pays the mort gage, Hart said, but not much else. They print 2,000 copies each week. Several hundred are purchased from boxes in town while the rest are mailed to subscribers, some of whom have second homes in the area but want to keep up with the town's activities. They have about 300 subscribers right now, a number that varies from year to year and depends on how quickly readers resubscribe annually.

"Probably the biggest question I get is are you happy doing this," Hart said. "Yeah! It's the closest thing to having a radio station without being able to broadcast. It's community involved, which is what I love. I don't have to pay attention to anything that SEE JULIAN • B4



Julian pride is exhibited on Michael Hart's desk at the Julian News office.

# WATER DISTRICT SELLING 360 ACRES

Couple hopes to buy portion of land in El Monte Valley for conservation, horse ranch

#### **BY KAREN PEARLMAN**

#### LAKESIDE

Nearly 340 acres of open space in Lakeside's El Monte Valley is going to be put up for sale and interested parties are already raising their hands.

The five-member board of the Helix Water District unanimously voted earlier this month to sell the land along Ashwood Street and Willow Road, a lot it is splitting into three separate parcels. It purchased the land between 1926 and

Most of the property, more than 230 acres, is zoned for agricultural use, an additional 8 acres are leased to the River Valley Equestrian Center and the third parcel contains a bit more than 100 acres of land zoned for either agriculture or sand extraction.

The picturesque, rural El Monte Valley has been the site of lucrative sand mining operations for decades. Mass protests by residents in recent years have stalled some plans by contractors or developers to use the rich river bottom area of the valley for sand mining operations.

Sand is used to make concrete and asphalt, among other things in home building. According to the American Geological Institute, a typical U.S.



Lakeside's W. Duane Pillsbury and his wife, Joan Embery, hope to purchase property they now lease from the Helix Water District.

house requires more than 100 tons of sand, gravel and crushed stone for the foundation, basement, garage and driveway.

 ${\it El}\,{\it Monte}\,{\it Valley}\,{\it is}\,{\it popular}\,{\it with}\,{\it horse}$ enthusiasts and hikers who traverse its trails for recreation. Many have gone up against proposed sand mining operators to fight to preserve the flora and fauna in the area. They have raised concerns about health issues that could come as a repercussion of the mining -

from its effect on the region's natural aquifer to toxic particles wafting through the air.

Asked by Helix Water Board member Kathleen Hedberg if the district had "100 percent certainty (that) we do not need this property, that there is no value in it for Helix Water District," Helix General Manager Carlos Lugo and Director of Engineering Jim Tomasulo said the district deemed it surplus and SEE ACRES • B10

## **DEFEAT OF 2 MEASURES LEAVES FUTURE UNCLEAR**

Experts say housing battles to go back to courtrooms

#### **BY J. HARRY JONES**

The March 3 primary election might seem like a distant memory with the results overwhelmed by the coronavirus pandemic.

But the outcome of two countywide measures dealing with housing development in the unincorporated county were a bit confusing and left people wondering what will happen moving forward.

Measure A, which would have required countywide public votes for most large housing projects proposed for the rural and semi-rural parts of the county, lost on a 51 percent to 49 percent vote

It was a big victory for the building industry and related fields. Many feared that had Measure A passed, it likely would have ended future projects from even being proposed.

However, Measure B failed by a wide margin. It

asked voters to affirm the Board of Supervisors' approval of the 2,135-home Newland Sierra project in North County. The measure lost 58 percent to 42 percent, despite proponents spending about \$7 million. As has been the case this past decade whenever voters have been asked to decide the fate of big housing projects, they rejected the idea.

What happens now? There are a couple wild cards that make predictions tough, experts say: the COVID-19 economic quagmire and the fate of the county's Climate Action Plan, which is still being litigated.

"COVID-19 gave us an entire new world, so it's impossible to answer your question except to offer speculative thoughts," said Borre Winckel, the president and CEO of the Building Association of San Diego County which, along with many of its members, was a major funding source of the No on A campaign.

"The vote on A and B might have been different if it were held today," he said. SEE DEFEAT • B10

#### LISA DEADERICK Columnist

# Using fear as an excuse for racism during times of crisis



We've seen this before. A crisis, an emergency, panic and fear that lead to deplorable acts of bigotry, racism, xenophobia.

