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NEWPORT BEACH

APRIL/MAY 2014 | OCINSITE.COM

Magazine

OUTDOOR HOME & DESIGN SPOTLIGHT

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TIPS FOR BRINGING THE
KITCHEN OUTDOORS

GREENER GARDENS

CREATING A SUSTAINABLE
SPACE OUTSIDE THE HOME

HOME SWEET HOME

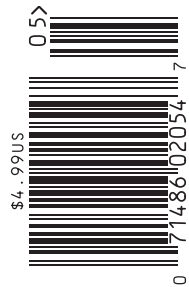
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LET'S
talk



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No Place Like Home

As someone who was born and bred in Orange County, I've had a front row seat to see all of the incredible changes that have taken place here over the years. I can still recall memories of visiting the Balboa Fun Zone, eating prime rib at Five Crowns in Corona del Mar and catching waves at The Wedge. Though some spots, like Five Crowns, still retain the same great look and feel as they did back in the day, others are undoubtedly transformed. It's been a wild ride, and through it all, Newport has only continued to grow.

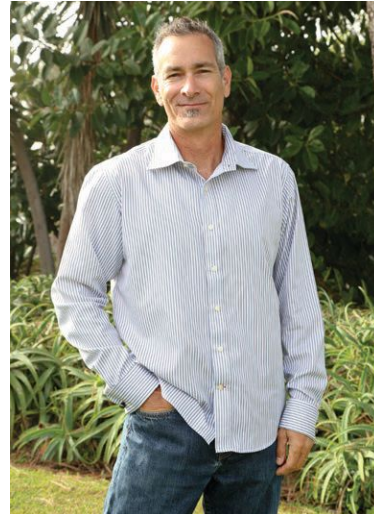
Over the years, I've seen businesses come and go—sadly, one of my favorite local joints, Perry's Pizza, recently joined the latter group. Shopping centers have brought big name restaurants to town, residential communities have been built and local watering holes are teeming with the next generation of kids who were in diapers when I ordered my first drink (OK, maybe that's a bit of an exaggeration ...).

It's a different city today, for sure—but one thing that will never change is that each neighborhood has its own style. You can't define Newport Beach's architecture with a single term, because—as you'll see in this issue's special outdoor home and design spotlight (page 61)—there's a huge range of design influences from one end of town to the other. Mediterranean inspirations are evident in the Newport Coast estates up north, but head toward Balboa Island and you'll find 1940s vintage cottages and Cape Cod-style homes. It's a pairing of the old and new, and in Newport, it just works.

What I find most impressive, however, is our community's commitment to sustainability. Not only do we have incredible homes, but also eco-minded residents and designers who are making outside spaces even "greener." Even if it's not in the cards to tear up your lawn in favor of native plants and succulents, there are plenty of ways you can go green with small modifications in your backyard—it's good for the environment and, with some tips from the pros on page 68 in "A Green Thumb," you'll have the best-looking and most sustainable garden on your block.

In my completely biased opinion, there's really not a better place to live. With beautiful backyards and near-perfect weather to enjoy pools, patios, fire pits and outdoor kitchens year-round ("Alfresco Affairs," page 62), how can you go wrong?

*Sincerely,
Scott Sanchez
Publisher and Chief Technology Officer
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Celebrating Cinema

Spring is, for good reason, one of my favorite times in this city. The sun is out and it's warm enough for beach days and Balboa Bars, but it's not so crowded that you're sitting elbow to elbow with another person on the sand. But beyond the great weather—which we basically have all the time, so I shouldn't complain—what I'm most excited for is the Newport Beach Film Festival rolling out the red carpet at theaters across the city.

To put it simply, I love movies. There's a sense of escapism in the act of settling down for a couple of hours and being pulled into a story that has nothing to do with your own reality. The same can be said for TV shows, books and music—you get an opportunity to imagine what it's like being in another person's shoes and feel what they're feeling at that moment. Good movies give you a chance to explore something new, and great movies give you a new perspective on life.

The Newport Beach Film Festival has it all, from shorts and animations to documentaries and international spotlights. My sweet spot, however, is the features—an area where the festival never fails to disappoint. Last year, my favorite event was the U.S. premiere of “What Maisie Knew,” an incredible indie flick that took me on a roller coaster of emotions. The movie showcases bad parenting at its finest (or maybe its worst?), and as the titular character's rock star mother and absentee father battle it out on screen, it's easy to feel the confusion and heartache experienced by 6-year-old Maisie.

Though that film never went on to be a major box office blockbuster, plenty of others that debuted at the Newport Beach Film Festival have achieved impressive levels of critical and financial success worldwide. In this issue, we added a star-studded spin to our usual coverage, highlighting breakthrough films that have premiered at the festival in its long history (“Cinematic Success,” page 34). These are all titles you've likely heard, whether it's for a cast of recognizable stars or for racking up nomination after nomination during awards season: the much-lauded, Oscar-winning “Crash” that established our coastal festival as a major player on the circuit; my personal favorite, “(500) Days of Summer,” starring Joseph Gordon-Levitt; “The Illusionist,” a period piece written and directed by Neil Burger; and so many more.

In 2014, the festival celebrates its 15th annual event with nearly 400 films in just eight days. Though the lineup won't be officially announced until after press time, I'm confident that this year will again help propel notable films into the global spotlight.

You can find me at Big Newport on opening night April 24—I wouldn't miss it for the world.

Warm regards,
Allison Hata
Group Editor
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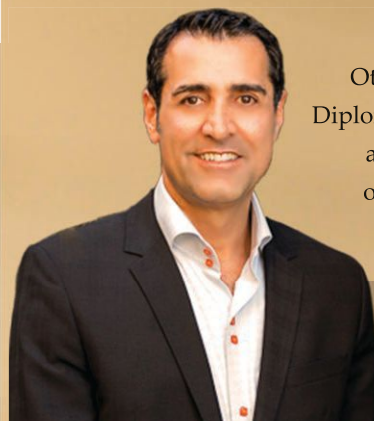
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Julie French

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Christopher Trela

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Peter A. Balaskas, Vicki Hogue-Davies,
Somer Tejwani

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS
David Jakle, Scott Sporleder

DIGITAL MEDIA
CONTENT WRANGLER
Kim Zepezauer

DIGITAL MEDIA ASSISTANTS
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Chris Brady-Denton

PUBLISHER
Scott Sanchez

SALES
ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER
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PUBLISHED BY
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media LLC

CHAIRMAN
Allan Simon

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Steve Zepezauer

PUBLISHER & CHIEF
TECHNOLOGY OFFICER
Scott Sanchez

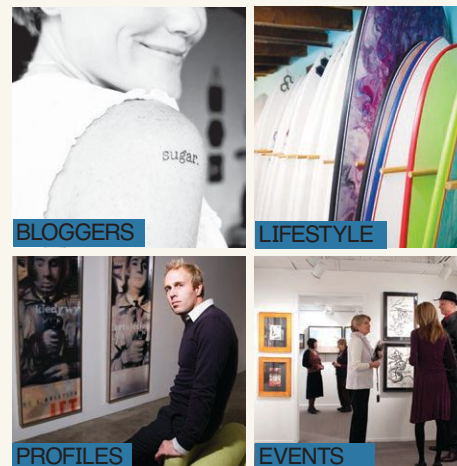
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What's not to like?



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The dynamic twosome behind the organic, cold-pressed juices of Ritual Juicebox and the signature Ritual Wellness Reset Cleanse are sharing their secrets in a new hybrid wellness guide and cookbook. "The Juice Cleanse Reset Diet," by Lori Kenyon Farley and Marra St. Clair, outlines the method behind what some may call madness, but others realize is a healthy and beneficial way to detoxify the body and revamp metabolism. The book details a seven-day, cure-all cleanse broken down into easy-to-follow recipes and tips and tricks to guarantee success. It also provides a guide to natural beauty practices to help transform the body inside and out. The book is available online or locally at Barnes & Noble and Ritual Juicebox locations. (ritualcleanse.com) —K.P.

STEINBERG'S NEW DEAL

Known in the business/professional sports industry as a "super agent," Newport Beach local Leigh Steinberg is expanding his claim to fame with a new biographical tale. In his memoir, "The Agent: My 40-Year Career Making Deals and Changing the Game," Leigh discusses what it's like to spend nearly four decades in and out of the sports agent game, starting off at the top at a ripe young age representing multiple high-profile NFL players and then hitting rock bottom and fighting for redemption. But despite the tribulations and the fame—Leigh was the inspiration behind the sport-centric comedy/drama "Jerry Maguire"—Newport Beach remains his home and preferred place of business; his most recent office space overlooks the harbor.

"The Agent" is available locally to purchase at Barnes & Noble or to borrow from the Newport Beach Public Library. (steinbergsports.net) —K.P.



A FLOWERING OCCASION

Embrace the beauty of spring flowers and foliage at this year's 25th annual Southern California Spring Garden Show. The four-day event, which runs from April 24-27 at South Coast Plaza's Crate and Barrel/Macy's Home Store wing, features more than 75 vendors selling exotic plants, garden accessories and other items to enhance your gardening skills.

John Gidding, the co-host of HGTV's "Curb Appeal," will kick off the show's speaker series on April 24. Discover his favorite projects with a look at the design process behind each one in his presentation, "Towards a New Landscape, Creating Curb Appeal One Neighborhood at a Time." Other expert-led discussions will reveal gardening secrets, including tips for incorporating exotic greenery, edible flowers, sustainable plants, vegetables and more to any garden.

For additional inspiration, take a walk through a display designed by landscape architects and horticulture students in the garden exhibit. In line with this year's theme, "Celebrating the Gardens of Southern California," the gardens are representative of the region's lifestyle and its temperate climate. The youngest of gardeners can also enjoy the festivities with children's events that include plant projects, crafts, storytellers and exotic animal shows. (714-435-2089; springgardenshow.com) —K.C.

CHEWING FOR IMMUNITY

A Newport Beach resident has invented a chewing gum packed with vitamins, minerals and herbs to boost the body's immune system whenever you feel a cold coming on. Dr. Terry O'Neil, an emergency room physician at Community Hospital Long Beach, developed Immuno Gum as a cold-fighting alternative to the tablets and powders that must be mixed with water and taken several times a day.

The gum, which comes in mint, mixed berry, citrus and a bubble gum flavor for kids, hit the shelves at more than 1,000 stores—including Vitamin World, 7-Eleven, health markets, airports and other specialty retail locations—earlier this year, as well as online.

Terry spent two years creating the patent-pending formula, which includes zinc, vitamin C, echinacea, elderberry, Siberian ginseng and astragalus, an herb that's been used in Chinese medicine for centuries to help bring the body back into balance. In gum form, many of these ingredients can be absorbed through the mouth rather than waiting for digestion, as required by tablets and drinks. To help support a healthy immune system, the company recommends chewing two pieces a day to keep the doctor away. (immuno-gum.com) —S.S.



LIDO MARINA VILLAGE: REIMAGINED

The once bustling Lido Marina Village, developed in 1971 as a charming center for shopping, dining and marina activities, will soon transform back into a lively destination. DJM Capital Partners, the firm behind the successful renovation of Huntington Beach's Bella Terra center, purchased the village in 2012 and began renovations in February of this year. The firm plans to redevelop the center while maintaining the original vision for the area: a pedestrian-friendly space with delicious food, sophisticated shops and exquisite views of the marina. The renovation plans include subtle upgrades to the buildings and storefronts, as well as to the landscaping, decks and walkways to improve the look of the village. DJM hopes to bring in upscale boutiques that are less common in the Newport Beach area, along with charming artisan cafes and restaurants. The first phase of the renovation will include updates to stores, restaurants and boutiques, and is expected to be complete in early 2015. By July 2016, the upgraded marina should be finished, providing the perfect setting for waterfront dining and shopping with stunning views. —B.B.

