

produce, and one of the largest selections of craft beers. To stay up to date on the latest happenings, join their mailing list. Whether you have been a loyal customer for years or are discovering them for the first time, you will quickly see why they've become a Readers' Choice favorite. Their commitment to quality and customer satisfaction makes them a standout destination for all your grocery needs.

6902 La Jolla Blvd., La Jolla
858-999-0358 | valleyfarmmarkets.com

Best Grocery Store

Pavilions

Pavilions in La Jolla offers a premium grocery experience with a wide selection of fresh produce, gourmet foods, and everyday essentials. Known for quality products and friendly service, the store features an extensive deli, bakery, and prepared foods section, plus a variety of organic and health-conscious options to fit every lifestyle. Visit Pavilions for all your grocery needs and enjoy a top-notch shopping experience.

7544 Girard Ave., La Jolla
858-454-2620 | local.pavilions.com

Best Grocery Store (Specialty)

Valley Farm Market

(See listing under Best Gourmet Meat/Butcher Shop)

Best Hair Salon

Belle Sirène Salon

Belle Sirène is built on uncompromising quality, open communication, and an exceptional experience from beginning to end, with a touch of Hollywood glamour. Their core focus is to build trust with every client before evolving their look. They prioritize understanding their customers' needs and take the time to establish a clear objec-

tive before starting any service. The passionate team of artists at Belle Sirène cares deeply about their clients, ensuring their time there is unique and memorable.

7923 Girard Ave.
858-454-1607 | bellesirenesalon.com

Best Handyman

Handyman of La Jolla & Del Mar

With over 30 years of experience in construction, remodeling, and handyman services, Handyman of La Jolla & Del Mar offers reliable, clean, and quiet service. Whether you need interior or exterior work, or a bit of both, they are here to help. From remodeling and repairs to general maintenance for homes and condos, Handyman of La Jolla & Del Mar can handle it all. Trust their expertise for quality workmanship and exceptional service.

7514 Girard Ave, La Jolla
858-459-3860 | handymanofjolladelmar.com

Best Hardware Store

Meanley & Son Hardware

Meanley & Son has been a staple of the La Jolla community for more than six decades, with roots tracing back to 1948, when Nacky Scripps Meanley, husband Tom and son William established the store. They carry gourmet cookware, paint, portable appliances, giftware, light bulbs, tools, electrical and plumbing fittings, cleaning and gardening supplies, and all the widgets, fasteners, glues, and what-chamacallits you can imagine. Meanley and Son joined the Ace Hardware co-op in 1997, which enables them to keep prices low while still offering hometown service.

7756 Girard Ave.
858-454-4288 | meanleyhardware.com



CROWN POINT CLIPPERS, INC.

FREE ESTIMATES!

THANK YOU
FOR VOTING US:
BEST LANDSCAPER AND
BEST TREE TRIMMING



- FINE PRUNING & THINNING
- ARTISTIC TREE LACING
- TREE & STUMP REMOVAL

SERVING THE LA JOLLA AREA FOR 40 YEARS

(858)270-1742

CROWNPOINTCLIPPERS@GMAIL.COM

Fully licensed and insured. Lic# 723867



Thank You
La Jolla!



Best Of La Jolla
Best Architect | Gold
2026

7757 Girard Avenue
La Jolla, California | 858.459.0805
benton-benton.com



Best Health Club
Life Time La Jolla
 Experience luxury at La Jolla Life Time. Located on the corner of Wall Street and Herschel Avenue. This 46,000-square-foot athletic resort features an expansive workout floor, group fitness studios, saunas, steam rooms, a full-service spa, and a cafe. Dedicated to healthy living, it offers everything you need for a balanced lifestyle.
 1055 Wall St.
 858-410-7100 | lifetimerlife



Best Health Food/Nutrition Store
Trader Joe's
 Trader Joe's carries fresh produce, pantry staples, prepared foods, snacks and specialty products under its own label and other brands. The La Jolla location offers the chain's familiar mix of everyday groceries and seasonal items.
 8657 Villa La Jolla Drive
 858-546-8629 | traderjoes.com

Best Holistic Center
Amorah Kelly at Wonderworks Healing Arts
 (See listing under Best Acupuncture)

Best Holistic Medicine

Amorah Kelly at Wonderworks Healing Arts
 (See listing under Best Acupuncture)

Best Hotel
La Valencia

Coined "The Pink Lady," La Valencia Hotel has Old World charm and a new outlook, big picture windows and attention to the smallest detail. More than a La Jolla hotel, it's an icon, having hosted celebrities, celebrations, reunions and romantic getaways since 1926. Just steps from miles of stunning coastline, world-class museums, shopping and galleries, it's the perfect blend of location and recreation. The beachfront hotel's Mediterranean-influenced architecture and décor evoke colossal charm and are truly one of a kind.

1132 Prospect St.
 858-454-0771 | lavalencia.com

Best Insurance Agent
Pete Blasi at My Senior Health Plan

Pete Blasi and My Senior Health Plan help clients understand Medicare Advantage, Medicare Supplement and prescription-drug coverage. The firm's licensed advisers provide education and enrollment guidance at no cost to beneficiaries.

875 Prospect St., Suite 201

Best Integrative Medicine Practice
Pacific Pearl
 (See listing under Best Doctor)

Best Interior Designer
AGK Design Studio
 AGK Design Studio creates residential and commercial interiors with an emphasis on relaxed, coastal-modern design. The firm works with clients on space planning, furnishings, finishes and full-home projects.

1298 Prospect St., Suite 1W
 858-551-8752 | agkdesignstudio.com

Best Jewelry Design & Repair
Bower's Jewelers

Since 1945, Bowers is La Jolla's oldest family-operated jewelry store. Over the years, the staff has picked up expertise on customers' tastes—that's why it fills a variety of custom orders and also stocks silver, crystal, porcelain and items such as cigarette lighters, candlesticks, platters and flatware. You'll find something every time for that hard-to-buy-for person in your life! Stop in and see why they were voted Best Jewelry Store.

7860 Girard Ave
 858-459-3678 | bowersjewelers.com

WITH GRATITUDE

Thank You, La Jolla, For Voting for Us!

Best of La Jolla, 2026 – Accounting Category

★ GOLD WINNER ★

A Different Kind of CPA Firm

Architect a Strategy. File with Precision. Live Your Best Life.