We like to believe ourselves to be a country that is somehow above this kind of violence and harm, when in reality, they are part of the foundation of this nation. We have example after example of what happens when we allow irrational fears of other groups of people to direct our behaviors: We attempt to justify acts of enslavement. internment, other forms of physical and emotional violence, exclusion and more.

With the number of new cases of the novel coronavirus continuing to grow, along with the virus' death toll, that same panic and fear have once again manifested in acts of racism against people of East Asian descent. We have a welldocumented history of subjecting people in the Asian community to this kind of violence and mistreatment, from the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 to Executive Order 9066 during World War II.

Nellie Tran is an associate professor of counseling and school psychology at San Diego State University, who also serves as vice

president of the Asian American Psychological Association. Her research is centered around subtle forms of discrimination (like microagressions) tied to issues of race and gender in education, counseling and in the work place. She took some time to discuss the current increase in racism against Asian people as a result of COVID-19, and how people's fears should be redirected toward stopping the spread of the virus by following the recommendations of public health officials, rather than scapegoating entire groups of people. (This email interview has

Despite guidelines from the 6 World Health Organization that strongly encourage avoiding the use of language and phrases for infectious diseases that would cause "offence to any cultural. social, national, regional, professional, or ethnic groups," President Donald Trump has repeatedly referred to the current novel coronavirus (COVID-19) as "the Chinese virus," saying that the term is "accurate" because the virus was first identified in China. Why is his language being considered racist, rather than accurate? • There are several reasons A: There are several covid-19 the why calling COVID-19 the

been edited for length and clarity.)

"Chinese virus" is inaccurate.

COVID-19 does not discriminate on who it infects. China does not own the virus, nor have any control on how and where it spreads. Chinese people are not disproportionately impacted by the virus, nor are they any more or less a carrier of the virus than any other human on this planet. Consequently, the Chinese virus is inaccurate and intentionally misleading. It doesn't provide us with any additional information about the virus.

What makes this slang naming racist is that it perpetuates stereotypes and images of Chinese and other Asian peoples as dirty, diseased, foreign, and ultimately "not one of us." It should make us question who is being considered "good" or "bad" and who benefits from this idea. In a situation where people may feel like they've lost control, it sometimes feels good to find blame or fault in others. However, inaccurately blaming a country or a population of people doesn't provide us with the protection or control that we actually seek. Worse still is that it encourages inaccurate and prejudicial fears aimed towards an already marginalized segment of the U.S. population. This is especially true when government officials and others in positions of power and authority use biased terminology. It can be seen as granting permis-

sion for the general population to act on their racist ideas against Asian Americans.

Can you talk a bit about the history we have of attaching bigotry to larger public emergencies, and what happened when people operated out of fear rather than fact?

A: Racism is ubiquitous within U.S. history, especially when Americans are most scared and looking for a quick solution to conjure a feeling of protection and safety. After the bombing of Pearl Harbor during WWII, anti-Japanese sentiments and fears resulted in the discrimination and racist detention of 120,000 Japanese Americans.

Around illnesses, Americans have notoriously associated illnesses to entire countries and populations of people out of fear. These have included Africans around the Ebola outbreak, the LGBT community around HIV/ AIDS, Asians around SARS, H1N1, MERS, and avian influenza (H5N1)....After 9/11, anxiety and fears were high, and it resulted in discrimination and racism pointed at Muslim Americans and even Sikh Americans. Similar types of xenophobia and racism can be seen when the economy isn't doing well and employment rates are

high, right now around undocumented immigrants and asylum seekers, especially those of Latinx descent.

• What lessons should we have learned from the past? And what lessons can we learn now?

A: These tactics are divisive. They do not benefit the average American. They actually create a false sense of control and safety, thereby preventing the individual from doing the very things that would allow them to be in control and be safe. We need to deal with the real issues and emotions that this global pandemic has brought up for us, rather than allowing marginalized fellow citizens to be scapegoated yet again. It's not enough to fear being touched by an Asian American colleague, you should fear it from all of your colleagues. Social distancing is important for all of us. No one has magical immunity from COVID-19, nor does anyone necessarily have special powers to spread it. We need to work together and think about the broader impact of our actions on our whole society to make it through this pandemic.

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## NOTEBOOKS

From Union -Tribune reporting staff

## **CORONAVIRUS:** TERI FIGUEROA Behind the U-T's daily virus summary

This novel coronavirus is cruel. To stay healthy, to flatten the curve as they say, we're supposed to hide inside. But even safe behind our doors, we can't hide from what COVID-19 has wrought on society. Everyone needs to be keenly aware of what is happening, and what is being done to save livelihoods and lives.