TIMELESS THREADS

Three Newport Beach natives ahead of their time launched a premium clothing line with an everlasting spirit. Latin for "time," Tempus Apparel was started by Kunal Patel, 18, Darshan Patel, 17, and Krishan Tarsadia, 16. The teens sell T-shirts, long-sleeve shirts and sweatshirts in classic designs. "Our products are really simple and clean, and most designs are black and white," Kunal says. "We're not looking to follow the trends; we want to make something that lasts a lifetime." To honor its slogan, "legacy is timeless," Tempus Apparel also partnered with These Numbers Have Faces, a nonprofit dedicated to empowering students in Africa to become leaders and transform their countries. "The organization coincides with our message because ... they also promote a timeless legacy by changing the lives of the people they serve," Kunal explains. "Our ultimate goal is to create ... a legacy that is forever." (tempusapparel.com) —K.C.



COURTESY OF TEMPUS APPAREL



Scotch & Soda will bring vintage trends with a modern twist to Orange County.



Uniqlo is opening at South Coast Plaza this fall.

THE RETAIL REPORT

2XU

Developed by athletes for athletes, Australian brand 2XU offers some of the highest-quality compression athletic apparel available on the market today. The makers of the performance gear tout the benefits of compression workout clothing, which range from improved circulation to shortened recovery time, in addition to less muscle soreness. The new location is opening in Fashion Island before summer, giving fans a chance to get their bikini bods in shape before beach season. (2xu.com)

LETARTE

Letarte's chic, bohemian vibe has made the brand's beachwear and cover-ups a hit the world over, especially in its native Hawaiian island of Maui. Now, the high-end swimsuit company is bringing its collection of sophisticated bikinis and resort wear to Fashion Island this spring. The designs, which have appeared on the cover of the swimsuit edition of Sports Illustrated on two separate occasions, are known for their intricate details and trademark prints. (letarteswimwear.com)

SCOTCH & SODA

The Dutch-born Scotch & Soda is expanding its brand in the U.S. and opening the first Orange

County location this May in South Coast Plaza. Drawing inspiration from vintage trends and adapting them to fit modern style, the brand is known for its collection of bold prints, distressed denim, graphic shirts and blazers for men, women and children. (scotch-soda.com)

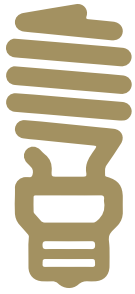
SKYE MONTGOMERY

Unfortunately, all good things must come to an end. In late February, the Skye Montgomery boutique in Corona del Mar sadly closed up shop. Fans of the separate shoe salon that was housed within the store, however, can still find owner Rebecca Austin and her collection of fancy footwear at Sasha's in Laguna Beach, where she's helped outfit OC's

stylish women in the latest styles for several years.

UNIQLO

Japanese clothing company Uniqlo has created popular clothing for the masses since its first store opened in Hiroshima in 1984. This fall, the brand will expand its reach in the U.S., opening its first Southern California location in South Coast Plaza. The new boutique will join 17 other locations in North America, including several in Northern California. Carrying a wide variety of basic pieces, including button-ups, parkas and jeans, Uniqlo's collection stays true to the brand's original mission: to create clothing for all at affordable prices. (uniqlo.com) —B.B.



NEWPORT BEACH CIVIC CENTER AND PARK HAS EARNED LEED GOLD CERTIFICATION FROM THE U.S. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL FOR ITS MANY ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY DESIGN ELEMENTS.

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RUNNERS TO THEIR MARKS

There's nothing quite like experiencing your hometown from a new perspective, so strap on some running shoes—the OC Marathon is racing into town, and it will be gone before you know it.

On Sunday, May 4, from 5 a.m. to 3 p.m., runners of all ages and abilities will traverse the challenging marathon (26.2 miles), half marathon (13.1 miles) and Wahoo's OC 5K (3.2 miles) courses vying for personal record finishes and the coveted wave-inspired finisher's medal. The full and half marathon races begin on Newport Center Drive at Fashion Island and travel down the scenic Bayside Drive, leading to a challenging battle up Dover Drive through Costa Mesa and eventually finishing at the OC Fair & Event Center.

In honor of the 10th anniversary, this year will feature an especially lively post-race gathering with live music, food from Wahoo's Fish Taco and interactive vendor booths to peruse. (949-222-3327; ocmarathon.com) —K.P.



PARK CENTRAL

Newport is about to get even greener with several new parks in the works. Crews broke ground this winter on the long-planned Marina and Sunset Ridge parks, adding to the city's existing 64 parks. Marina Park, which spans 10.5 acres at the end of 19th Street, will include a cafe, community center and sailing center by completion. Part of the peninsula is being dredged for a full-service marina—the state's first in about two decades—with 23 slips for visitors arriving by boat, says Public Works Director Dave Webb. A fitness circuit, nautical-themed playground and restrooms will also be added by spring 2016. Additionally, the Girl Scouts of Orange County plans to build a new center in the park, replacing the existing Girl Scout House on West Balboa Boulevard. The center, opening by May 2016, will offer science and leadership development activities, sailing and kayaking.

Meanwhile, grading has started for Sunset Ridge Park on 13.5 acres at West Coast Highway and Superior Avenue. The space will feature a baseball field overlaid with two soccer fields, a playground, butterfly garden and restrooms by next winter. Corona del Mar will also gain a pocket park next to Hobie Surf Shop's ever-changing mural at East Coast Highway and Jasmine Avenue this summer. Looking ahead, cyclist amenities are envisioned for Back Bay View Park, and city planners are eyeing a construction staging area to become Lower Castaways Park. With so many parks, the only problem will be choosing which one to visit. —S.S.



THE NEWPORT BEACH JUNIOR LIFEGUARD PROGRAM, TEACHING OCEAN SAFETY AND LIFEGUARD SKILLS TO KIDS AGES 9 TO 15 SINCE 1984, CELEBRATES ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR.



Balboa Bay Resort's presidential suite

SPECIAL FEATURE

A couple of luxury Newport Beach hotels are amplifying the VIP treatment for the Newport Beach Film Festival with packages that give locals the chance to turn the eight-day event into a mini staycation. Balboa Bay Resort is offering two all access passes to the film festival along with one night in its presidential suite and two signature spa treatments. In true dinner-and-a-movie fashion, the package includes a bottle of Veuve Clicquot Champagne and a \$200 dinner credit to Waterline Newport Beach. Guests can also take a Duffy boat excursion on Newport Bay with a bottle of wine and a cheese plate as part of the bundle, which is available for \$1,999.

The Hyatt Regency Newport Beach package is designed with families in mind. Starting at \$199 per night, the Family Fun and Film Package includes accommodations for a family of four, as well as four general admission tickets for each day of the festival and shuttle service to each screening. Between showings, families can enjoy the Hyatt Regency amenities, such as the pool slide and water playground, lawn games and a life-size chess set. This year, the festival is hosting a Family Film Series, where younger moviegoers will have a chance to meet and learn from filmmakers and actors. (newportbeachfilmfest.com) —K.C.

PAMPER YOURSELF

Just in time for summer, Newport Beach is welcoming several brand-new places to get primped and pampered for lazy days spent on the beach. Bronzed Airbrush Tanning recently opened its new salon in Corona del Mar, offering airbrush tanning services that provide a healthy glow without the danger of UV rays. In addition, its Sugared Brazilian Bar can provide sugaring hair removal services pre-tan to get anyone in perfect bikini shape. Up the road in The Bluffs Shopping Center, Cosmo Nail Bar presents a unique nail salon, where luxury treatments meet affordability. The salon offers manicures and pedicures, waxing and threading services as well as 3-D nail art for the more daring crowd. Another new nail salon on the scene, Images, A Luxury Nail Salon, is opening its doors soon in the Eastbluff Village Center. A full service nail salon, Images will offer patrons manicures, pedicures, massages, facials and more in a distinctly sophisticated environment. Whatever one's pampering needs may be, Newport's newest beauty services are sure to satisfy. (Bronzed Airbrush Tanning: 949-478-5661; bronzedairbrushtanning.com) (Cosmo Nail Bar: 949-525-1442; cosmonailbars.com) —B.B.

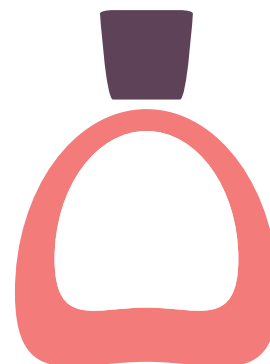
JOINING THE CLUB

In Newport's premier hospitality industry, change is inevitable. But with change comes a fresh perspective on how our hotels can continue to bring visitors—and perhaps more importantly, locals—great service, new amenities and fun community events.

Longtime Balboa Bay Resort general manager Dieter Hissin recently made the jump to the nearby Island Hotel, but ready and excited to step into his vacated position is the veteran hotelier Sam El-Rabaa. Most recently serving as hotel manager of the 322-room Meritage Resort and Spa in Napa, Sam is a Certified Food and Beverage Executive who brings more than 24 years of hospitality experience to the table. Those who stop by the resort for a quick cup of coffee, a bite to eat or a relaxing spa treatment can expect to see him keeping a watchful eye on the current renovations taking place in the lobby and restaurants—just one of the many tasks he's taken under his wing in his new role. —B.B.



Sam El-Rabaa recently joined the Balboa Bay Resort team as general manager.



> happenings

ACTIVITIES

LIVING WALL WORKSHOP

April 12; Roger's Gardens

Learn to build your own living wall, just in time for Earth Day. Roger's Gardens hosts a comprehensive workshop that allows aspiring gardeners to group compatible plants for sun or shade in a vertical garden design. Registration is \$100 per person, and includes the cost of materials and instruction. (949-640-5800; rogersgardens.com)

NEWPORT BEACH FILM FESTIVAL

April 24 - May 1; Various locations throughout Newport Beach

The annual festival celebrates the art of filmmaking with more than 400 movie screenings. Studio and independent projects from a range of talented local and international filmmakers are showcased at theaters across the city. (949-253-2880; newportbeachfilmfest.com)

WITTE LECTURE SERIES: ANNA DEAVERE SMITH

April 25-26; Newport Beach Central Library

Award-winning playwright, actress and professor Anna Deavere Smith—who embraces Walt Whitman's idea "to absorb America" by listening to people from varying backgrounds—slips in and out of character during this presentation of conflicting opinions and emotions on controversial issues. The cost is \$50 for general admission or \$45 for Newport Beach Public Library Foundation members. (949-548-2411; newportbeachlibrary.org)

NEWPORT TO ENSENADA INTERNATIONAL YACHT RACE

April 25-27; Balboa Pier, Newport Beach

Cheer on the sailors in this 125-nautical mile competition, which starts at Balboa Pier and ends in Ensenada, Mexico, with an awards ceremony. Billed as the largest yacht race in the world, the event has attracted celebrities, world-class skippers and novices alike since its inception in 1948. (949-644-1023; newporttoensenada.com)

SPRING FAIRE AND BUTTERFLY HOUSE OPENING

May 4; Environmental Nature Center, Newport Beach

Behold these winged wonders when OC's only butterfly house reopens for spring in a celebration with food from local restaurants, a native plant sale, children's activities and more. (949-645-8489; encenter.org)

FUNDRAISERS

CASA BLACK & WHITE BALL

April 25; Island Hotel, Newport Beach

This special evening raises money for Court Appointed Special Advocates of Orange County (CASA), a nonprofit that trains volunteers to serve as mentors and advocates for abused, abandoned and neglected children in the foster care system. (714-619-5151; casacelebrationofchildren.org)

SUSAN G. KOMEN ORANGE COUNTY PINK TIE BALL

May 10; Kia Motors America, Irvine

"Journey to a Cure" is the theme for the Costa Mesa-based nonprofit's eighth annual ball, which benefits local programs dedicated to breast health and cutting-edge breast cancer research. The event features dancing, live entertainment, a five-course dinner, live and silent auctions, and an opportunity drawing. (714-957-9157; komenoc.org)

17TH ANNUAL HOME AND GARDEN TOUR

May 15; Newport Harbor

Following a morning reception at Greenleaf Gourmet Chopshop, tour spectacular homes and gardens; browse home accessories, antiques, jewelry, apparel and more from 18 local vendors at a boutique overlooking the water; enter to win prizes in the opportunity drawing; and enjoy lunch provided by Stonefire Grill at the Newport Theatre Arts Center. Admission is \$75, which supports student programs at Newport Harbor High School. (newportharborhometour.com)