Personalized Service · Unhurried Attention · Fixed Fees

Natalie C. Papagni, CPA — Tax, Planning & Advisory Services
 CPA & Tax Strategist for Individuals & High-Income Earners, Owner-Entrepreneurs and Privately-Held Businesses that Expect and Deserve More

4275 Executive Square, Suite 200 • La Jolla, CA 92037
 (858) 754-8277 • service@lajollataxcpa.com • lajollataxcpa.com

Voted Best Landscaper

Best of LA JOLLA 2026

REVOLUTION
 Landscape Design + Build
 www.revolutionlandscape.com

Jeff Robbins
 Landscape Contractor
 619.894.9046

Best Jewelry Store

Diamonds on the Rock

Diamonds on the Rock specializes in engagement rings, wedding bands, custom designs and fine jewelry. Its team helps clients select or create pieces suited to their style and budget.

5630 La Jolla Blvd.
858-750-2190 | diamondsontherock.com

Best Landscaper

Crown Point Clippers

Crown Point Clippers provides tree care, pruning, removal, stump grinding, lot clearing and view-enhancement services. The family-owned La Jolla company has served the San Diego area since 1979.

1382 Rodeo Drive, La Jolla
858-270-1742 | crownpointclippers.com

Best Liquor Store

Dick's Liquor

Dick's Liquor is a neighborhood shop offering beer, wine, spirits, mixers and convenience items. The longtime La Jolla business provides a broad selection in an easy-to-shop local setting.

737 Pearl St.
858-454-0321 | dicksliquorlajolla.com

Best Martial Arts

PTC Boxing Gym

Best Men's Apparel

Ascot Shop

Established in 1950, the Ascot Shop is a high-end men's clothing boutique offering brand-name apparel in both classic and modern styles. Located at the same charming spot with its iconic double Dutch front doors, the Ascot Shop has grown from a traditional men's haberdashery into a beloved local institution. Committed to quality and style, this boutique continues to serve discerning customers seeking the best in men's fashion.

7750 Girard Ave.
858-454-4222 | ascotshop.com

Best Men's Apparel (formal)

Ascot Shop

(See listing under Best Men's Apparel)

Best Mortgage Agent

Kenny Simpson

Kenny Simpson and the Simpson Team assist homebuyers and property investors with conventional, jumbo, FHA, VA and investment-property loans. The team emphasizes clear guidance and loan options tailored to each borrower.

7855 Ivanhoe Ave., Suite 300
619-302-2020 | simpson-team.com

Best Membership Organization

La Jolla Village Merchants Association

The La Jolla Village Merchants Association supports local businesses through marketing, advocacy, events and community programs. The organization also promotes La Jolla Village as a destination for shopping, dining and services.

7734 Herschel Ave., Suite C
858-230-2725 | lajollabythesea.com

Best Massage

SD Therapy Massage & Bodywork

SD Therapy Massage & Bodywork offers therapeutic, sports and deep-tissue massage, along with cupping and lymphatic-drainage services. Treatments focus on pain relief, recovery and improved movement.

7301 Girard Ave., P1
619-880-1662 | sdtherapy.net





Thank you
for voting us
GOLD for
Best Dog Grooming
in La Jolla!



7443 La Jolla Blvd. | 619-871-5849
leftcoastgrooming.com
@leftcoastgrooming



Proudly Serving San Diego for Over 41 Years CA Lic.# 387080

BEST ELECTRICIAN

Thank you La Jolla for voting us as
your favorite electrician 17 years in a row!



Residential • Commercial • Home Theatre • Lighting • Service Upgrade

(858) 565-7897 wcesolutions@yahoo.com
www.wcesolutions.com



Skincare & Sugaring In
The Heart of La Jolla

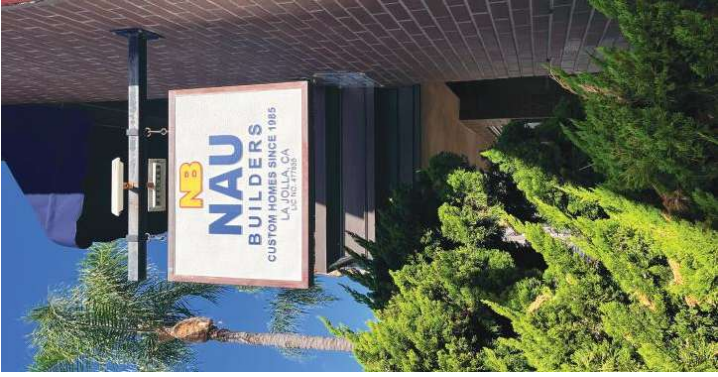
Thank you
for voting us
Best Day Spa
in La Jolla!

**Best of
LA JOLLA
2026**
LA JOLLA VILLAGE NEWS



Hillary Cope
Owner & Licensed Esthetician

7760 Fay Ave, Suite E
La Jolla, CA 92037
(619) 535-1653
By appointment only
www.colibriskinsd.com



Best Nail Salon Nancy's Nails

Nancy's Nails offers manicures, pedicures, gel, acrylic and dipping-powder services in a relaxed neighborhood salon. The team provides both classic nail care and detailed custom designs.

721 Pearl St.
858-454-2853 | nancynailspajxn.com

Best Naturopathic Doctor Pacific Pearl

(See listing under Best Doctor)

Best Optometrist

Eyecare at the Cove Optometry
Eyecare at the Cove Optometry provides comprehensive eye examinations, contact-lens fittings and treatment for a range of vision and eye-health needs. The practice also carries prescription eyewear and sunglasses.

1200 Prospect St., Suite 102
858-454-5661 | eyecareatthecove.com

Best Orthodontist

Pal Orthodontics of La Jolla
Pal Orthodontics is a boutique, family-owned practice offering braces, Invisalign, retainers and digital scanning for children and adults. Dr. Arvin Pal creates individualized treatment plans in a welcoming office setting.

7301 Girard Ave., Suite 200
858-456-8080 | palorthodontics.com

Best Painter

Chism Brothers Painting

Since its inception, Chism Brothers has strived to become the leading residential painting company in La Jolla by consistently providing exceptional quality and dependable service. They're not just about painting — they are about people. They value clients, put employees first and invest in serving the community. Thank you for voting Chism Brothers Painting as your area leader in painting.

7958 Convo Court, San Diego
858-454-3850 | chismbrothers.com

Best Painting Supplies

Meanley & Son Hardware

(See listing under Best Hardware Store)

Best Personal Trainer

Balanced Fitness & Health

Balanced Fitness and Health is a community gym driven by you. Their atmosphere and memberships are tailored to help you stay focused and achieve your best results. Real goals and real results.

7680 Girard Ave., Suite 200
858-456-2595 | balancedfitnesshealth.com

Best Pet Hospital

Bird Rock Animal Hospital

Bird Rock Animal Hospital is a full-service veterinary practice providing wellness care, diagnostics, dentistry, surgery and treatment for illnesses and injuries. Its team emphasizes individualized care in a friendly neighborhood setting.