With the community's need-to-know top of mind, The San Diego Union-Tribune is offering free access at sandiegouniontribune.com to some of its coronavirus coverage to all online readers.

As news comes in, reporters from across the newsroom write short items to add to a running blog of local, breaking coronavirus news. It's free to all. So, too, is the daily news recap I write.

That online-only summary includes notable local news (and story links), which this week included revelations that, as of Friday, six county residents had died from COVID-19. It also includes updates on what moves local or state jurisdictions are taking to address the financial losses residents face as businesses close and jobs are lost.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** ALEX RIGGINS

The daily piece notes developments of importance to everyone, like the unveiling of phone lines staffed by nurses for locals who feel symptomatic but don't have a primary doctor. (It's available by calling 211 between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m.)

It also highlights some of the work Union-Tribune reporters are doing — mostly from home - to cover the region's response. That includes stories of viral clusters in communal living sites to local companies that may be creating quick-turnaround COVID-19 tests, producing more ventilators or working to develop a vaccine.

The summary might include charts tracking the number of residents who test positive. It might have an embedded podcast interview with a U-T reporter on local coronavirus stories. Despite the often heavy news. I try to end the recap on a light note, a nod to good works like the trumpet symphony a music teacher pulled together after 40 of his students recorded themselves playing.

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## THE READERS' REPRESENTATIVE: ADRIAN VORE 'News' anxiety in time of coronavirus

 $During \, a \, news \, conference \, last \, Sunday,$ county Supervisor Nathan Fletcher mentioned the physical and mental health of residents during this time of crisis. He suggested people get some exercise, connect safely with others — and be careful with media consumption.

Acknowledging the need to stay informed, he suggested residents avoid too much exposure to media -- "inflammatory sources of information, points being made repeatedly, the random speculation and rumor.<sup>3</sup>

He encouraged residents to use reliable sources of information (county website, professional news media), and in a conversation with the readers' rep this week, he said people should also take a break from news. "Pick a window during the day to watch the news, then it's OK to turn it off for a few hours," he said.

I agree. Personally, I'm using the Union-Tribune print and and online. I'm avoiding 24-7 "news" channels, with wallto-wall speculation from correspondents, commentators and so-called experts. (I don't need to keep hearing "the worst is yet to come" or IF this horrible thing happens then that even worse thing COULD happen.) And I'm being careful with social media.

Fletcher said his office has received calls from residents reacting to rumors they have seen on social media. He said one person called because of reading on Facebook that the coronavirus could be spread through water. This is erroneous.

Speculation in the media can increase the anxiety and depression many county residents are feeling from the financial worries and isolation enveloping the county and the world, Fletcher said.

"We don't know what's going to happen," he said. "There's no point in worrying about it.'

He added: "Live in the present, the moment, that will make tomorrow better."

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FOOD ASSISTANCE DURING THE PANDEMIC coronavirus. Serving Seniors: Free meals from the to anyone ages 60 and older, regardless of income. If you are a senior in need, or know of one, you can sign up to receive meals by calling (619) 235-6572 and selecting Option One, or reaching out via email at meals@servingseniors.org. Recipients have the option of donating for meals, but nobody is turned away if they don't have the means to do so

## **Drop in gunfire incidents reported**

A company that operates gunshot detection systems in about 100 cities across the United States announced last week that San Diego saw the largest reduction of gunfire incidents between 2018 and 2019.

According to data from ShotSpotter, gunfire incidents were down 17 percent in San Diego last year compared to the previous year.

A San Diego police spokesman on Friday could not immediately confirm ShotSpotter's findings.

The Police Department began using ShotSpotter technology in 2016 on a trial basis and has continued using it since then. Records show the department pays ShotSpotter \$235,300 per year to use its technology. It is deployed in a 3.5-mile area in southeastern San Diego, including parts of Valencia Park, Skyline, O'Farrell and Lincoln Park.

San Diego also had the lowest gunfire incidents per capita of the largest metropolitan areas where ShotSpotter technology is used, according to Sam Klepper, Shot Spotter's senior vice president of marking and product strategy.

"This is impressive for the San Diego Police Department and the entire community," Klepper said in a phone interview Friday, adding that San Diego's Police Department is an "exemplary user" of the gunshot detection technology, which is also used in New York, Baltimore, Chicago, San Francisco and Oakland, among many other cities.