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CHOC GLASS SLIPPER GUILD GALA

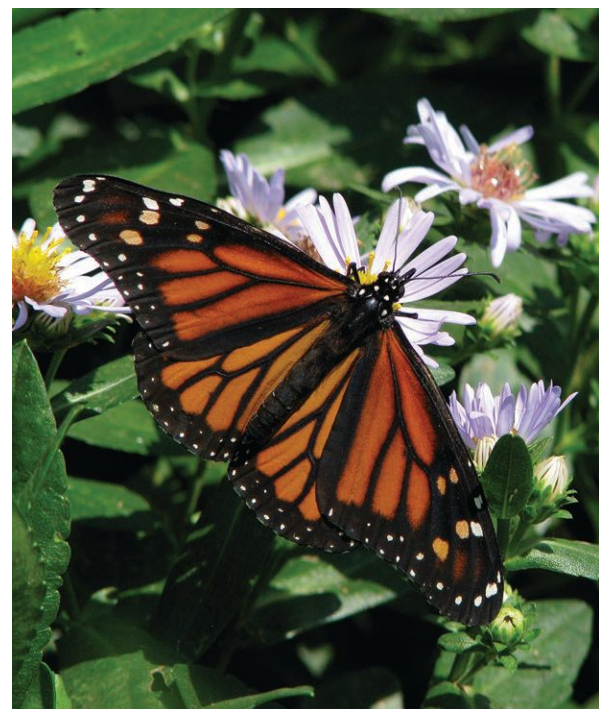
May 17; Big Canyon Country Club, Newport Beach

This formal, outdoor soiree takes on a speakeasy theme for the Glass Slipper Guild's 20th annual rendition benefitting Children's Hospital of Orange County (CHOC). The evening will feature live and silent auctions, dinner, dancing and a special presentation honoring patients of CHOC. (chocglassslipperguild.com)

GIFT OF LITERACY LUNCHEON

June 6; Radisson Newport Beach

At this annual fundraising lunch for Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy, best-selling author Lisa See will serve as the guest speaker as well as debut her latest book, "China Dolls." Enjoy an afternoon of opportunity drawings, a silent auction and book signings. For \$85, receive a ticket to the event plus a copy of her new book. (949-717-3874; newportbeachlibrary.org) **NBM**

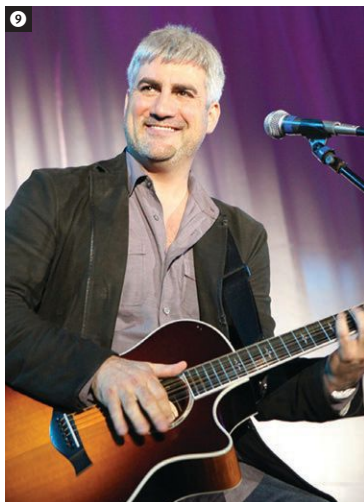
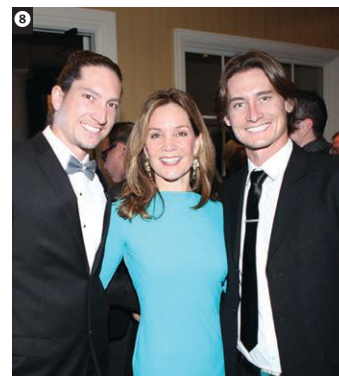
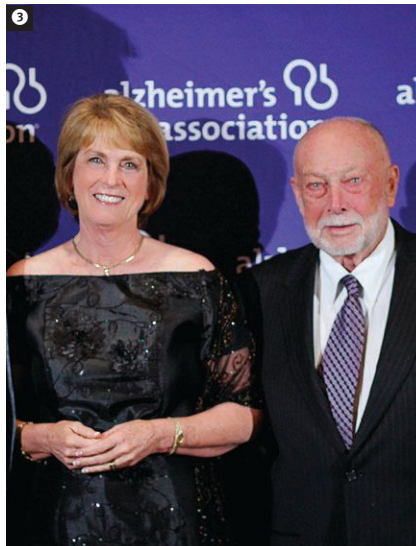


Environmental Nature Center's Butterfly House

SOCIETY

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION CREATING HOPE GALA

1 Balancing act performance **2** "Frames of Hope" presentation **3** Tina and Karl Weber **4** Danielle MacInnis with an auction item donated by the Anaheim Ducks **5** Dave and Eydie MacInnis, Jacqueline Dupont, Jim McAleer **6** Michelle Hatch, Dennis Kuhl **7** Richard and Donna Cohn, Don Palmer **8** Richard Lawrence, Jeannie Lawrence, Brett Lawrence **9** Taylor Hicks



The Alzheimer's Association's Orange County chapter (AAOC) held its signature fundraising gala on March 1 at the Balboa Bay Resort. More than 300 guests gathered in support of the disease that affects nearly 84,000 people in OC. Attendees enjoyed an elegant cocktail reception outside the ballroom—which shimmered in shades of purple, the organization's signature color—prior to sitting down for a special "Frames of Hope" presentation that highlighted individuals like Jackie Robinson, Albert Einstein, Rosie the Riveter and others who have inspired hope within the world. The evening continued with a three-course dinner and an awards ceremony, where AAOC President and CEO Jim McAleer thanked staff members, volunteers and partners. Honorees also included corporate partner Jacqueline Dupont of Irvine Cottages/Assured In-Home Care; volunteer partner Jody Hudson of First American Trust; community partners Jeannie and Brett Lawrence of Rancho Las Lomas; and philanthropy partner Don Palmer. Before the individuals were honored, a heartfelt video explained each person's connection to Alzheimer's. A silent and live auction, along with ticket sales and a \$250,000 gift from Karl and Tina Weber, raised \$525,000 to help provide resources for those affected by the disease, as well as search for a cure. The evening concluded with a live hourlong performance by "American Idol" superstar Taylor Hicks. —K.C.

ASHLEIGH MAGNUM AND JOHN GILHOLEY

SOCIETY

CHILDHELP FOR THE LOVE OF A CHILD LUNCHEON

1 Libby Werner, Cindy Cotton **2** Dale San Filippo, Bruno Serato, MaryAllyn Dexter **3** Michelle Langston, Pam Pharris, Kristen James **4** Lee Healy, Jacquie Casey, Karen Hall **5** MaryAllyn Dexter, Marie Gray **6** Beverly Cohen, Bill Peters, Sue Willett **7** Spring fashions from St. John **8** Vibrant styles from Missoni's spring collection



The Orange County chapter of Childhelp gathered nearly 400 supporters at the Newport Beach Marriott Hotel and Spa March 10 for the annual fashion show and luncheon. Raising more than \$200,000, the event kicked off with an opportunity for women in attendance to purchase raffle tickets for opportunity prizes like a Roger Vivier green satin beaded clutch. A runway fashion show sponsored by South Coast Plaza provided exciting entertainment for the afternoon, featuring colorful spring styles from Roberto Cavalli, Carolina Herrera, St. John, Missoni, Diane von Furstenberg and other notable designers. The highlight of the afternoon, however, came when celebrated local chef Bruno Serato of the Anaheim White House gave a touching acceptance speech after receiving the Children's Friend Award for his dedication to feeding children that live in the streets and motels. Giving recognition to his mother for encouraging him to use his cooking skills to feed those in need, he shared how his mission to remedy the local hunger problem began with just a few bowls of pasta donated to children at the Anaheim Boys & Girls Club. Proceeds from the event's ticket sales and opportunity drawings will support Childhelp's efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect, which includes raising awareness as well as programs that offer help to those who have already endured physical or emotional abuse. —A.H.

SOCIETY

ILLUMINATION FOUNDATION TABLE FOR 10 DINNER

1 Chef John Ledbetter of Lark Creek Newport Beach **2** Illumination Foundation CEO and President Paul Leon **3** Mark and Jill Bolton, Mary Niven, Daniel Coleman, Matt Gray **4** Michelle Svaboda, Paul Leon, Victoria Snider, Don Thompson



BOB HODSON PHOTOGRAPHY

In Orange County alone, there are thousands of children without a stable home. Helping remedy this growing problem is the Illumination Foundation, founded in 2007. On March 23 at Disney's Grand Californian Hotel & Spa, more than 320 of the organization's supporters came together to raise an estimated \$360,000 that will fund ongoing housing assistance, health care, workforce development and educational services for families in need. At the event, chefs from all over the county created multicourse meals for attendees, and each table had a unique menu and table decor courtesy of one of the participating restaurants. Newport Beach chefs played an important role in the evening, with a number of notable names cooking in support of the cause: Vincent Lesage and Rachel Haggstrom of Waterline at the Balboa Bay Resort; Brian Doherty of Bambu at the Fairmont Newport Beach; John Ledbetter of Lark Creek; David Martin of The Pacific Club; Edgar Agbayani of Roy's; Imran Ali of Tamarind of London; and Pascal Olhats of the Pascal Experience. Other event highlights included a touching performance by 14-year-old Maddy Vance, a singer/songwriter who uses music to inspire other young people to stay strong as they face their own challenges. A live auction helped the Illumination Foundation exceed its fundraising goal by \$10,000, with multiple winners taking home chefs packages, specialized bikes and watches, vacation escapes and more. —A.H.

HUTCHINS CONSORT LOVE IS IN THE AIR GALA

1 Romantic table settings **2** Angela Fair, Nora Jorgensen Johnson **3** Sharon Fair, Jan Landstrom, Barbara Woods **4** Steve and Suzi Lyons **5** Sharon McNally, Beth Grace, Joe McNally, Margaret Gates **6** Steve and Suzi Lyons, Marisa and Tom Unvert, Melissa and Bob Wackerman



ANN CHATLTON



On the evening of Feb. 8, The Pacific Club in Newport Beach let romance take center stage at the Hutchins Consort gala. The evening began with a silent auction as more than 100 guests—many dressed in red—enjoyed passed hors d'oeuvres, wine and Champagne. Following the silent auction, guests took their seats in the banquet hall, which was decorated in shades of pink and red to reflect the theme. Event chair Margaret Gates introduced the eight Hutchins Consort musicians, who then treated the audience to a charming performance of songs about love. Musicians Bethany Grace and Chris Woods made their way into the audience for a tableside performance. Dinner featured Manhattan steak, lobster bisque and a chocolate raspberry pot de creme for dessert. A delightful and intimate evening, the gala raised an impressive \$20,000 for the Hutchins Consort, which recently traveled to Ireland for a special televised concert. —B.B. NBM

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SHIMMERING SHADES

Shiny beads, silk and lame glisten across this season's eye-catching metallic styles.

SECTION BY JULIE FRENCH



Gold and green silk beaded tank, \$6,900, and skirt, \$16,900, at Salvatore Ferragamo, South Coast Plaza (714-979-7654; ferragamo.com)



Raya short in silver, \$348, Haley top in silver, \$448, High Roller statement necklace, \$298, and large Bella pouch, \$98, all at Kate Spade New York, Fashion Island (949-219-0785; katespade.com)



Red washed lame blouse, \$2,765, pink lame slit skirt, \$2,115, and Moulton Lamine sandal, \$3,650, all at Lanvin, South Coast Plaza (714-706-3240; lanvin.com)



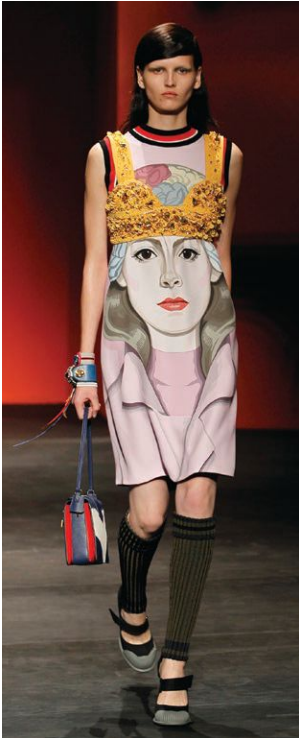
Swarovski-embellished strapless dress by special order only, price upon request, at Fendi, South Coast Plaza (714-751-1111; fendi.com)

Bronze silk organza chain mail embroidered top, \$3,490, and skirt, \$3,390, at Oscar de la Renta, South Coast Plaza (714-754-9044; oscarde la renta.com)



PAINTERLY PRINTS

These masterpiece ensembles resemble an artist's palette with vibrant pops of color.