5588 La Jolla Blvd.
858-459-3279 | birdrockah.com

Best Pet Sitting /Boarding

DogZenergy

DogZenergy offers complete canine care. More than a dog-walking service, DogZenergy also organizes exercise play groups and a positive-reinforcement dog training program to change your dog's life. Your dog will be physically and mentally exercised so that they can be the best dog they can be. This place can turn your out-of-control dog into a calm, zen dog. They provide in-home overnight pet sitting, so your dog can stay in the comfort of their own home.

7514 Girard Ave
858-349-5700 | dogzenergy.com

Best Pet Store

Decker's Dog + Cat

Decker's Dog + Cat carries pet food, treats, toys, beds and supplies selected for dogs and cats. The independent shop emphasizes quality products and knowledgeable service for

Blash
STUDIO

- Lash Lifts
- Eyelash Extensions
- Spray Tanning
- Brow Lamination

Monday - Friday: 8.00 AM - 7.00 PM
Saturday: 9.00 AM - 12.00 PM
(858) 967-2130
7730 Herschel Ave Suite L, La Jolla 92037
@blashstudio

Thank you for voting us **Best of La Jolla 2026** Best Tanning Salon in La Jolla!

Thank You for Voting me
Best Massage In La Jolla!
Equanimity Massage
by Connie Youngblood CMTTC #8904

Massage Therapy
Medium
7752 Fay Ave. Ste. D
619-993-7909
mediumexperience.com

NAU BUILDERS
LIC NO. 477655
CUSTOM HOMES | REMODELING

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF BUILDING IN LA JOLLA

La Jolla Village News BEST OF LA JOLLA 2026 SILVER CONTRACTOR

Thank you to our clients, employees, and community for 40 incredible years.
Nau Builders, Inc. 7529 Draper Ave Ste A La Jolla

Thank you
La Jolla
for your
support!

ROSS THIELE & SON
TIMELESS INTERIOR DESIGN SINCE 1932

local pet owners.
7928 Ivanhoe Ave.
858-886-7899 | deckersdogandcat.com

Best Pharmacy

CortexRx
 CortexRx is an independent community pharmacy offering prescriptions, vaccinations, supplements and other wellness products. The pharmacy provides personalized service and delivery options for customers in La Jolla and beyond.

7301 Girard Ave., Suite 100
858-246-6918 | cortexrx.com

Best Pilates

SOULution Pilates
 SOULution Pilates San Diego is passionately committed to offering inspiring, attentive and creative Pilates sessions. SOULution Pilates San Diego is an upscale boutique studio in a unique and peaceful setting.

8813 Villa La Jolla Drive, Suite 2000A
858-337-3921 | soulutionpilates.com

Best Place To Buy Jeans

Ralph Lauren

Ralph Lauren offers premium men's and women's clothing, including denim, sportswear, accessories and signature Polo styles. The Girard Avenue store brings the brand's classic American aesthetic to La Jolla.

7830 Girard Ave.
858-459-0554 | ralphlauren.com

Best Plumber

Erling Rohde Plumbing

Erling Rohde Plumbing is a family-owned business that has been serving La Jolla for over 100 years. Its specialties include toilet, faucet and pipe repair and replacement; backflow protection; underground water and gas leaks; Ray-Pak boiler repair; solar hot water systems; and water heaters.

5666 La Jolla Blvd #122, La Jolla
858-454-4258 | rohdeplumbing.com

Best Preschool

Gilipse
 Recognizing that children are naturally creative problem solvers, Gillispie's Early Childhood program uses a Reggio-inspired approach, and elementary grade levels use well-researched programs and strategies that help students move past the "How?" to the "Why?" At Gillispie, academic rigor is defined by work that demands independent, higher-level thinking.

7380 Girard Ave.
858-459-3773 | gillispie.org

Best Printer

Sweet Paper
 (See listing under Best Boutique)

Best Private School

The Bishop's School

The Bishop's School is an academic community pursuing intellectual, artistic and athletic excellence in the context of the Episcopal tradition.

7607 La Jolla Blvd.
858-459-4021 | bishops.com

Best Remodeling Company

GDC Construction Inc.

GDC is a family-owned business headed by Pancho Devhurst, a fourth-generation La Jolla builder. GDC appreciates serving the La Jolla community through both fine craftsmanship and decades of community service. GDC's commitment to serving La Jolla remains a cornerstone of GDC Construction values.

1031 Silverado St.
858-551-5222 | gdcconstruction.com

Best Resale Shop

Boulevard La Jolla

Boulevard La Jolla is a resale boutique offering a rotating selection of designer clothing, shoes, handbags and accessories. Shoppers can find gently used luxury and contemporary pieces in the heart of the Village.

7458 Girard Ave.
619-665-5645 | boulevardlajolla.com



**GRUNOW
 PREMIER
 CONSTRUCTION**
—celebrating 35 years of tradition—

**BEST
 Contractor
 Construction**

GRUNOW PREMIER, INC.

*Thank you
 La Jolla for voting us
 Best Contractor
 in La Jolla!*



LA JOLLA VILLAGE NEWS



858.459.8742

**1121 Torrey Pines Rd,
 La Jolla, CA 92037**

www.grunowpremier.com



Best Senior Care

Chateau La Jolla

Chateau La Jolla is a coastal retirement community offering independent living with dining, housekeeping, transportation, activities and other services. Its location places residents close to La Jolla's shops, restaurants and shoreline.

233 Prospect St.
858-459-4451 | chateaulajolla.com |

Best Senior Living

White Sands La Jolla

As California's only beachfront continuing care retirement community, White Sands La Jolla offers an active lifestyle with welcoming residents. Take in concerts, water aerobics classes or trips to nearby musical and stage performances.

7450 Olivetas Ave.
858-454-4201 | whitesandslajolla.com

Best Shipping

The UPS Store of Bird Rock

The UPS Store 0003 in Bird Rock offers a wide range of services including in-store and online printing, document finishing, mailboxes for all your mail and packages, notary services, packing, shipping, and freight services.

5580 La Jolla Blvd.
858-459-4077 | theupsstore.com

Best Shoe Store

Rangoni Firenze

Rangoni Firenze Shoes offers a unique European vibe, specializing in handcrafted shoes from Florence, Italy, made in their own Amalfi Factory. This charming store also features a fine selection of leather handbags by Barbara Milano and Merci Marie, both crafted in Milan, Italy.

7870 Girard Ave.
858-454-5011 | ranganistore.com

Best Specialized Workout Fac.

The Perfect Workout

The Perfect Workout's La Jolla studio delivers efficient 20-minute slow-motion strength training with dedicated one-on-one personal trainers. Clients build strength, boost energy, lose weight, improve muscle tone and cardio health. Options include in-studio sessions or virtual training, private clean facilities, flexible schedules, and guaranteed results for all ages.