ShotSpotter is made up of a series of audio sensors that pick up noises loud enough to be gunshots. Once detected, the sound is sent to a review center where a specialist determines if it was or likely was gunfire.

Information about the system alert or "activation" — including where it happened, how many shots were fired and whether there was more than one shooter — is then sent to officers in the field.

According to Klepper, 80 percent of all gunshot incidents go unreported by community members. The purpose of ShotSpotter is to quickly report gunfire — the company guarantees it can identify and report gunfire in under a minute, but says it averages closer to 30 seconds — so officers can respond.

Agencies throughout the county are offering food assistance. Here are some of them:

Kitchens for Good will be opening a grab-and-go meal kiosk starting Monday at its kitchen to serve residents in need in Southeastern San Diego. Kitchens for Good will distribute frozen meals and fresh produce through the kiosk from 9 a.m.-noon Monday, Wednesday and Friday to community members and alumni of its culinary program. Social distancing will be practiced, and drive-thru pick-up will be available. The kiosk is next to the parking lot at the Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation, 404 Euclid Ave., San Diego. Visit kitchensforgood.org.

Feeding San Diego will launch a weekly drive-thru food distribution in Ramona. First Congregational Church of Ramona (404 Eighth St.) will host the distribution at 1:30 p.m. every Friday. Feeding San Diego is increasing the food supplied at its 10 Feeding East County rural mobile pantry distributions, and it is adding two

special distributions on Monday in Campo (Mountain Health & Communi ty Services, noon to 1 p.m., 976 Śheridan Road) and Jacumba (9 to 10 a.m., 44600 Old Highway 80) to meet rising demand. The organization will continue to increase the supply as needed to meet the need in the county's mountain and desert regions during the coronavirus pandemic.

The San Diego Food Bank is providing food to 500 nonprofits countywide with feeding programs, and distributes food through 200 direct monthly food distributions throughout the county. Call (866) 350-FOOD (3663) from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays to find a site near you.

Feeding San Diego has created a map of food distribution locations around the county. Text "food" or "comida" to 877-877 to find the nearest site, or call 211 to talk to a resource specialist. Email info@feedingsandiego.org or call (858) 452-3663.

**COVID-19 Emergency Food Distribution** Sites: Find listings of emergency food distributions at feedingsandiego.org/

The Muslim Leadership Council of San Diego (mlcsd.org), an umbrella organization representing over 25 Muslim organizations based in San Diego, offers a free meal program for San Diegans affected by the COVID-19 crisis. The program will run from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily through Tuesday and will include free delivery for healthcare workers, seniors and those without transportation. The initial program is being sponsored by MLC with two local restaurants, Tikka Lounge and Charminar. Sign up at tinyurl.com/ulbr2pa. To volunteer or to sponsor meals, contact the Muslim Leadership Council of San Diego at info@mlcsd.org.

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## **FROM THE ARCHIVES**

# IN 1915 A FUTURE PRESIDENT CAME TO SAN DIEGO

 $Franklin\,D.\,Roosevelt\,visited\,San\,Diego\,105\,years\,ago.\,Then\,serving\,as\,assistant\,secretary$ of the Navy, he reviewed troops on parade at the Panama-California Exposition in Balboa Park and told reporters San Diego would become a Navy port.

From the Evening Tribune, Monday, March 29, 1915:

### NAVY DEPARTMENT TO BUILD **BIG BASE IN SAN DIEGO**

#### ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROOSEVELT ANNOUNCES PLAN FOR DEPOT HERE

#### **Bu Bertram Holmes**

"San Diego is designated by the navy department as an advance base for marines similar to that at Guantanamo. A site is yet to be chosen.

"A naval supply base here, commanded by a rear-admiral, and equipped with repair shops, supply buildings, and barracks, but without a dry dock, is a necessity. The establishment of such a base here in the near future is practically certain, although not yet ordered."

"The battleship fleet and auxiliaries, coming to the Pacific in July, provided the use of the Panama canal is advisable, will remain on the Pacific for six months, and one of the four divisions of four ships each will be in this port at all times. The entire fleet, if weather permits, will stop here as its first port of call, from four to six entering the harbor and the remainder anchoring outside.

"Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels is to come with the fleet.'

"I shall be here again in September or October."

Statements by Franklin D. Roosevelt, assistant secretary of the navy, in San Diego today.