Crepe silk dress, \$2,140, matte silk embroidered top, \$3,250, ribbed knit socks, \$330, all at Prada, South Coast Plaza (714-338-2200; prada.com)



Prism print sheer dress, \$320, at Trina Turk, Fashion Island (949-717-7881; trinatürk.com)



Silk dress, \$10,000, at Dior, South Coast Plaza (714-549-4700; dior.com)



Leather embossed patchwork jacket, \$7,050, leather and organza skirt, \$3,650, at Fendi, South Coast Plaza (714-751-1111; fendi.com)



Printed silk dress, price upon request, at Versace, South Coast Plaza (714-380-3237; versace.com) NBM

A BACKYARD ESCAPE

A local designer puts his years of experience to use in creating an outdoor haven at a Newport Coast home.

BY SOMER TEJWANI | PHOTO BY JODY TIONGCO

ORANGE COUNTY-BASED DESIGNER SHELDON HARTE HAS CREATED LUXURIOUS YET approachable interiors for decades. His 30-year-old design firm, Harte Brownlee & Associates, has given him the opportunity to complete more than 200 projects across the U.S. In a recent endeavor that called upon his experience, Sheldon was tasked with creating an outdoor retreat for a Newport Beach client that would reflect both the interior and exterior styles.

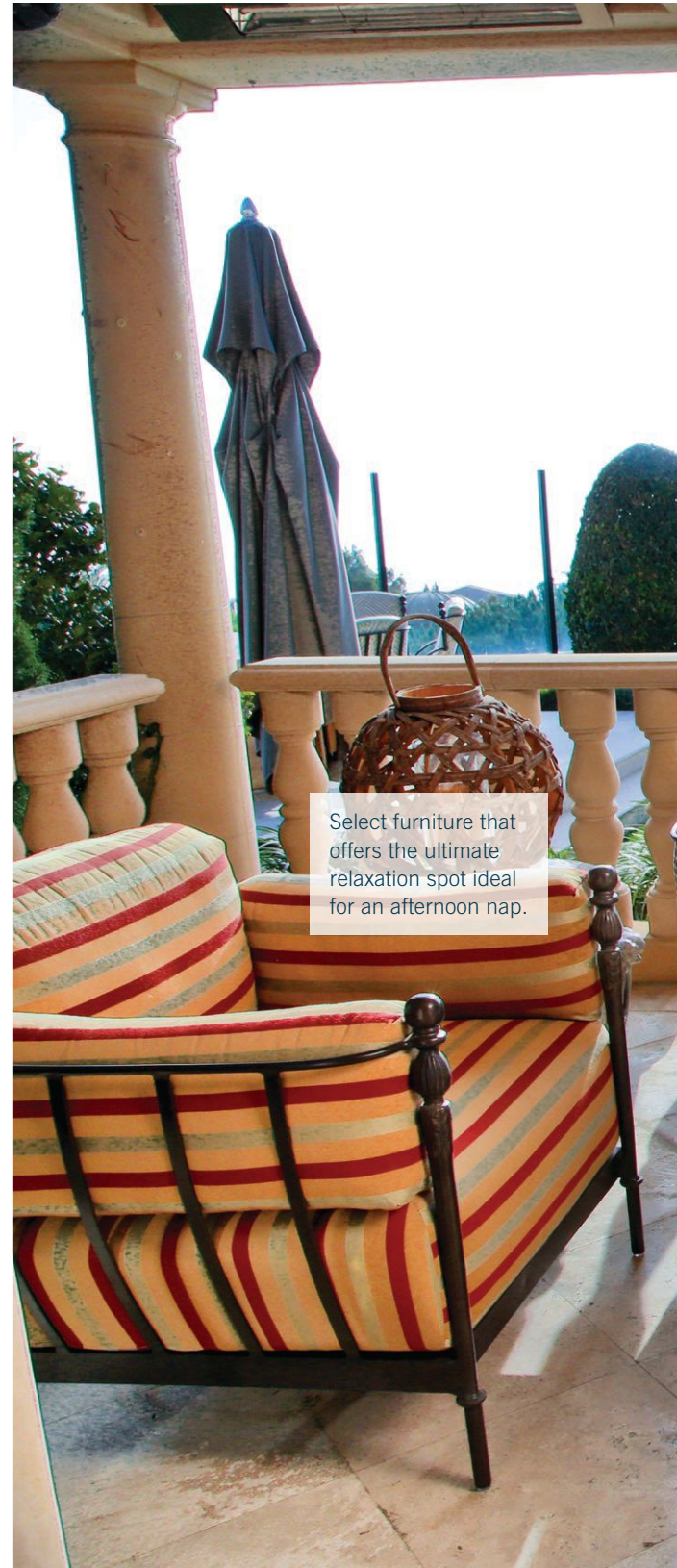
The house is located in Newport Coast, an area known as much for its Mediterranean-style architecture as it is for its sweeping vistas of the ocean, mountains and city lights. With plenty of space to work with, Sheldon took inspiration from these elements to build a comfortable, intimate area nestled between the house and the pool. The result is a focal-point loggia that would be right at home in a European luxury resort.

“The loggia area is a good size and takes advantage of the pool view and the ocean view,” Sheldon says. “[My clients] just wanted a simple, comfortable space.”

When working on the design, Sheldon kept his clients’ requests top of mind. Beyond being aesthetically pleasing, the space needed to be functional and shaded from the sun. Since his clients aren’t sun-worshippers, Sheldon wanted them to feel indoors while still enjoying the fresh air and outdoor views.

To achieve this, he fitted the loggia with upholstered seating that emanates a “lived in” feeling. The pieces he chose—including armchairs and a modified sofa from the Montecito collection by Michael Taylor Designs—embody the Mediterranean influences in the architecture. “The cushions [on the chairs] are so thick, they hug and envelop you,” he says of his selections.

Comfortable and scaled appropriately for the space, Sheldon’s furniture and upholstery choices add to the relaxed yet stylish environment that welcomes conversation and seamlessly brings the home’s stunning exterior style into the backyard. **NBM**





Create a fashion statement using small accessories like animal print pillows, which can complement understated fabrics and add a pop of color.

Complementary fabrics can transition from one section of outdoor space to another in order to create a cohesive look throughout the backyard.

When choosing outdoor tables, select one with a surface made from synthetic stone that requires no maintenance. Even with morning dew at the coast each day, the piece will still weather well.

For practicality in an outdoor space, ceramic Asian garden tables come in a variety of shapes and, while they aren't overly heavy, they still won't blow over in a windstorm.

AN OUTDOOR OASIS

Whether poolside or on the patio, embrace the fresh air this season while surrounded by enticing pieces that mix chic elements with more traditional looks.

BY SOMER TEJWANI



The **CREST SWIVEL CHAIR**, made in Sunbrella canvas fabric, is petite enough to fit in even the smallest backyard space, but the revolving base provides 360-degree views, \$799, at Room & Board, South Coast Plaza Village. (714-549-5995; roomandboard.com)



Create a seating configuration for any space, large or small, with versatile sectional pieces. The **SORRENTO SECTIONAL COLLECTION** features a selection of corner chairs, sofas and chaise lounges, from \$615, at Restoration Hardware, Fashion Island. (949-760-9232; restorationhardware.com)



Dining alfresco is even easier when the kitchen moves outdoors. Make it a backyard party with the **WEBER SUMMIT S-470 NATURAL GAS GRILL**, \$1,929, at Sur La Table. (949-640-0200; surlatable.com)



An outdoor rocking chair makes the perfect front porch perch. Aged wood slats contrast with the contemporary curved black metal frame in the **VOLUTE ROCKER**, \$488, at Bliss Home & Design. (949-566-0380; blisshomeanddesign.com)



Made of food-safe, BPA-free polymer, the **GOVINO OUTDOOR GLASSES** look and perform like crystal, but they're reusable and shatterproof, \$15 for a four-pack, at Juxtaposition. (949-715-1181; juxtapositionhome.com)



Put a low-maintenance spin on landscaping with a **POTTED SUCCULENT ARRANGEMENT** that can be set tabletop or in a barren corner, price available upon request, at Molly Wood Garden Design, Costa Mesa. (949-548-1611; mollywoodgardendesign.com)



Soak up the sun while unwinding on an **ALUMINUM MODERN SUN LOUNGER**, available in customizable colors, \$695, at ModShop by RoomService, Costa Mesa. (714-424-0647; roomservicestore.com)



Inspired by a lifelong love of the ocean, these **OUTDOOR FABRICS** created in partnership with Kravet Fabrics mix modern, whimsical designs with durable practicality, from \$62 per yard for various designs, at Barclay Butera Interiors. (949-650-8570; barclaybutera.com)



Forget the tiki torch—this patented **OIL BURNER** from the Lighthouse Outdoor Torch collection provides a steady, strong flame, even in windy conditions, from \$90, at Design Within Reach, Costa Mesa. (714-427-0628; dwr.com) **NBM**



Doug Schulein,
owner of
Aerial Fitness
Orange County

HIGH-FLYING FITNESS

Gym-goers in Newport Beach are overcoming their fears of heights—and getting in shape at the same time—with adrenaline-filled workouts on aerial silks.

BY BRIA BALLIET

WHEN DOUG SCHULEIN FIRST STARTED WORKING at a Club Med resort years ago as a tennis instructor, he never imagined that he would one day run his own gym, let alone an aerial fitness program. Now the owner of Aerial Fitness Orange County in nearby Costa Mesa, Doug and his team of fearless and skilled acrobats have created an experience that is as enjoyable as it is strenuous.

Once reserved for circus acts, the aerial arts—which include silks, trapeze and lyra

(hoops)—have gained popularity in recent years thanks to shows such as Cirque du Soleil and acrobatic performances by musical artists like Pink. Now the practice is more in demand than ever as classes become accessible to the general public, with participants drawn to the genuine, full-body workout that lacks the monotony of a traditional gym. In Orange County, Doug's program offers locals a chance to test their strength as they learn to climb and perform tricks with graceful athleticism.

Newport Beach Magazine: *What does a typical class look like?*

Doug Schulein: We don't put more than four people in a class. I know how important it is to have the private attention. [To] warm-up, [there] is stretching, hip flexors, hamstrings ... then climbing up the silks. And then there [are] basic tricks. So a beginner can—in the first 10 minutes of climbing—already be able to do three tricks. Everybody learns those three tricks the first day. Even if they can't climb, we still teach tricks 2 feet off the ground.

NBM: *What's the first thing that people comment on when trying aerial fitness for the first time?*

DS: The first thing people say is, "Oh my God, that was awesome! I never thought I could do it." When you go to Cirque du Soleil, you look up and go, "I wonder if I could do that?" Well, now you can.

NBM: *What areas of the body get the most benefit from aerial fitness?*

DS: It is full-body. There is constant tension. It's all stomach—all abdominals, all the time ... even when you're not thinking about it.

NBM: *What are the biggest challenges when it comes to this workout?*

DS: The biggest challenge ... is the fear of falling and the fear of heights. When the student's feet get at my head level, that's where they first realize, "I could fall and get hurt." So, for a lot of people, that's the freeze point. Once we get them past that, it never happens again. But it's those first couple classes where people tense up.

NBM: *So, what type of workouts can people do at home to help get in shape for your gym?*

DS: Everybody asks this. And I've tried desperately for the last year to come up with a home version so people can train. All you can do is just general fitness to keep yourself strong and light and flexible. That's the best thing you can do.

AERIAL ACCESSORIES

Acrobatic experts at Aerial Fitness Orange County share the best gear to take you from solid ground to new heights.