715 Pearl St.
858-729-9901 | theperfectworkout.com

Best Sporting Goods Store

Bird Rock Surf Shop

Bird Rock Surf Shop carries surfboards, wetsuits, apparel and beach accessories for local surfers and visitors. The neighborhood shop also offers knowledgeable advice for all skill

Best Swimsuits

Mitch's Surf Shop

(See listing under Best Surf Shop)

Best Tanning Salon

B Lash Studio

B Lash Studio offers beauty services designed to create a polished, customized look, including lash and tanning treatments. Clients can choose services suited to everyday wear or special occasions.

7730 Herschel Ave. Ste. I
858-967-2130 | blashstudio.com

Best Tattoo Parlor

Prospect Ink

Prospect Ink is a premium tattoo studio located in La Jolla, California, known for its clean, modern aesthetic and breathtaking ocean views. With convenient hours, walk-in options, and consultation services, Prospect Ink offers both artistry and comfort in a serene coastal setting.

1224 Prospect St., Suite 150
858-203-3447 | prospectinktattoos.com

Best Tourist Attraction

Birch Aquarium at Scripps

Birch Aquarium at Scripps is the public exploration center for the world-renowned Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UC



LA JOLLA VILLAGE NEWS

Thank You La Jolla for voting us
your favorite hotel in La Jolla. ☀️
Come for the Sunshine.
Stay for the Service. 😊

858-459-4461

Wish you were here...

7830 Fay Avenue, La Jolla
www.innbytheseaatlajolla.com



Thank you for voting
Chrism Bros. Painting
2026 Best of La Jolla
for Best Painter.

We would like to thank you, our community, for your continued trust over the years, and look forward to serving you in 2026 and 2027



Charvester & Craftsmanship Since 1982

chismbros.com • (858) 454-3850
CA Lic. 491884

Thank you for voting us **Gold for Best Martial Arts in La Jolla!**



ALL FITNESS LEVELS
WELCOMED

Ready to train like a fighter?

Step into the ring.
Build discipline,
strength, and real
skills—earned
through sweat,
not shortcuts. No
gimmicks. No ego.
Just work.



5755 La Jolla Blvd, La Jolla, CA 92037
(858) 330-2524
pacifictrainingcenter.com

San Diego. Perched on a bluff overlooking the Pacific Ocean, Birch Aquarium features more than 60 habitats showcasing a diverse range of fishes and invertebrates.

2300 Expedition Way, La Jolla
858-534-3474 | aquarium.ucsd.edu

Best Travel Agency

Chayet Travel Network

The Chayet Travel Network will go the extra mile to make travel planning as easy and stress-free as possible. They are completely committed to ensuring clients consistently enjoy excellent value and memorable travel adventures.

7580 Fay Ave., Suite 101
858-459-8000 | chayettravel.com

Best Tree Trimming

Crown Point Clippers

(See listing under Best Landscaper)

Best Tutoring

Mathnasium of La Jolla

Mathnasium instructors use a unique assessment process to determine, with great accuracy, exactly what each child knows and what they need to learn. Next, they design a customized learning plan for teaching the concepts the student needs to master. They continually check progress along the way to make sure kids truly understand and retain the concepts taught.

915 Pearl St., Suite B.
858-454-6284 | mathnasium.com/la-jolla

Best Urgent Care

Urgent Care of La Jolla

Urgent Care La Jolla is a convenient, locally owned and operated clinic for family medicine and urgent care. They provide minor emergency care for fever, sprains, cuts, colds, flu-like symptoms, sore throats, asthma, and many other ailments.

7634 Girard Ave., Suite J
858-255-8325 | urgentcarelajolla.com

Best Venue

La Valencia

(See listing under Best Hotel)

Best Veterinarian

Bird Rock Animal Hospital

(See listing under Best Pet Hospital)

Best Web Design

Brass Ring Multimedia

Brass Ring Multimedia provides website design, development, branding and digital marketing services. The firm builds customized online experiences for businesses and organizations across a range of industries.

brassringmultimedia.com

Best Weight Loss

Pacific Pearl

(See listing under Best Doctor)

Best Wellness Center

Amorah Kelly at

Wonderworks Healing Arts

(See listing under Best Acupuncture)

Best Women's Apparel

Faherty Brand La Jolla

Faherty offers women's clothing inspired by relaxed coastal living, including denim, dresses, sweaters and everyday essentials. The brand emphasizes soft fabrics, versatile designs and responsibly sourced materials.

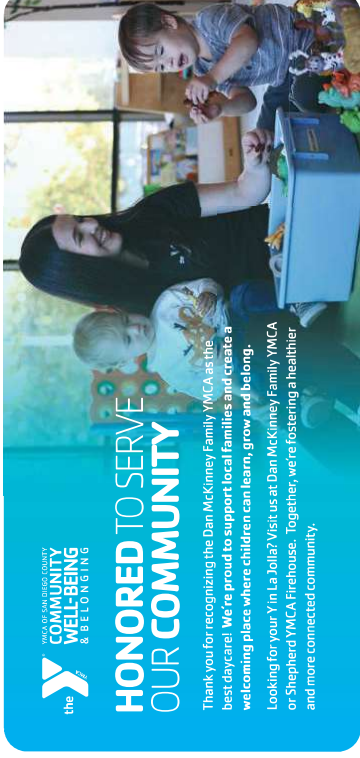
7845 Girard Ave.
858-352-6699 | fahertybrand.com

Best Yoga

Prana Yoga Center

Prana Yoga Center, originally founded in 2001 by Gerhard & Alexandra Gessner, is now owned by the Quality Longevity Foundation, a 501(c) non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing health and longevity. Gerhard Gessner, E-RYT, M.A., a longtime La Jolla resident and Yoga teacher with over 35 years of experience, realized his dream of sharing his passion for Yoga by founding PRANA – a serene, light-filled sanctuary in downtown La Jolla, just steps from the Pacific Ocean. Prana has established one of the most reputable and comprehensive teacher training programs in San Diego and Southern California, with over 500 alums who now teach in San Diego, across the US and internationally. Prana Yoga has been voted "Best Yoga Studio" by La Jolla Light and has won the "Readers' Choice Award" by La Jolla Village News for several years. With strong roots in the local community, Prana is known for its inclusive, non-dogmatic approach to Yoga, highly trained teachers and welcoming community – recognizing that each body is unique and everyone is welcome.

1041 Silverado St.
858-456-2806 | prana-yoga.com



the COMMUNITY WELL-BEING & BELONGING

HONORED TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITY

Thank you for recognizing the Dan McKinney Family YMCA as the best daycare! We're proud to support local families and create a welcoming place where children can learn, grow and belong.