#### HOW THE NAVY SHOULD BE DISPOSED

The American battleship fleet must be kept in a unit," Assistant Secretary of the Navy Roosevelt said today. "If it is to be maintained as a force superior to anything which an enemy can send to either of this country's coasts. I realize the Pacific coast has advocated keeping half of the fleet here, but it is the purpose of the navy department to keep the big ships together and have them all here for a large part of the time.



An enemy, attacking either coast, would send a force of at least two battleship divisions and probably more, making the outcome of a battle with one-half of our fleet uncertain. If our ships lost the fight we would not have enough left to be worth considering in a war. It is better to have the entire fleet in a big fight that may come, or to have the entire fleet entirely out of it and ready to come from the other coast in its full strength to annihilate with absolute certainty its smaller antagonist.

'This situation prevails in Europe's war now. Wherever the British fleet is, and I believe it is off the Irish coast, it is waiting in one tremendous body. No armada that Germany can send against England is equal to it. Supposing Germany does send an attacking force to England and that 100,000 Germans are landed there. I believe the English fleet would take its own time in coming to the rescuepossibly forty-eight hours, and that when it came it would crush the invaders and remove a heavy percentage of the enemy's strength.

"We can do the same way. If our fleet meets an invasion, it can do the work at once; if not, it can do it later and still guarantee the victory."

If there is anything that San Diego isn't going to get from the navy, other than a drydock, it is something which the dictionaries have overlooked.

I talked with Franklin D. Roosevelt, assistant secretary of the navy, this morning for an hour while he breakfasted in his room at the U.S. Grant hotel and while he smoked a cigarette afterward as a prelude to the day's work.

I could not gather that the ports of San Francisco and Seattle are to get any more than San Diego will, other than maintenance and improvements for their existing drydocks and yards, and it is absolutely certain that San Diego is to get a great deal more than it ever had before and that it is to get enough naval recognition to make the other big Pacific coast ports sit up and take notice.

HISTORICAL PHOTOS AND ARTICLES FROM THE SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE ARCHIVES ARE COMPILED BY MERRIE MONTEAGUDO. SEARCH THE U-T HISTORIC ARCHIVES AT NEWSLIBRARY.COM/SITES/SDUB

# **County Community News**

#### North County Ν **SUNDAY** • MARCH 29, 2020 | **B12**

#### CARDIFF

### **Library Friends group** offers scholarships

The Friends of the Cardiff-by-the-Sea Library is offering four \$1,500 scholarships to graduating high school seniors in ZIP codes  $92007 \mbox{ or } 92024$  who have a valid San Diego County Library card. The application packet must be received by 4 p.m. May 1. Applications and information on how to apply are at friendscardifflibrary.org/scholarship.

#### DEL MAR **Goodguys car show** rescheduled for fall

The Goodguys 20th Meguiar's Del Mar Nationals, originally scheduled for April 3-5 at the Del Mar Fairgrounds has been postponed and rescheduled for October 2-4, based on the mandated "shelter in place" being implemented in California. Visit good-guys.com.

#### **ENCINITAS Blood drive slated** at Office Depot

Office Depot will host a Mobile Blood Drive with the San Diego Blood Bank from 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 7 at 1018 N. El Camino Real in the parking lot. Donors must be 17 and older, weigh at least 114 pounds and be in good health. Call (800) 469-7322 sandiegobloodor visit bank.org.

#### **ESCONDIDO** Children's art show in April postponed

The Escondido Art Association has closed its Artists Gallery at 121 W. Grand Ave. until further notice. The Kids Kaleidoscope show scheduled for April has been postponed. Student artwork submitted for the 2020 Art Scholarship competition will remain in the Artists Gallery. If needed, the art may be picked up by arranging with Byron Marler, at email address marlers1@gmail.com

#### NORTH COUNTY **Goodwill not accepting** at-door donations

Goodwill San Diego is asking community members to save their donations until the nonprofit reopens. Donations cannot be left at the temporarily closed clearance centers, donation centers, retail stores and community employment centers. Shopping is available online at shopgoodwill.com/ Listings/Seller/12. Visit sdgoodwill.org/#donate-today for other ways to give to Goodwill San Diego.