THERE'S LITTLE THAT ONE NEEDS TO BEGIN CLIMBING. As owner Doug Schulein says, "It's just you and the silks." A few things, however, will help participants excel in the sport—like wearing fitted athletic clothing, holding hair away from the face and keeping slippery sweat at bay to maximize the aerial experience. With these simple essentials, you'll be flying high in no time at all. **NBM**



VIBE RELAY TIGHTS, \$79, at Athleta, Fashion Island (949-717-6650; athleta.com)



FLY AWAY TAMER HEADBAND, \$12, at Lululemon Athletica, Fashion Island (949-644-9642; lululemon.com)



CORE METHOD TANK with moisture-wicking power fabric, \$55, at Lucy, Corona del Mar (949-717-6751; lucy.com)



ENERGY BRA, \$48, at Lululemon Athletica, Fashion Island (949-644-9642; lululemon.com)



MANDUKA EQUA HAND TOWEL, \$16, at YogaWorks, Newport Beach (949-640-9642; yogaworks.com)

CINEMATIC

SUCCESS

Beloved locally for its cultural footprint on the city, the Newport Beach Film Festival also makes a worldwide impact with screenings of unexpected hits that garner critical and commercial acclaim.

BY PETER A. BALASKAS

BEFORE THE THEATER LIGHTS DIM, TAKE A MINUTE TO DRINK in the electric buzz steadily building as the audience anticipates a motion picture's debut on the big screen. Commit the moment to memory—though you might not yet realize it, you could be playing a small but important role in the film's history as it screens at the Newport Beach Film Festival.

For the past 16 years, the festival has served as a shining cinematic symbol on the West Coast. Beyond its offering of high quality classic and contemporary pictures, it's also known for giving local audiences a first look at numerous films that go on to enjoy major success across the board. Each work has the exciting potential of becoming a breakthrough hit, a film that simply strikes a nerve among critics and audiences not only in Orange County, but also across the United States—if not the world. And when a breakthrough hit occurs, not only is the filmmaker's reputation solidified, but the Newport Beach Film Festival's standing and stock value is further reinforced on a grand scale.

On the eve of the 15th annual event this April and May, Gregg Schwenk, the festival's co-founder and executive director, and his creative team are excited to host another year of debuting an estimated 400 films in Newport, including features, documentaries, shorts and music videos, to name a few. From Oscar-winning pictures by seasoned-yet-underappreciated filmmakers to sleeper hits that launch emerging artists into the spotlight, the Newport Beach Film Festival has delivered a spectacular showing of talent over the years. Here, enjoy a look back at the groundbreaking hits that have helped shape this community event into a force to be reckoned with.





PHOTOS ON THIS PAGE COURTESY OF LIONSGATE FILMS/PHOTOFEST

"Crash" (2004) went on to win three Academy Awards after its festival debut.

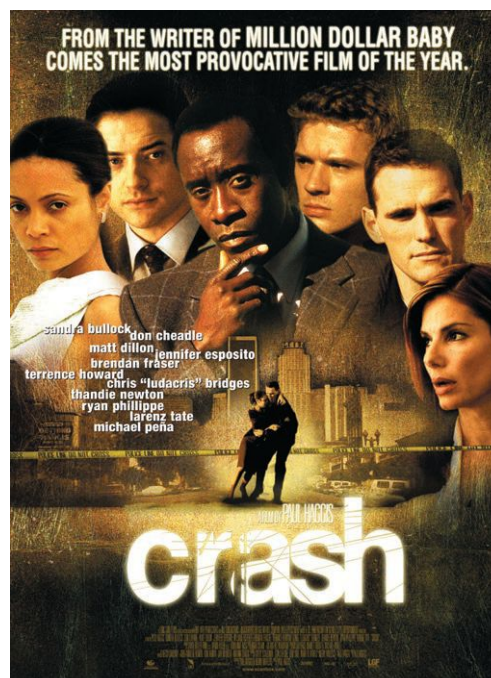
Academy Acclaim

As Gregg points out, Newport Beach is the perfect spot to host a world-class film festival, not only because of the golden sand, sun and the warm weather—as well as its close proximity to Hollywood—but also for the city's deluxe screening venues.

"Newport and the surrounding areas have a wide abundance of premier theaters: the Lido, the Big Newport, Triangle and Island cinemas," Gregg says. "All of these are cinemas that will screen the films in a format and environment that is respectful of the filmmaker."

One of the biggest pictures to make its way into Newport theaters in the festival lineup is the unforgettable story of LA's racial tension, social stratification and loss from the Academy Award-winning Paul Haggis. Before making his directorial debut with the 2004 drama "Crash"—which stars Sandra Bullock, Don Cheadle and Matt Dillon, among other notable A-list names—Paul was already established as a seasoned professional. His past credits include co-creating the television series "Walker, Texas Ranger" as well as serving as a screenwriter and producer for Oscar winning films, most notably Clint Eastwood's Best Picture champion "Million Dollar Baby."

Despite his prior success, after "Crash" debuted at the Toronto International Film Festival in September 2004, the demand to screen the film at other festivals was surprisingly low—until it reached Newport Beach. Gregg and his festival



staff recognized the film's potential and how the Newport Beach Film Festival would be an ideal venue for its U.S. debut.

"There were a number of film festivals that were offered 'Crash,' and I guess turned it down," Gregg says. "We believed in it. We felt it was a superior film and one that was very important for people to see."

"Crash" was the 2005 opening night feature, which consequently became the launching pad for the film's commercial and critical success.

A LESSON IN FILM

Although the Newport Beach Film Festival is a treasure trove of features, short films, documentaries and music videos, it's also a place where new filmmakers can learn a thing or two about their craft and the industry. Every year, the festival hosts a variety of filmmaking seminars and workshops—and the best part about these programs is the affordable price tag.

"One of the hallmarks of the Newport Beach Film Festival is we try to make the art accessible," says Gregg Schwenk, the festival's co-founder and executive director. "We keep our prices reasonable. Because of support and special grants we received from the cultural arts committee for the city, our seminar programs are free and open to the public."

The festival workshops and seminars are hosted and taught by professionals who are experts in their respective fields, such as screenwriting, directing and cinematography. Last year's discussion panel on film music included Oscar-nominated composers Lalo Schiffrin ("Mission Impossible," "Cool Hand Luke") and Mark Isham ("Crash," "A River Runs Through It"), and the film editing seminar saw Academy Award-winning editor Billy Goldberg ("Argo," "Zero Dark Thirty") share his views on his artistry.

This year's guest lecturers and topics are still being finalized, but Gregg indicated that the festival might host its first story pitch session workshop where filmmakers can learn how to sell their stories to studio executives. Regardless, Gregg says film lovers of all kinds will be inspired to learn at the Newport Beach Film Festival: "I really encourage people to take advantage of those seminars ... to come out and hear firsthand how these great works of art are created and crafted from the people who make them."



Clockwise from top left: “(500) Days of Summer” (2009), the closing night feature for the festival’s 10th annual event; “Waitress” (2007), which won the festival’s audience award for best feature; director Mark Webb on the set of “(500) Days of Summer”



“Crash” went on to win a string of festival awards that year, including Best First Feature for Paul Haggis at the Independent Spirit Awards. But the crowning moment for “Crash” was when it won three Academy Awards, including Best Picture, cementing Haggis’ stature as a multifaceted screenwriter and director.

Gregg says he still occasionally sees Haggis at festivals, and he reminisces how the Newport Beach Film Festival gave “Crash” its chance to shine. This unexpected success also validated his staff’s meticulous selection process, especially since every submission is guaranteed to be viewed in its entirety five times before being chosen.

“To my knowledge, we’re one of the few festivals in the [country] who had an opening night U.S. premiere film that went on to win [the Oscar for] Best Picture,” Gregg recalls.

Silent Sensations

In another tale of the Newport Beach Film Festival pinpointing a silent success, the 2004 British crime

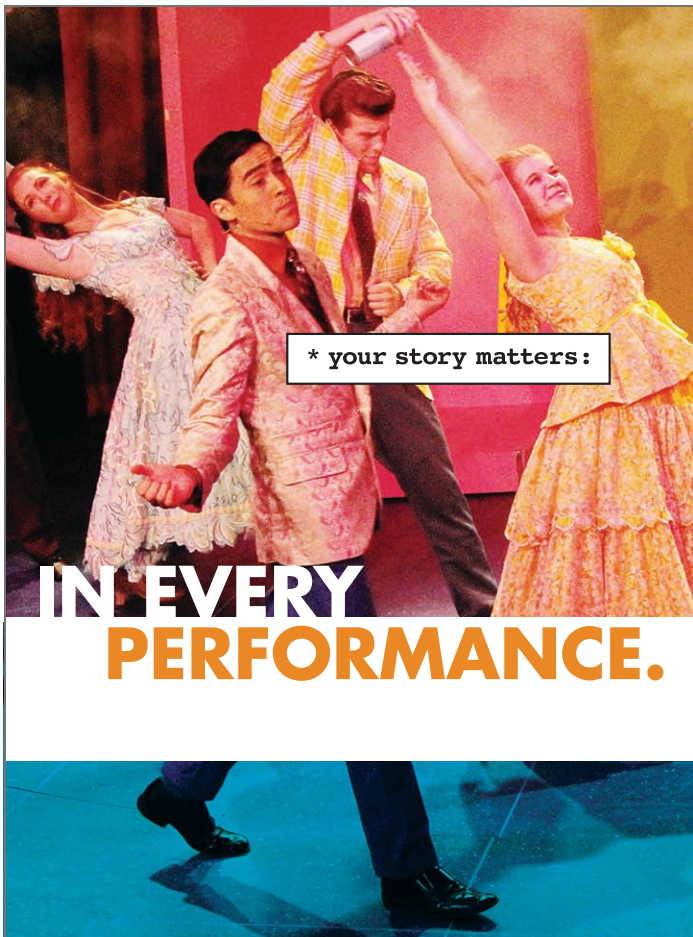


PHOTOS ON THIS PAGE COURTESY OF FOX SEARCHLIGHT/PHOTOFEST

thriller “Layer Cake” became a critically acclaimed sleeper hit after its local screening, resulting in future successes for its star Daniel Craig and director Matthew Vaughn. Daniel proved he had the presence to be a leading man for the first time, which led to his casting as James Bond in the popular franchise. Matthew also found success following his directorial debut with the fantasy film “Stardust” (2007) starring Claire Danes and the blockbuster “X-Men: First Class” (2011).

Whenever “Layer Cake” is mentioned, Gregg can’t help but smile and share his praise for the film. “‘Layer Cake’ is an awesome film,” he says. “It was gritty, but it had that hip spin to it that has been sort of a hallmark in so many other films since that point. I get more of our returning patrons asking about ‘Layer Cake’ than probably any other film.”

Similarly, “(500) Days of Summer” (2009), starring Joseph Gordon-Levitt, not only served



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as the closing night feature for the festival, but also celebrated its West Coast premiere in April as part of the 10th annual lineup. Its screening at the Newport Beach Film Festival followed a successful showing at the Sundance Film Festival in January.

"It is really probably the most modern romantic comedy of its kind," Gregg says. "And the twists and turns and overall outcome I think really redefines that style of filmmaking."

The comedy also has a connection to Newport Beach: The city's 2005-06 mayor was Don Webb, the uncle of director Marc Webb, who made his feature film debut with "(500) Days of Summer." Marc has since gone on to helm 2012's "The Amazing Spider-Man," breathing new life into the franchise. Gregg praises Marc's artistry as a director, which will be on full display in the "Spider-Man" sequel to be released later this year.

Crowd Pleasers

The Newport Beach Film Festival has furthered its reputation in recent years as a springboard to success for films and filmmakers alike. Take, for example, "The Illusionist" (2006) starring Edward Norton, "Waitress" (2007) starring Keri Russell, and the acclaimed documentary "The Cove" (2009).

"The Illusionist" was the 2006 closing night film, with lead actress Jessica Biel earning the festival's Outstanding Achievement in Filmmaking Acting award. The historical Vienna-based drama was subsequently nominated for an Oscar for Best Cinematography. Director Neil Burger went on to direct the thriller "Limitless" (2011) starring Bradley Cooper, as well as the 2014 film adaptation of the best-selling young adult science fiction novel "Divergent."