Looking for your Yin La Jolla? Visit us at Dan McKinney Family YMCA or Shepherd YMCA Firehouse. Together, we're fostering a healthier and more connected community.

COPY COVE of La Jolla

Copy Cove thanks all of our friends, customers and supporters for this honor. We appreciate your patronage over the last 46 years!

www.CopyCove.com

701 Pearl St. • La Jolla • 858-456-2444



LA JOLLA VILLAGE NEWS

BEST PRINTER
17 STRAIGHT YEARS



8TH HARMONY
Center for Wellbeing

Best of LA JOLLA 2026
LA JOLLA VILLAGE NEWS

THANK YOU LA JOLLA!

We're honored to be voted
2026 Silver Winner
Best Wellness Center

Love Being Alive™
858-880-0668
8thharmony.com



Nancy's NAILS
La Jolla Salon and Day Spa

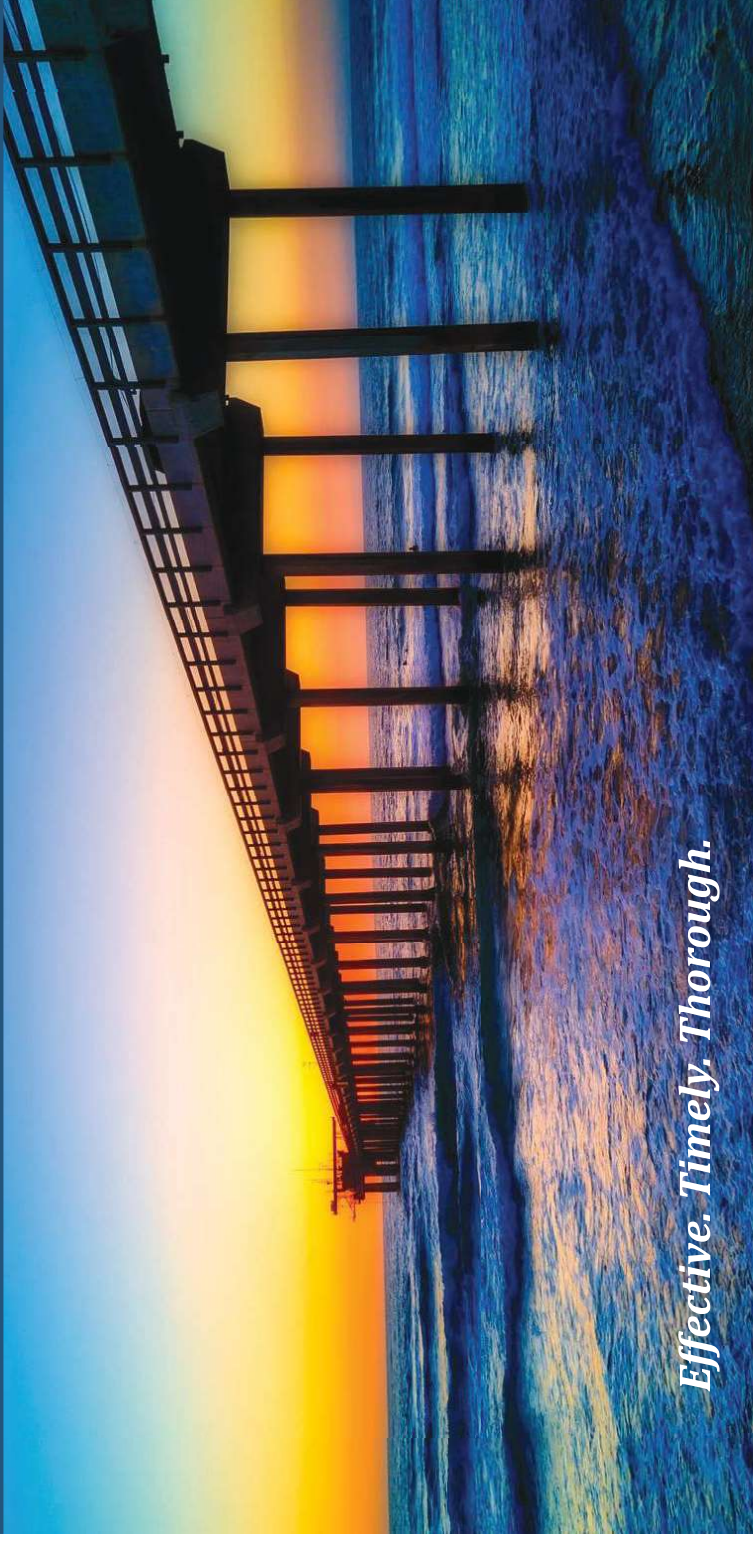
THANK YOU for voting us
ONE OF LA JOLLA'S BEST NAIL SALONS

20% OFF EYELASHES EXTENSIONS
In Appreciation

10% OFF ANY OTHER SERVICE (ex. 12/25/26 w/coupon)
Our Stylists use organic products.
We offer artificial nails, manicures, pedicures, facial waxing and more!

THINK GREEN! Let our gracious Staff take care of all your skin and nail needs!
721 Pearl St., La Jolla • (858) 454-2853 nancysnailsajolla.com

*Thank you La Jolla Village News readers
for the confidence you expressed in voting
Mark A. Krasner, CPA, ESQ. – Best Attorney for 18 Consecutive Years*



Effective. Timely. Thorough.



BLANCHARD
KRASNER &
FRENCH

www.bkflaw.com



LA JOLLA VILLAGE NEWS

Blanchard Krasner & French looks forward to continuing to assist with your legal needs

800 Silverado St, 2nd Floor La Jolla, CA 92037 858.551.2440

Mahj Theory Collective features open play, lessons, and leagues

By Dave Schwab
TIMES OF SAN DIEGO

LA JOLLA — For those searching for a fun board game to play, there's an exotic one now offered daily in La Jolla.

Mahj Theory Collective, an American Mahjong studio and boutique in La Plaza at 7863 Girard Ave., Suite 109, features open play, lessons, leagues, tournaments, events, and curated Mah Jongg accessories.

The collective is a social club founded by mother-daughter duo Deb and Sam Solomon of La Jolla. The pair have created a welcoming, community focused space for players of all levels in a studio blending gameplay, instruction, retail, and social events in a refined atmosphere.

Mah Jongg is much more than a game, pointed out Deb about their new membership-based, walk in social club.

"The game is definitely about building community around relationships with the people playing," she said, noting her grandmother introduced her to the game. "This is now their home away from home."

Deb added there's another modern benefit to playing Mah Jongg socially.

"The best thing is you get away from your cell phones and concentrate on being with each other," she said. "It's more than sitting around and just playing."