BREAKFAST REPUBLIC
Passion 4 K.I.D.S. S 1000.00   One Thousand 00/100 courses Image:
:00000000 :00000000 #2020

ENCINITAS Passion 4 K.I.D.S. charity receives \$1,000

Passion 4 K.I.D.S. charity founders Linda and Charles Van Kessler (far right) received a \$1,000 donation from Johan Engman, owner of Breakfast Republic in San Diego. Sophie Felix was the winner of the restaurant's #BRGivesBack campaign and nominated Passion 4 K.I.D.S., an Encinitas nonprofit that supports many San Diego County children in need. Visit passion4kids.org.



NORTH COUNTY Assistance League provides new clothes, shoes for students

The Assistance League of Inland North County provided clothes and shoes for 2,330 students in grades K-12 this school year. Operation School Bell serves students in need from schools in Escondido, Fallbrook, Poway, Ramona, San Marcos, Valley Center, Vista and Warner Springs. Students get to shop at Kohl's for new clothing and shoes, which is intended to boost their self confidence and school attendance. Each school district identifies students in need from the and reduced lunch program. Students in grades K-1 receive \$100, grades 2-5 get \$125 and grades 6-12, \$150. More than 60 Assistance League members volunteer to be personal shoppers, helping families find bargains and appropriate sizes for each child. From left: Assistance League volunteers (before social-distancing restrictions) Nancy Endress, Ellen Oddone and Judy Davis, chairman of Operation School Bell. Visit assistanceleague.org/inland-north-county.

rounding neighborhood. Visit sdrvc.org/03-23-2020onlineeducationresources.pdf.

#### OCEANSIDE

## **Donation Weeks set** for April postponed

Waste Management is taking steps to protect the health and safety of its employees and customers. Oceanside Donation Weeks, which was slated for early April, has been postponed until further notice. Visit home.wm.com/oceanside.

### **Food offered to** veterans April 10

The American Legion Post 760 and Veterans Association of North County plan to have fresh fruits and vegetables and canned goods and sundries available from 1 to 2 p.m. April 10 to help veterans during the COVID-19 outbreak. The food will be distributed via a drive-thru (6-foot social distancing) or in some cases the food will be put into your trunk. Bring your own boxes or bags (none supplied). If diapers are needed, specify size. RSVP required at rick@vanc.me with the number of people in your family.

#### RANCHO SANTA FE **Village Church has** international following

The Village Church, which works with churches in 25 different countries through its mission partners, offers Sunday services online that have drawn a virtual attendance of folks around the world. Sunday services are released on Facebook and the church website, villagechurch.org, by 10 p.m. Saturday night. **Online Holy Week festivities** are slated starting April 5 with Palm Sunday, followed by a Maundy Thursday service with the Lord's Supper and Service of Darkness on April 9 and Easter on April 12. Visit villagechurch.org or call (858) 756-2441.

#### SAN MARCOS

### Free online palliative care courses offered

The California State University Shiley Institute for Palliative Care is offering 20 free online palliative care courses and resources to support health care clinicians on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic. The 20 courses cover critical skills to best care for patients and families affected by the coronavirus crisis. Topics include clinician communication, advance care planning. Visit csupalliativecare.org or call (760) 750-4006.

#### VALLEY CENTER

#### Museum offers info online, by phone

The Valley Center History Museum, which has closed indefinitely due to the coronavirus crisis, continues to provide local historical data to researchers, students and families seeking ancestral data who make inquiries via email or telephone. A volunteer is on-site to research data and respond. The April tour of historic Rancho Guejito, open to members of the museum and Historical Society, may be rescheduled for fall. To contact the museum, email museum@vchistory.org or call (760) 749-2993. Museum staff is also available by visiting vchistory.org and clicking the contact button.

#### VISTA

### Alta Vista Botanical Gardens open for walks

The Earth Day Festival at Alta Vista Botanical Gardens scheduled for April 25 has been canceled. The gardens are open for walks with social distancing of 6 feet. The gardens' Fall Fun Festival is slated for Oct. 10. Visit altavistagardens.org

### Nonprofit offers nature programs for home

Although the San Dieguito River Valley Conser-

PET OF THE WEEK

Animal: Queenie, 1-year-old,

9-pound female domestic

shorthair cat with a brown

Where: Rancho Coastal Hu-

mane Society, 389 Requeza

Rancho Coastal Humane

Society is temporarily closed

because of COVID-19, but it is

still taking care of the pets at

the shelter and in foster care.

When the shelter reopens, all

of these pets will need homes.

For now, families can visit the

available pets, and download

dogs, cats and rabbits. The

Adoptions, Humane Educa-

their adoption applications for

shelter's website, see the

tabby coat.