In 2007, "Waitress" stole the spotlight as a popular crowd pleaser, winning two awards at the festival, including the audience award for best feature. Two years later, "The Cove" documented dolphin trainer Richard O'Barry's shocking exploration of the abusive treatment of dolphins in Taiji, Japan, and won the audience award for best documentary, an accolade that was echoed at the Academy Awards.

"It's a critically important documentary for people to see and to realize that film can be a very powerful motivator to change people's perceptions and possibly redefine what's culturally acceptable," Gregg says.

In the Works

In planning for the 15th annual event, Gregg, co-founder Todd Quartararo and their staff are



Jessica Biel (left) received a festival award for her work in the "The Illusionist" (2006).

in constant talks hoping to find the next breakthrough hit. One program the team feels may lend itself to achieving that stature this year is the International Spotlight. This spotlight will give new filmmakers from around the world a chance to present their works in scheduled screenings that are organized into geographic sections, including Europe, Latin America and the Pacific Rim.

Two other key programs this year will be the Youth Film and Collegiate showcases. Since its inception in 2005, the Youth Film Showcase features movies created by filmmakers ages 18 and younger. The Collegiate Showcase, therefore, invites the top film schools in Southern California—from USC and UCLA to community colleges like Orange Coast and Saddleback—to feature the best work from students. This program allows the Newport community to interact with the filmmakers and respective faculty while providing an opportunity for famous alumni from those institutions to view their alma maters' newest creations.

Also featured will be the Art, Architecture & Design Film Series, which puts a spotlight on films that celebrate the creative arts, including photography and fashion. Popular documentaries in this series from previous years include "Jean-Michel Basquiat: The Radiant Child" (2010) and "Infinite Space: The Architecture of John Lautner" (2008).

The 2014 festival will also see one special tradition continued: an exclusive screening of a John Wayne classic, courtesy of the John Wayne Cancer Foundation. Filmmaking pioneers will also be honored, with past notable names including cinematographer Haskell Wexler, director Robert Wise, composer Elmer Bernstein and actor Alan Arkin.

New this year, the festival will host a special celebration for the 50th anniversary of the MacGillivray Freeman Films, which has been instrumental in groundbreaking IMAX filmmaking technology. The event will see co-founder Greg MacGillivray, who has been nominated for two Academy Awards for Best Documentary: Short Subject, individually honored for his contributions.

"Greg MacGillivray has been a steadfast support of the film festival," Gregg shares. "We'll have a number of special [events] and screenings of both some past films but also a yet-to-be-released film of Greg's. We are going to be looking at an evening that will be celebrating his work and the work of his team."

With a stellar lineups of films, seminars and workshops, the Newport Beach Film Festival will continue to be a significant event celebrated for elevating the city's presence as a film capital and as a vehicle for breakthrough hits in the years to come. NBM

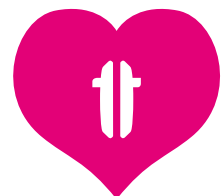
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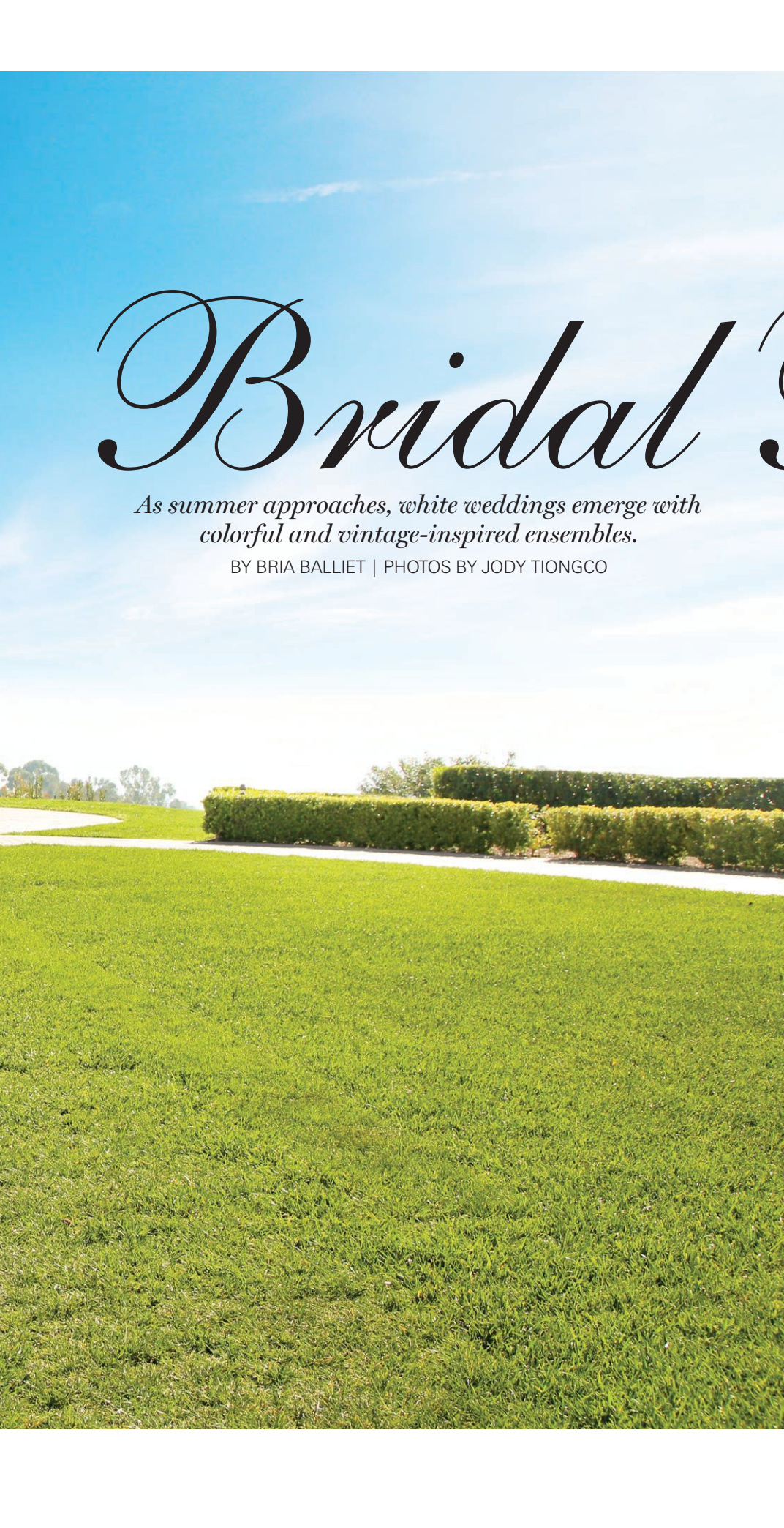
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Ball gown with Swarovski crystal detailing, at Casablanca Bridal;
emerald and diamond earrings and ring, at Traditional Jewelers



Bridal Bliss

As summer approaches, white weddings emerge with colorful and vintage-inspired ensembles.

BY BRIA BALLIET | PHOTOS BY JODY TIONGCO

IT'S A SCENE OFTEN PICTURED IN FILMS: A LITTLE girl passes a white gown in a shop window and begins to daydream of the day she'll meet her fairy tale prince, have a lavish wedding and ride off into the sunset, the train of her ivory dress trailing behind her.

With such a sense of importance placed on the traditional wedding dress, it seems as if the frock has been a wedding day staple since the beginning of marriage itself. But the white wedding gown, popularized by Britain's Queen Victoria when she chose the style for her marriage to Prince Albert in 1840, did not become mainstream in Western culture until the 1900s. Despite its relatively new surge in popularity, wedding fashion has seen many ups and downs in the last century, from the elegant tea-length ensembles of the 1950s to the puffy-sleeved, high-necked ball gowns of the early 1980s.

Though the styles have fluctuated across the decades, the overall bridal look remained consistent for some time—a white or ivory full-skirted gown, dramatic veil and simple jewelry, offering little flexibility to accommodate individual style. Luckily for the modern bride, there has since been a harmonious marriage, so to speak, between tradition and taste, and the latest bridal fashions allow women to easily create a look that is as timeless as it is a reflection of their personal style.

MODELS: ALENA ZUBAKINA AND ZORI ADZIC,
HOLLYWOOD MODEL MANAGEMENT; HAIR AND
MAKEUP: VERONICA NUNEZ; VENUE: THE RESORT
AT PELICAN HILL; BOUQUETS PROVIDED BY:
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Bride: Ball gown with tulle skirt, at Casablanca Bridal; emerald and diamond earrings and ring, at Traditional Jewelers

Bridesmaid: Ruffle dress in emerald, by Badgley Mischka, at Neiman Marcus, Fashion Island; diamond bracelet, three-stone drop earrings, at Traditional Jewelers



Backless gown, at Casablanca Bridal; Gallop diamond necklace with matching earrings, diamond ring, at Black, Starr and Frost

Mermaid silhouette dress with tulle skirt, at Casablanca Bridal; kunzite pendant diamond necklace, ring, at Mark Patterson



Bridesmaid: Belted navy dress, by David Meister, at Neiman Marcus, Fashion Island; rose gold diamond-encrusted earrings, at Winston's Jewelers

Bride: Chantilly lace gown, at Casablanca Bridal; chandelier earrings, white and rose gold ring, at Jewels by Joseph

Haute Hues

Brides looking to brighten up their big days have been turning to color in new and unexpected ways. From the gown to the engagement ring, they're taking it upon themselves to add vibrant accents to wedding day attire.

Kim Stuart, vice president and global sales manager of Casablanca Bridal, which has a flagship salon at Crystal Cove Shopping Center, says the company's designers are just as eager to experiment with color as its clients are.

"... We are coming at it from a very thoughtful place," she says of Casablanca's designs, noting that the brand's use of rose gold thread and layers of tinted tulle offers a unique and subtle way to add excitement to a dress without departing too much from tradition.

Many brides are drawn to the softer blush and Champagne colors, which are now being offered more widely—but other shades are gaining popularity as well. "I am seeing a huge trend in blush and ombre-colored gowns, and also a little blue," says Jennifer Kelley, owner of Jennifer Renee Weddings & Events in Newport.

Those who wish to wear white to their weddings don't have to forego unexpected hues altogether, however.

"Colored gemstones have been popular for engagement rings in Europe for centuries, and here in the U.S. they provide a great option for the bride who prefers a personal expression," says Marisha Van Dyke, a bridal expert at Traditional Jewelers at Fashion Island.

In fact, Kate Middleton's deep blue sapphire and diamond engagement ring inspired many women to depart from the traditional diamond center stone. Sapphires and other stones can be found in hues like peach and blush to please more subdued tastes, while bright gems such as emeralds and rubies are gracing the fingers of more and more brides-to-be. Marisha also points out that colored gems can be cost-effective alternatives for those who desire a large center stone but may not want to pay the price for a diamond of similar size and quality.

Golden Age Glam

For the bride who wishes to pay homage to the past as she steps forward into her future, vintage-style gowns and jewelry prove to be popular choices. Lindsay Geisler, event designer and wedding coordinator with Newport's Sugar Branch Special Events & Design, says that what's old is now new again. "The wedding industry is

Vintage-style lace gown with illusion neckline, by Berta Bridal, at Mon Amie Bridal Salon; diamond necklace, rose hair comb, yellow and white gold ring, at Winston's Jewelers



High-neck gown, by Lazaro, at Mon Amie Bridal Salon; earrings, canary diamond cuff, yellow gold ring, at Swiss Watch Gallery

BIG DAY BLING

For engagement rings and beyond, the selection at these local jewelers will leave brides swooning.