Terms of membership at Mahj Theory are varied, with one special category created for those who don't expect to be regulars, but want the opportunity to drop-in and play any time.

"It's become pretty much an obsession for many people," joked Deb about how the game is catching on and drawing players, not only from San Diego County and Southern California but also from Arizona, Texas, Las Vegas and even Mexico.

Deb Solomon said Maj Jongg typically takes just 15 to 20 minutes to play, and most people who come in spend a couple of hours playing multiple games. She added Mahj Theory not only provides the venue to play but also offers training needed to understand and master the game.

"We offer 2 1/2-hour lessons multiple times every week where people learn all



Sam and Deb Solomon, owners of Mahj Theory Collective. (Photo by Jaime Dickerson Brown/J. Dixx Photography)

the basics and the rules as well as the strategies behind the game," Deb Solomon said, adding there's another instructional option where new players learn under the watchful eye of a game guide.

Mahj Theory Collective is the first American Mah Jongg social club in San Diego. There are nine Mah Jongg tables in the boutique studio open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. most days. After two months, collective membership is more than 55 and growing.

"Our youngest member is 24 and our oldest member is age 82," said Deb about players' age range.

After just two months, Deb and daughter Sam no longer view their mah jongg guests as merely patrons.

"We now consider them our friends, and we've been invited to play in their homes," she noted. "People have become super friends playing together, and they're now going on vacations together. Some people come in every single day. That's a huge reward for us."

For more information call 858-253-6788, email letsplay@mahjtheorycollective.com or visit mahjtheorycollective.com.

Thank you for voting us Gold for Best Thai in Pacific Beach!

LANNA
THAI RESTAURANT

4504 Mission Bay Dr
#18, San Diego,
CA 92109
858-274-8424
www.lannathaicuisine.com

Best of Beach & Bay Award Winner

Lifetime
Home Remodeling



858-379-0826

San Diego Masonry

PROFESSIONAL BRICK MASON SERVICES

- Quality Work
- Affordable Prices
- Reliable Service

- ✓ Brick Repair
- ✓ Brick Laying
- ✓ Chimney Repair
- ✓ Tuckpointing
- ✓ Stone Work
- ✓ Fireboxes / Firepits / Patios

FREE ESTIMATES

Call: (619) 593-4020
www.sandiegomasonry.com
Lic# 976438

La Jolla Vikings football: 'It's playoff football from here on'

By Ed Piper

SPECIAL FOR TIMES OF SAN DIEGO

LA JOLLA — La Jolla defensive coordinator Stephen Dixon and long-time assistant Chris Velez say the Vikings have to play with a "playoff mentality" to finish the season strong after a rough 2-4 start.

"It's a marathon, not a sprint," says Dixon, in his first year at La Jolla after serving as head coach at Escondido for the past three years.

"We're in a playoff mindset, thinking about making a deep run in the postseason playoffs next month," said Dixon.

Dixon's colleague Velez agrees. "Every game is a playoff for us," says Velez, who has been with the Vikings through the highs (2023 and 2020 Eastern League championships, the latter in a shortened season under COVID) and some of the lows over the past seven years.

Safety Bryson Grant, linebacker Sean Bannon, linebacker/running back Joseph Crudo, and linemen Zach Gergurich and

Travis McCarther have been some of the sparks for La Jolla on the defensive side during a tough schedule. Each player has lifted their teammates and helped show the way through wins against Scripps Ranch (42-29) and La Jolla Country Day (26-0) sprinkled among losses to four other opponents on the schedule.

Grant, a senior, was only recently activated at midseason due to his transfer status.

"[...]He] has been a leader vocally," according to Dixon. "He helps get the defense lined up on the back end."

Bannon led the team with 23 tackles through the first four games. "He helps get guys ready to rock," says the defensive coordinator.

Crudo, playing both ways, trailed Bannon with 21 tackles. On offense, he had 218 yards rushing on 39 carries, second to running back Kali Deberry (cq), who totaled 648 yards on 102 carries. Both carry a heavy load, running for bruising yardage, then turning around to make stops on defense.



Freshman Zakai Jackson returns a punt in the first quarter in a 42-29 win over Scripps Ranch on Oct. 2. (Photo by Ed Piper/Special for Times of San Diego)

"Crudo provides the spark, making big plays. Plus, he makes slash plays on defense," says Dixon. Senior defensive lineman Gergurich, known as "Snacks" by his teammates, who earned his nickname for the frequent healthy snacks he eats, is 6-foot-4-inch-tall, 245-pound frame, and holds down the defensive line up front. McCarther, a sophomore, provides some new energy, having moved up from the

JV/novice team this season. He weighs in at 290 pounds.

Down the stretch, after a tough non-league loss to highly-ranked powerhouse Cathedral Catholic, head coach Tyler Roach and the Vikings will finish their Eastern League schedule against Christian High, San Diego High, and rival University City. It will be a gauntlet that makes or breaks La Jolla, as the red-and-black qualify for the postseason playoffs no matter what, since all teams now make the playoffs according to their overall rankings on MaxPreps. Schools will be spread over six divisions by record and strength-of-schedule.

Roach, in his 10th year, hopes to have sophomore quarterback Ty Tortorice back after a concussion protocol in weeks 6-7-8 of the 11-week season, to go with junior transfer Brody Bukich, who is steadily finding his feet after a summer transfer from Mt. Carmel High. Bukich has completed 47 of 86 passes for 598 yards and four touchdowns at this writing. Tortorice is 47 for 69, 542 yards, and three TD's.

HOME SERVICE GUIDE

For information about our Home Service Guide, please contact us at advertising@timesofsandiego.com

BUILT RIGHT. BUILT TO LAST.

QUALITY CONCRETE. HONEST SERVICE. LOCAL COMPANY.

WE SPECIALIZE IN:

- DRIVEWAYS & WALKWAYS
- PATIOS & OUTDOOR SPACES
- PAVS & FOUNDATIONS
- STAMPED & DECORATIVE CONCRETE
- RETAINING WALLS

CALL OR TEXT TODAY!
(619) 571-1167

FREE ESTIMATES
Competitive Pricing
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
LIC #575480

San Diego

Lawnco

Lawn and Garden

Give us a call.
We want the job!

Call Gabriel
619-990-9350
Lic#883878

RENT-A-HUSBAND

Handyman with
30 years experience

Many Skills • Hourly or Bid

Prompt, Affordable, Professional Insured

Ask for Bob • 619-742-0446

Non-licensed

BILL HARPER PLUMBING & HANDYMAN

All Plumbing and New fixture installations Cash Discounts!

CALL BILL 619-224-0586

Lic #50404

Chuckie's Painting Company

(619) 795-9429

www.chuckiespainting.com

chuckgjir@att.net

CA Lic. #925325

CROWN POINT CLIPPERS, INC.