St., Encinitas.

vancy's programs are postponed due to COVID-19, the nonprofit wants to keep the public in touch with nature

and has developed an online resource document. The free document includes several age-appropriate links so

to serve as a safety net for the

pets of domestic violence

victims, seniors, veterans,

ilies in crisis.

active-duty military and fam-

Adoption fee: \$100, including

microchip registration. Adop-

tion fee includes spay/neuter

and up-to-date vaccinations.

Profile: Queenie loves to sit

and watch over everything in

each family member can continue to learn, explore, and have fun from the comfort of their home or sur-

## FOOD ASSISTANCE

Agencies throughout the county are offering food assistance. Here are some of them:

Feeding San Diego will launch a weekly drive-thru food distribution in Ramona. First Congregational Church of Ramona (404 Eighth St.) will host the distribution at 1:30 p.m. every Friday. Feeding San Diego is increasing the food supplied at its 10 Feeding East County rural mobile pantry distributions

The San Diego Food Bank is providing food to 500 nonprofits countywide with feeding programs, and distributes food through 200 direct monthly food distributions throughout the county Call (866) 350-FOOD (3663) from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays to find a site near you.

Feeding San Diego has created a map of food distribution locations around the county. Text "food" or "comida" to 877-877 to find the nearest site, or call 211 to talk to a resource specialist. Email info@feedingsandiego.org or call

#### Fallbrook High School Teachers Association.

(858) 452-3663.

Feeding San Diego food distribution

· Escondido Community Child Devel-

a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through

opment Center, 819 W. Ninth Ave., 6:30

• Foundry Food Pantry, 120 N. Ash St.,

11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday; 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, (442) 777-2081.

Interfaith Community Services, 550

second and fourth Tuesday and Friday,

W. Washington Ave., Suite B., every

Ruth Anointed World Ministries

Escondido, 777 W. Felicita Ave., 11:30

a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Friday, 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday, (760) 580-0835.

• Salvation Army Escondido, 1301 Las

**COVID-19 Emergency Food Distribu-**

tion Sites: Find listings of emergency

Villas Way, 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, (760) 745-8616.

sites in Escondido include

Friday, (760) 839-9361.

(760) 489-6380.

The Solana Beach School District

#### VALLECITOS

The Vallecitos School District board met Tuesday and approved a provisional appointment as the process to fill a vacant board seat. Applications are requested from the community and are available at vallecitossd.net: they are due at 3 p.m. April 8. They can be faxed to (760) 728-7712.

#### VISTA

The Vista Unified School District board held a special meeting Thursday and approved an extension to school closures. The district had planned to reopen schools April 6, but instead voted to extend the school closings "until further notice with reopening pending positive health and safety reports from the state and county authorities."

laura.groch@sduniontribune.com

RANCHO BERNARDO **Community church** offers online services

Rancho Bernardo Community Presbyterian Church is now providing live worship viewing at 10 a.m. Sundays. The video link is at facebook.com/rbcpc. Visit rbcommunity.org.

#### LINDA MCINTOSH • U-T

To submit photos of events that have happened recently, please email northcounty@sduniontribune.com. Include the names of those in the photo from left to right.

food distributions at feedingsandiego.org/coronavirus: North Inland: Community Food

Connection at Trinity Church, 14047 Twin Peaks Road, Poway; open 3 to 6 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. In need of donations and drivers. Call (858) 751-4613, email tcfconnection@gmail.com.

 North Coastal: Brother Benno Foundation, 3260 Production Ave., Oceanside; sack lunch distribution from 6:30 to 10 a.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to noon Saturday. Food box/food bag distribution to guests from 6:30 to 11 a.m. Monday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to noon Saturday. Thursday-only drive-thru food bag distribution (in partnership with Feeding San Diego) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call (760) 439-1244.

Serving Seniors: Free meals from the nonprofit Serving Seniors are available to anyone ages 60 and older, regardless of income. Call (619) 235-6572 or email meals@servingseniors.org.

laura.groch@sduniontribune.com

## RESULTS

## **CITY COUNCILS**

#### CARLSBAD

The Carlsbad City Council met via teleconference Tuesday evening and approved its 2019 Housing Element Annual Progress Report. The council also agreed to form an ad hoc committee with the Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce and the Carlsbad Village Association to consider economic stimulus for the community's businesses. Peter Merz was appointed to the Planning Commission.