NEWPORT BEACH:

Black, Starr and Frost

(949-673-1771; blackstarrfrost.com)

Jack Monarch

(949-673-7777; jackmonarch.com)

Jewels by Joseph

(949-640-6788; jewelsbyjoseph.com)

Lugano Diamonds

(949-720-1258; luganodiamonds.com)

Mardo Fine Jewelry

(949-675-1701; jewelrybymardo.com)

Mark Patterson

(866-221-6593; markpatterson.com)

Traditional Jewelers

(949-721-9010; traditionaljewelers.com)

BEYOND NEWPORT:

Nathan Alan, South Coast Plaza

(714-545-8337; nathanalanjewelers.com)

Swiss Watch Gallery, Laguna Hills

(949-458-1962; swisswatchgallery.com)

Winston's Jewelers, Costa Mesa

(949-645-9000; winstonsnewportjewelers.com)

GORGEOUS GOWNS

Brides and bridesmaids alike will say yes to the dress at these specialty stores in and around Newport.

Casablanca Bridal

(949-715-8228; casablancabridal.com)

Erin Cole, Costa Mesa

(949-642-5552; erincole.com)

Mon Amie Bridal Salon, Costa Mesa

(714-546-5700; monamie.com)

Neiman Marcus, Fashion Island

(949-759-1900; neimanmarcus.com)

Oday Shakar Atelier, Costa Mesa

714-641-0316; odayshakar.com

The White Dress

(949-723-0121; thewhitedress.com)

seeing a resurgence in styles and elements from the golden era of the 1920s,” she says. “Brides and designers are being seduced by the glitz and excitement of such a socially opulent time.”

Channeling the Roaring Twenties, brides are opting for sheath silhouettes that mimic those of the era. Intricate beading and elaborate lace details throughout the gown are must-have details. “Dropped waists, cap sleeves, Chantilly lace ... all pay homage to a romantic and decadent time,” Lindsay shares.

One of the most beautiful and unforeseen ways that designers are utilizing this trend is in a dramatic, backless style. “We are seeing a lot of open backs,” Kim says. “So as [the bride] walks down the aisle, it appears that she is very proper ... and the big surprise is that as she passes everyone walking down the aisle, she has a very open keyhole back.” Whether the bride decides to don a completely open back draped with diamonds or a stunning “illusion” back that utilizes nude colored tulle with crystal beaded overlay, she will surely make a splash as she says “I do.”

In addition to gowns, the jewels of this decade were unmistakable. Today’s brides are taking note and working these pieces into their modern celebrations. To add a touch of glamour and nostalgia to their wedding day accessories, brides are donning bejeweled headpieces in lieu of the traditional veil. Crystal-encrusted headbands worn



TOP:

Bride: Lace gown, by Berta Bridal, at Mon Amie Bridal Salon; statement necklace, at Winston’s Jewelers

Bridesmaid: Illusion cap sleeve dress, by Theia, at Neiman Marcus, Fashion Island; yellow gold diamond earrings, at Winston’s Jewelers

BOTTOM RIGHT:

Bride: Ruched mermaid satin gown in blush, at Casablanca Bridal; diamond drop necklace, cuff, stud earrings, ring, at Black, Starr and Frost

Bridesmaid: Black ponte gown, by Alice and Olivia, at Neiman Marcus, Fashion Island; pearl earrings, at Black, Starr and Frost

BOTTOM LEFT:

Layered gown, by Hayley Paige, at Mon Amie Bridal Salon; Tahitian pearl necklace and ring, stud earrings, at Jewels by Joseph





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Wedding by the Bay

For the twosome that desires a nautical yet elegant setting, the Balboa Bay Resort offers two beautiful outdoor ceremony venues that overlook glistening Newport Bay and can accommodate up to 400 guests. Brides even have the option to enter their ceremony via yacht for a truly one-of-a-kind walk down the aisle. Afterward, two reception halls provide enchanting spaces for the new couple to celebrate with friends and family. (855-894-2788; balboabayresort.com)

Wedding With a View

The Resort at Pelican Hill offers couples unmatched views for their big days. Perched 300 feet above the water, the event lawn boasts panoramic vistas of the Pacific Ocean and Catalina Island in the distance. One of the venue's other draws for couples is the privacy of the location. Completely separate from the rest of the resort, the most pristine overlooks are reserved especially for brides and grooms to say their vows. To top it all off, included in all wedding packages is a wedding butler to attend to all wedding day needs and emergencies, as well as a complimentary bridal bungalow for the newly united pair to spend their first evening as husband and wife. (888-507-6427; pelicanhill.com)

Eco-Friendly Wedding

As a venue, the Environmental Nature Center is a wonderfully meaningful place for couples to say their vows while expressing their appreciation and respect for Mother Nature. The award-winning and eco-friendly location features recycled materials throughout the venue, water-efficient systems and energy-conserving climate control, which allow the space to produce more energy than it uses. Its 3.5 acres of outdoor space includes a butterfly garden, redwood forest and 15 different California plant communities for the happy couple and their guests to explore after the ceremony. It's the perfect location to hold a stunning celebration and simultaneously support a worthy cause. (949-645-8489; encenter.org)



Clockwise from top left: Environmental Nature Center; Island Hotel Cabana Room; Balboa Bay Resort; Crystal Cove

Wedding on the Sand

The bride and groom hoping to get their feet a little sandy should look to the Beachcomber Cafe at Crystal Cove. From fall to spring, ceremonies can take place at Crystal Cove State Beach or Moro Canyon, with a reception to follow at either the Beachcomber or the "Beaches" cottage. The Beachcomber Catering team will attend to food and beverage needs at either location, and the venue can accommodate up to 200 guests. (949-376-6900; thebeachcombercafe.com)

Large and Lavish Wedding

For the duo with a large circle of loved ones, the Island Hotel provides one of the most grandiose venues in Newport Beach. With a new wedding site and 600-person ballroom, there's no need to trim down the guest list when you say your vows at this AAA Five Diamond property. The romantic outdoor terrace is covered and heated, so wedding parties can enjoy the space without having to worry about unexpected weather. (866-554-4620; islandhotel.com)

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TOP:

Bridesmaid: One-shoulder gown, by Badgley Mischka, at Neiman Marcus; garden pendant necklace, diamond stud earrings, at Mark Patterson

Bride: Iridescent strapless gown, by Lazaro, at Mon Amie Bridal Salon; diamond earrings, necklace, at Mark Patterson

BOTTOM RIGHT:

Tea-length dress, by Justin Alexander, at Mon Amie Bridal Salon; diamond earrings, necklace, at Mardo Fine Jewelry

BOTTOM LEFT:

Blush colored gown, at Casablanca Bridal; diamond drop necklace, cuff, ring, at Black, Starr and Frost



low across the forehead—like a flapper—are being seen on more aisles than ever, according to Leyla Finkle, general manager of Swiss Watch Gallery in south Orange County. The shop's customized headpieces offer the perfect accessory for the vintage-inspired bride. Another possibility is to use hair combs to pin back tresses—long strands of delicate pearls are a foolproof option. “We can do anything from feathers to diamonds and everything in between,” Leyla says of the store's headpiece selections.

Romantic Notions

It's no surprise that brides-to-be are electing to don softer, dreamy looks for their nuptials—arguably the most romantic day of their lives. As far as wedding gowns are concerned, the romantic theme manifests itself in many ways. From subtle flower appliques to airy chiffon skirts, brides are choosing details that let them feel like the princesses in their own personal fairy tales. With this call for romance, a classic silhouette is coming back, but with modern adjustments.

“Brides nationwide [are] asking for ball gowns again,” Kim says, noting that the trend had fallen off the radar in previous years. Layers of tulle offer the full-skirted look that women want while maintaining a softer appearance that satin gowns of the past lacked. Brides are also gravitating toward mermaid silhouettes—the curve-hugging style that's become popular in recent years—but are choosing fuller chiffon skirts, sometimes with cascading rosettes or other delicate features.

As with their wedding gown counterparts, romantic jewels and adornments are all about making minor tweaks to timeless styles to evoke a sense of femininity and grace. A simple strand of pearls, a diamond solitaire necklace or a set of teardrop earrings all pair beautifully with the ethereal look of a romantic gown. In lieu of traditional platinum or gold, however, Lindsay Longacre, owner of LVL Weddings & Events in Costa Mesa, suggests a dreamier option for the romantic bride: rose gold. The pink-hued metal, which many brides are choosing to use for their engagement rings, couldn't be more feminine and suggests a look of modern romance.

Lindsay also notes that choosing an alternate style to a classic veil is an easy way for brides to create a dainty look for their big day. “For example, [try] a soft sheer veil with a floral headpiece,” she suggests.



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ETIQUETTE 101

Newport Beach wedding experts weigh in on some of the more puzzling social dilemmas that brides encounter, from the engagement to the dessert table.

Can I tell my fiancé that I don't love my ring?

"To avoid this scenario entirely, I suggest that the fiancé focus solely on the purchase of the diamond; then I have it set in a simple platinum mounting and the happy couple can come in together to choose the ring of their dreams. It relieves a lot of pressure and worry for both parties and gives them a wonderful romantic story to share with friends."

—*Marisha Van Dyke, a bridal expert at Traditional Jewelers at Fashion Island*

Do we have to get a cake?

"Absolutely not. In fact, a big trend over the last few years has been [to offer] alternative sweets. Some fun and unique ideas include cupcakes, an organic ice cream cart

... or—if you are getting married in Newport Beach—Balboa Bars are always a personal touch."

—*Lindsay Longacre, owner of LVL Weddings & Events in Costa Mesa*

Is it rude to include our gift registry with the invitations?

"Never, ever, ever do this. ... It looks like you are asking for gifts, which is distasteful and makes guests feel like that's all you care about. [Instead,] on your save the dates, include the link to your wedding website, which has a place to share your registry information. If one of your guests would like to find out where you are registered, they will ask your friends and family."

—*Lindsay Geisler, event designer and wedding coordinator with Sugar Branch Special Events & Design in Newport Beach*



Floral bracelet, diamond necklace, ring, at Mark Patterson

A Touch of Whimsy

There has never been a more exciting time for the quirky bride with an unconventional style. Couples are becoming more comfortable adding their own twists to traditional looks, from short gowns to statement jewels, and the result is unexpected and wonderfully whimsical.

Not every bride is comfortable in a floor-length gown, for example. Certain styles can be heavy and cumbersome, and for a gal who isn't a fan of dresses in the first place, it can seem like a daunting ensemble. In lieu of a dress, some are opting for a wedding jumpsuit.

"[It is] fashion forward for a daring bride who enjoys less girly wedding options," Lindsay Geisler says. Designers such as Monique Lhuillier, Viktor & Rolf and J.Crew have embraced this unexpected trend, offering the one-piece pantsuit in lace, silk and other fabrics. Alternately, the bride who finds herself caught in the middle—not wanting a full-length dress but not wanting pants either—may find the renewed trend of tea-length wedding frocks appealing.

The chic style, characterized by a length that's past the knee but above the ankle, allows for more movement and is a creative and playful alternative to customary attire.

The exciting thing about whimsical jewelry is that there are no set rules for self-expression. In that sense, there aren't specific trends to follow and brides are free to be as original and unusual as they'd like. Many brides are embracing their inner trendsetter by choosing bolder pieces like dramatic earrings or a statement necklace. Garden-themed pieces are popping up in many weddings, with glittering flowers or insects serving as the focal point of pieces. To top off the look, Lindsay Longacre says that the whimsical bride won't be as interested in a traditional veil. "But what you might see is a bride's spin on a more dramatic veil," she shares. "For example, [one style might be] a gold birdcage veil."