TREE SERVICE

FREE ESTIMATES!

- FINE PRUNING & THINNING
- ARTISTIC TREE LACING
- TREE & STUMP REMOVAL

SERVING THE LA JOLLA AREA FOR 40 YEARS

(858) 270-1742

CROWNPOINTCLIPPERS@GMAIL.COM

Fully Licensed and Insured. Lic# 723867

HANDYMAN SOLUTIONS

Drywall, Painting, Plumbing, Electrical, Fencing, Flooring, Concrete, Tree Service, Landscaping, Roofing, Hauling.

CALL TONY OR ALEX
619-305-4233

NEED TO LIST A CLASSIFIED AD?

For more information about our community classified section, contact advertising@timesofsandiego.com to learn more!

San Diego Wave owners propose stadium at Del Mar Fairgrounds

By Roman Aguilar
TIMES OF SAN DIEGO



DEL MAR — San Diego Wave FC could trade its shared home at Snapdragon Stadium for its own soccer venue under a proposal that would also bring a hotel, convention center and shopping to the Del Mar Fairgrounds.

The National Women's Soccer League team's owners have proposed building a 12,000- to 16,000-seat stadium on the southeastern portion of the 324-acre fairgrounds, with a projected opening in 2031, when the Wave's current lease at Snapdragon Stadium expires.

The project, called Del Mar Dreams, was presented Oct. 13 to the board of the 22nd District Agricultural Association, which operates the state-owned property.

Wave controlling owner Lauren Leichtman and her son, Zachary Leichtman-Levine, pitched the development as a chance to give women's professional soccer a dedicated home while turning portions of the fairgrounds into a year-round destination.

The proposal remains preliminary. The developers, including Wave ownership and Beverly Hills-based Eighty Eight Place Acquisitions, have not disclosed a total project cost. They are seeking a two-year exclusive negotiating period to study the site's feasibility.

In a statement provided to Times of San Diego, the club emphasized that its current stadium arrangement remains intact.

"San Diego Wave FC is proud to call Snapdragon Stadium home and remain committed to our long-term agreement and valued partnership with San Diego State University," the statement said.

"As we look toward the future of San Diego Wave FC, the concept shared with the 22nd District Agricultural Association represents an early exploration of what's possible. We look forward to continuing those conversations with the Fairgrounds board, the City of Del Mar, our fans, and the broader community."

WHY THE WAVE WANTS A NEW HOME

Since moving into the 35,000-seat Snapdragon Stadium in 2022, the Wave

A conceptual rendering of the proposed Del Mar Dreams development at the Del Mar Fairgrounds shows a 12,000- to 16,000-seat San Diego Wave FC stadium alongside a hotel, convention center, shops and restaurants.

(Image courtesy of Del Mar Dreams LLC)

have shared the venue with San Diego State football and, beginning in 2025, Major League Soccer's San Diego FC.

The Wave are fourth in line for scheduling priority, behind SDSU football, concerts and other special events, and San Diego FC. Leitchman-Levine, speaking to the fairgrounds board during its Oct. 3 meeting, described the order of priority as placing the Wave in the position of "something resembling a fourth-class citizen."

The Wave averaged a league-record 20,718 fans in 2023, but attendance has since declined. The club averaged 13,427 in 2025 and has drawn roughly 12,000 per game this season, according to figures included in the development presentation.

Leichtman-Levine told the board that a smaller stadium would better accommodate current attendance, create a more intimate atmosphere and give the team greater control over its home schedule.

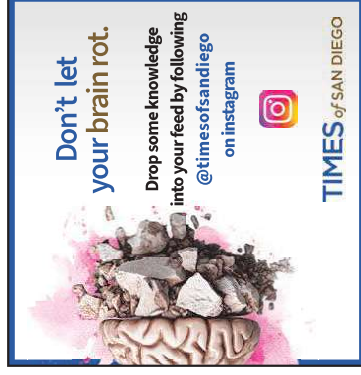
A STADIUM AND MUCH MORE

Plans include a multi-level parking structure with approximately 1,300 spaces, 350,000 square feet of retail and restaurant space, a 300-room hotel, a 125,000-square-foot convention center and about 15 acres of public space, plazas and trails.

A proposed tram would connect facilities throughout the fairgrounds and provide access to a planned rail platform.

The developers say the project would let the Del Mar Racetrack and the annual San Diego County Fair continue operating during construction.

SUDOKU

[illegible]

CROSSWORDS

[illegible]

22. Business symbol
23. Exclamation of surprise
26. Pouch
27. Individually
29. Satisfaction
31. The bill in a restaurant
34. Japanese delicacy
36. Port in southern Japan
37. Double-reed instruments
38. Center
40. "The Mount Rushmore State"
43. Soldier
45. Indicates position
48. Beauty treatment: —pedi
50. Nonsense (slang)
51. Republic of Ireland
53. Ballplayers' tools
54. American state
55. Clusters of a fern frond
57. Patriotic women's group
58. A person's brother or sister
59. Breed of sheep
61. Off

ANSWERS

- ## CLUES DOWN
1. El Dorado (high school)
 5. A sculpture representing a human or animal
 11. A type of return
 14. Tie the knot again
 15. Washington city
 18. Hairlike structures
 19. Mark used over a vowel
 21. Explosive
 23. Popular 500 car race
 24. Pile up
 28. Currency
 29. Commercial
 30. A minute amount (Scottish)
 32. Mass of fish eggs
 33. Baseball stat
 35. Licensed accountant
 36. Japanese classical theater
 39. Gasteyer and de Armas are two
 41. Blood group
 42. Assist in wrongdoing
 44. Language of Cameroon
 46. Grayish-white
 47. A wooden can of Scottish origin
- ## CLUES UP
1. Make a mistake
 2. American DJ/Rick
 3. Fictional Asian moon planet
 4. Coughed out
 5. Singing to one's lover
 6. Scotland's longest river
 7. One of the six noble gases
 8. Body art
 9. Two-toed sloth
 10. Electronic counter—countermachine
 12. A foolish person
 13. Of the wind
 16. Mansion
 17. Sound
 20. English river

Halloween happenings in La Jolla Village and Birch Aquarium

By Dave Schwab

SAN DIEGO – Now through Halloween on Saturday, Oct. 31, activities at the coast will be spooktacular featuring everything from surfers in costume, to a haunted aquarium, a creepy marine mammal park, and trick-or-treating in La Jolla.