#### DEL MAR

The Del Mar City Council canceled its meeting scheduled for March 23. **ENCINITAS** 

The Encinitas City Council canceled its meeting scheduled for March 25.

### **ESCONDIDO**

The Escondido City Council met Wednesday via teleconference to hold a hearing and approve new priorities for the 2020-2024 five-year consolidated plan for Community Development Block Grant funds, HOME Investment Partnership funds, and Emergency Solutions Grant funds. The council

decided to conduct an application/ interview process and appoint a council member from District 2 by May 8, rather than hold a special election. Deadline is 5 p.m. April 15 to submit applications to the Escondido City Clerk. The council will interview applicants at a special meeting on April 22. The council also voted to extend the terms of all incumbents on the Library Board, Planning Commission, Public Art Commission, Building Appeals and Advisory Commission, Historic Preservation Commission and the Transporta tion and Community Safety Commis-sion until June 29. Their terms were set to expire on March 31.

#### **OCEANSIDE**

The Oceanside City Council met in closed session via teleconference Wednesday to discuss labor negotiations. In regular session, the council reviewed its second-quarter financial report, heard a report on the status of the COVID-19 emergency, and voted to give extra financial support to expand meal programs to anyone in need. The council decided to submit an ordinance on North River Farms to voters in the Nov. 3 election as the result of a petition for a referendum. A hearing was held and the council approved the 2020-21 annual and 2020-2025 five-year Public Housing Agency Plan

Hearings were continued on the draft 2020-2025 consolidated plan for Housing and Community Development and on permits for a non-storefront medical cannabis delivery facility at 2935 San Luis Rey Road. A discussion of actions needed for the development of an affordable housing project on Greenbrier Drive and Apple Street was continued. An ordinance to change zoning for Sandpiper Villa, a 94-bed assisted-living facility for the elderly at Dixie and Grace streets, was approved. The council also met in special session on Thursday and approved a twomonth ban on residential and commercial evictions. Mayor Peter Weiss called for the meeting after the governor's executive order that authorizes local governments to pause evictions for renters through May 31.

#### SAN MARCOS

The San Marcos City Council met via teleconference Tuesday and approved an ordinance enacting a temporary moratorium on evictions for residential and commercial tenants for nonpayment of rent because of COVID-19. The council also approved a resolution establishing a COVID-19 Business Sustainability Program. The program will set aside up to \$3 million of the city's general fund reserves for a short-term business loan program

#### SOLANA BEACH

VISTA

## its meeting scheduled for March 25.

The Solana Beach City Council canceled

#### SOLANA BEACH

board met in special session Thursday and approved a declaration of emergency to allow the superintendent to respond immediately to situations.

AGENDAS

## **CITY COUNCILS**

CARLSBAD

Carlsbad is seeking resident volunteers to fill several commission and committee vacancies. Find applications at carlsbadca.gov.

#### DEL MAR

The 22nd District Agricultural Association is polling people on their experiences at the Del Mar Fairgrounds as it prepares a strategic plan for the property. Complete the questionnaire at bit.ly/2F6fE86.

#### **ENCINITAS**

The Encinitas City Council has canceled its meeting scheduled for April 8.

#### ESCONDIDO

The Escondido City Council will not meet on Wednesday as regularly scheduled.

#### OCEANSIDE

The Oceanside City Council is scheduled to meet at 2 p.m. Wednesday in council chambers, 300 N. Coast Highway, to interview candidates for the Planning Commission.

laura.groch@sduniontribune.com

## The Vista City Council met via teleconference on Tuesday. Council members heard a presentation on how staff is continuing to provide services to the community during the COVID-19 crisis.

businesses that are open

The Fallbrook Union High School

DEL MAR The Del Mar Union School District

for March 25.

FALLBROOK

The city is tracking COVID-19-related expenses in the hope of reimbursement from the state or federal government. Residents are also encouraged to visit downtownvista.org/takeout to patronize

## SCHOOL DISTRICTS

board canceled its meeting scheduled

District board met Monday via telecon-

emergency declaration for the district,

cerns. The board also reviewed opening

ference in closed session to discuss

litigation and personnel. In regular

which allows the superintendent to

immediately respond to safety con-

contract proposals to and from the

session, the board approved an

emailed to mkoeppen@vallecitossd.net, mailed to the office at 5211 Fifth St., Rainbow, CA 92028, or