LA JOLLA

Halloween Aglow – Birch Aquarium at Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UC San Diego at 2300 Expedition Way in La Jolla is getting into the Halloween spirit. The park's family-friendly Halloween Aglow will be Friday and Saturday, Oct. 23-24, from 6-8:30 p.m. Cost is \$59.95 for adults, \$49.95 for children (ages 3-12), and free for children ages 2 and under. Highlights include trick-or-treating in costumes, underwater pumpkin carving by scuba divers, the Boo & Goo Lab, the Bone Zone, live music, and pop-up science stations with Scripps Oceanography.



Divers make the final adjustments for the fully assembled skeleton in the Giant Kelp Forest habitat at Birch Aquarium at Scripps. (Photo by Jordann Tomasek/Birch Aquarium at Scripps)

Creepy Candy Crawl – The La Jolla Real Estate Brokers Association at 908 Kline St. is hosting trick-or-treating for children of all ages in La Jolla Village with its Creepy Candy Crawl (formerly Pillage The Village) from 3-6 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 30. Kids can go to participating Village shops with goodie bags available at REBA and enter a costume contest featuring prizes

donated by Geppetto's toy store. Judges will announce the winners at REBA at 4:15 p.m.

Village merchants do not need pre-register to participate. On event day, pick up a balloon to designate your business as a treat stop. Balloons will be available at the La Jolla Village Merchants Association's office, 7734 Herschel Way, Suite C, beginning at noon. For the first time, a Village Spirit Award will be awarded to the businesses that bring the most creative decorations, energy, and fun to the Crawl.

Halloween Happy Hour – La Jolla Community Center at 6811 La Jolla Blvd. is hosting Spirits & Spirits: A Halloween Happy Hour on Friday, Oct. 30 from 3-5 p.m. Adult festivities will include wine, a signature cocktail, light bites, and Halloween treats and live music. Cost is free for members, \$15 for non-members. Costumes and festive attire are encouraged. Call 858-459-0831 or register through the La Jolla Community Center Special Events Page.

Johnny Cash tribute at Beaumont's, and other live music this week

By Bart Mendoza

SPECIAL FOR TIMES OF SAN DIEGO

JOHNNY CASH TRIBUTE

Alt country group, The Bastard Sons of Johnny Cash, stop in at Beaumont's for a homecoming show on Oct. 24. Led by Mark Stuart, the group was formed in San Diego circa 1995, receiving permission from Cash himself to use the name, and penning terrific original tunes that capture Cash's musical spirit, with plenty of twangy lead guitar and pedal steel. Stuart is currently on the road promoting his latest album, "Where the Neon Fades," but whatever he chooses for the night's set list from his 12-album deep discography will be sure to please country music fans. If you haven't yet discovered the Bastard Sons music, this relatively intimate gig is the ideal opportunity.

• **Bastard Sons of Johnny Cash:** Saturday, Oct. 24, at Beaumont's Eatery, 5662 La Jolla Blvd. 9 p.m. \$10.

KRISTIN KORB

Double bassist Kristin Korb brings her show, "The Vocal Side of Ray Brown," to

the La Jolla Community Center on Oct. 23. Korb, a resident of Denmark whose early musical studies included a stint at UCSD, is a protégé of jazz legend Brown, recording her debut album with him in 1996. For this show, Korb is backed by Josh Nelson (piano) and Kevin van den Elzen (drums), offering up a curated mix of Brown's compositions and session work, as well as songs inspired by his teachings.

• **Kristin Korb:** Friday, Oct. 23 at the La Jolla Community Center, 6811 La Jolla Blvd. 8 p.m. \$35.

COME TOGETHER

Fab four fans won't want to miss a set from Come Together at Humphreys Backstage Live on Oct. 23. Featuring guitarist Dave Keefer, guitarist/keyboardist David Lee Reynolds, bassist Melanie Reynolds and drummer Nico Peters, the latter formerly of the much-missed fellow tribute combo, The Baja Bugs. This isn't a costumed band; instead, the musicians focus on the songs and having fun onstage. Come Together does a great job of replicating The Beatles' vocals and

instrumentation. While the band can play pretty much any Beatles tune, for these shows Come Together specializes in their up-tempo dance floor fillers, from "Dizzy Miss Lizzy" to "Get Back."

• **Come Together:** Friday, Oct. 23 at Humphreys Backstage Live, 2241 Shelter Island Drive. 8 p.m. \$15.

TOM JONES

Legendary singer Tom Jones makes an appearance at the Rady Shell on Oct. 27. Aged 86, Jones has been making hit records since 1965's "It's Not Unusual," and he hasn't let up since. Most recently, Jones has been in the spotlight as a coach on television's The Voice UK, but he remains a dynamic live performer. Jones is blessed with a strong voice and an amazing catalog of classic songs like "What's New Pussycat?," "She's a Lady," and his cover of Prince's song, "Kiss," each sure to have Jones' legion of fans up on their feet and singing along. Time is marching on; if you are a fan of Jones' music, make this show a priority.

• **Tom Jones:** Tuesday, Oct. 27 at The

PACIFIC BEACH

Halloween Surf contest – The Tourmaline Halloween Surf contest at 600 Tourmaline St., on Saturday, Oct. 31, starts at 8 a.m. Surf in your best costume while enjoying coffee and treats. Stick around for awards at 10 a.m. Guests will pick who wins. There is also a beach cleanup at 11 a.m.

SeaWorld Spooktacular and Howl-O-Scream – SeaWorld San Diego hosts two Halloween experiences: The family-friendly daytime SeaWorld Spooktacular, and the intense, adult-targeted nighttime Howl-O-Scream. Fridays through Sundays through Nov. 1. The Halloween Spooktacular daytime family event includes, with regular park admission, Baby Shark Halloween Show, and -greet; trick-or-treating; and Captain Sweet Tooth's Candy Trail. Día de los Muertos celebration will be on Oct. 31, Nov. 1-2. Howl-O-Scream is held select nights through Oct. 31 starting at 6 p.m. Intended for mature audiences. Admission includes scare zones, live entertainment, bars, and roller coasters.

Rady Shell at Jacobs Park, 222 Marina Park Way. 7 p.m. \$56 & up.

THE AQUABATS

Billed as the world's first superhero rock band, it's clear that a key component of The Aquabats charm is "fun." Appearing at The Observatory on Oct. 23, the costumed group has created their own reality, with a devoted fanbase following their adventures across media, including most recently the program, "The Aquabats! RadVentures!" that can be viewed via YouTube Live. The Aquabats use screens, props and lots of audience participation to complement their typed-up mix of ska, punk and alternative rock. It all adds up to an immersive show where the audience feels as if they've been transported into a Saturday morning cartoon show.

• **Aquabats:** Friday, Oct. 23 at The Observatory, 2871 University Ave. 6 p.m. \$46.

ONGOING

Manic new wave combo, Oingo Boingo Former Members, take the stage at Music Box on Oct. 24.