With such diverse possibilities when it comes to wedding day attire, the modern bride is well equipped to make her wedding day memorable and fashionable for herself and her betrothed. **NBM**



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Opposite page:
White lace dress,
\$3,450, sandals,
\$1,120, all avail-
able at Chloé,
South Coast Plaza



Black and snake
print front zipper
dress, \$1,190,
shoes, \$770,
all available at
Barbara Bui, South
Coast Plaza

Pink dress, \$250, by Torn by
Ronny Kobo; shoes, \$350, bag,
\$350, both by Loeffler Randall,
all available at Z Collection,
Crystal Cove Shopping Center





Blue and black print short dress,
\$2,995, available at Roberto
Cavalli, South Coast Plaza;
black and white shoes, \$725, by
Manolo Blahnik, available at Saks
Fifth Avenue, South Coast Plaza

Long orange dress, \$4,445,
short beaded necklace, \$995,
long beaded necklace, \$870,
shoes, \$895, all available at
Lanvin, South Coast Plaza



Green print dress,
\$1,395, by Dolce &
Gabbana; shoes,
\$650, by Prada, all
available at Saks
Fifth Avenue, South
Coast Plaza; sun-
glasses, \$395, by
Tom Ford, available
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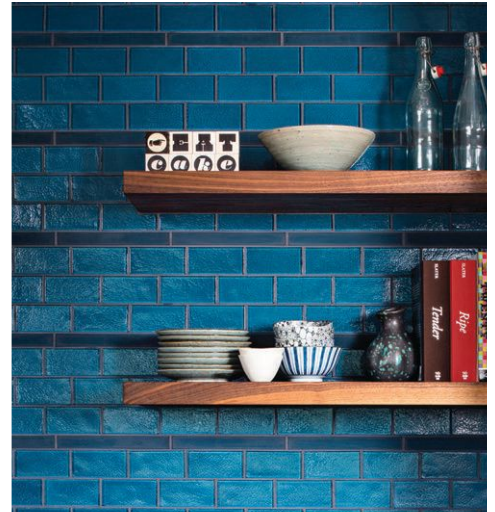
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OUTDOOR HOME AND DESIGN SPOTLIGHT

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE BEST OF OUTDOOR HOME AND DESIGN, THIS ISSUE SHOWCASES ELEMENTS THAT CAPITALIZE ON THE COASTAL ATMOSPHERE OF NEWPORT BEACH. TRANSFORM YOUR BACKYARD SPACE INTO A CHEF'S PARADISE WITH ADVICE FROM DESIGNERS WHO RECOGNIZE THAT THE YEAR-ROUND SPLENDOR OF NEWPORT SHOULDN'T GO TO WASTE (PAGE 62); ACCENT YOUR YARD WITH FEATURES AND PLANTS THAT ARE JUST AS AESTHETICALLY PLEASING AS THEY ARE ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY (PAGE 68); AND DISCOVER THE AREA'S VAST ARCHITECTURAL MAKEUP—AND JUST HOW MUCH YOUR MONEY WILL BUY YOU—THROUGH A TOUR OF FIVE HOMES ACROSS THE CITY (PAGE 72). LIVING ON THE COAST NEVER LOOKED THIS GOOD.



ALFRESCO AFFAIRS

Newport's temperate climate is ideally suited for cooking and entertaining outdoors.

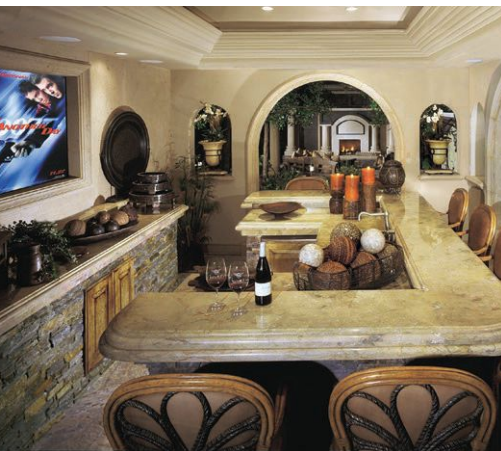
BY VICKI HOGUE-DAVIES

Mark Scott of Mark Scott Associates says outdoor kitchen spaces add functional square footage that expand the size of a lot.

THERE'S JUST SOMETHING ABOUT SITTING IN A wooden patio chair shaded by a wide umbrella as you savor bites of freshly prepared dishes at a backyard barbecue. And even better than dining alfresco is enjoying the mouthwatering smells of food straight off the grill or stove while you relax around a fire pit with friends.

Outdoor kitchens have come a long way since the Weber kettle-style grill first appeared on the backyard barbecue scene about 60 years ago. Today, serious chefs and people who simply love to entertain are enhancing the experience with top-of-the-line appliances, high-end cabinets, granite countertops, heating, televisions and other amenities.





MARK SCOTT ASSOCIATES

Light colors are ideal for direct sunlight.

COOKING UP A BLUEPRINT

Consider these suggestions from Mark Scott of Mark Scott Associates, a residential landscape architecture and design firm, and Debbie Nassetta of Roomscapes, which specializes in kitchen design, for a well-executed outdoor kitchen.

FREQUENCY OF USE: “Think total picture,” Mark says. “When I meet with clients, I ask questions like how [often] will they use the kitchen and generally how many people will they have when they entertain.”

SPACE: “We have to determine where we can put the kitchen and we have to consider the size, setbacks and zoning requirements,” Debbie says. “We talk to [homeowners to] get the scope of how much space they have in their yard or how much space they want to devote in their yard.”

APPLIANCES: “We talk about what appliances they want for cooking ... and also how much they want to invest in appliances,” Debbie says, noting that popular outdoor brands include the Wolf line from Sub-Zero, Lynx and Perlick. Mark calls Kalamazoo Outdoor Gourmet “the Bentley of barbecue companies.”

COLOR: Both designers note that dark granite countertops will become hot enough to fry an egg when the sun hits. Use medium or light colors that don’t absorb sunlight.



ANTHONY GOMEZ

Fire pits make it easy for home cooks to enjoy a break between whipping up meals.

In this coastal city, the spring dining affair is less about coordinating formal table linens with the centerpieces or restricting guests to a particular seat, and more focused on celebrating the pure enjoyment of ideal weather combined with good food.

Spacing Out

Outdoor kitchens take advantage of Newport’s mild climate while extending the home to create more living and entertaining space, says Mark Scott, principal architect of Mark Scott Associates, a residential landscape architecture and design firm based in Newport Beach. Throughout his career, Mark has designed more than 100 outdoor kitchens that offer both luxurious and inviting spaces.

“With the cost of property at a premium in Newport, converting the outdoors into living space is a prudent thing to do,” he says, noting that outdoor kitchens, dining rooms, living rooms as well as other satellite structures can add a tremendous amount of functional square footage. “If you have a relatively small lot, you can add 50 to 100 percent of your living area in your yard.”

And in Newport Beach, unlike areas of the country where living moves indoors for most seasons, residents can enjoy their outdoor spaces all year long. “Because of our weather, we have the luxury of using [outdoor kitchens] year-round,”

says Debbie Nassetta, co-owner of Roomscapes, which specializes in bath and kitchen design, including high-end outdoor kitchens.

Debbie, who is working on an outdoor kitchen at her own home to be completed this summer, believes that outdoor kitchens allow residents to explore epicurean endeavors that are normally avoided. “Sometimes I think about the fact that if my outdoor kitchen was hooked up, I might deep-fry some fish—something that I don’t want to do inside and stink my house up,” she says.

The convenience of an outdoor kitchen also eliminates the hassle of scurrying back and forth between the house and yard for the forgotten napkins, more forks and the potato salad that needs to be kept refrigerated.

Standard Features

Just as burgers and barbecues go hand in hand, outdoor kitchens require certain appliances and amenities to function. “The grill is No. 1,” Debbie says, adding that refrigeration should be next. “Having refrigeration avoids that back and forth into the kitchen to get the meats or the worry about keeping them cool enough if they are sitting on the counter.”

Size is key, and in order for outdoor cooking to reach its full potential, Mark suggests a full-size refrigerator to store all the ingredients in one spot before they make their way to the grill. For that particular appliance, he also advises to purchase



Accent coastal living and dining with a swim-up bar.

it in a substantial size to prepare all entrees.

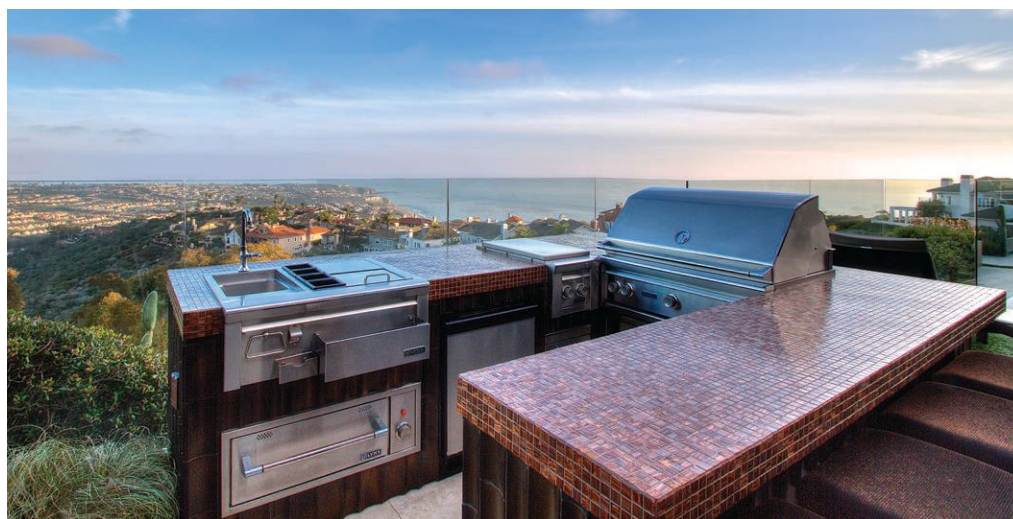
In terms of storage, cabinetry that can both withstand the elements and keep plates, utensils and other items clean is important in outdoor kitchens, both Debbie and Mark note.

“The ease of use and maintenance facilitates the frequency of use,” Mark says, adding that stainless steel cabinets are both self-sealing and weatherproofed. “In the old days, you’d put plates in a drawer and then you have to pull them out and wash them. Not anymore; today you can have a totally sterile satellite kitchen.”

And while a sink is yet to be a common sight in the backyard space, it’s a practical feature to include. “[Sinks] are a nice place to wash off your hands or wash off utensils without going indoors,” Debbie says. Other key amenities that are often overlooked, yet are crucial time-savers, are garbage disposals and ice machines.

“[Additionally,] ovens and warming drawers, along with wine chillers and ‘kegerators,’ are becoming de rigueur,” Mark adds.

The more an outdoor kitchen functions like one indoors, the greater the possibilities for more elaborate dishes beyond steak and chicken at cookouts. One extravagant investment that is increasingly popular among backyard chefs and entertainers is a pizza oven.



Stainless steel appliances are quality investments that ensure durability and longevity.

“You can cook so many things in [pizza ovens],” Debbie says. “In fact, the industry tries to call them ‘hearth ovens’ instead of pizza ovens for that reason. You can certainly cook a chicken in one or bake your lasagna or cook your shrimp—they are not just for pizza.”

Sometimes appliances take a back seat to simply having a comfortable space to relax. “And even though we are in Southern California, we can get cool nights, especially down by the beach,

so having a heater and outdoor fireplace or fire pit makes it a lot more enjoyable to be outside and take advantage of the outdoor kitchen lifestyle,” Debbie says.

To top it all off, satellite kitchens need some sort of cover, which can range from a solid roof, an open pergola or even just a big umbrella, according to Debbie. “We have a lot of sun, so most people like to cover the kitchen,” she says. “... If you are doing a solid roof over your



ANTHONY GOMEZ

Backyard kitchens can include everything from a separate area for cooking, dining and drinking to multifunctional pizza ovens and full-size grills for preparing large family meals.

kitchen, [then] heating can be recessed into the ceiling or you can do pole-style heat lamps.”

Kitchens can be as simple or as elaborate as the homeowner needs. “We have had the aspiring outdoor gourmet chef who wants every appliance out there,” Mark says. “It just depends on the individual.”

For the Entertainment

The look of an outdoor kitchen is often influenced by the entertaining style in order to determine the appropriate layout, size and amenities for the space.

“Seldom do we design an outdoor kitchen by itself,” Mark says. “When we design, we create an entire environment that accommodates the homeowners’ specific cooking and entertaining needs that tie into the overall site design.

“About a year ago, we designed a smaller kitchen in Newport Coast for an older couple that lives in Texas,” he continues. “This is their second home and when they entertain here, it is with family and a few friends, so the pavilion accommodates a smaller crowd.”

On the opposite end of the spectrum, clients who entertain large numbers of people need a completely different arrangement. “[The kitchen] has to be set up for mass production with enough



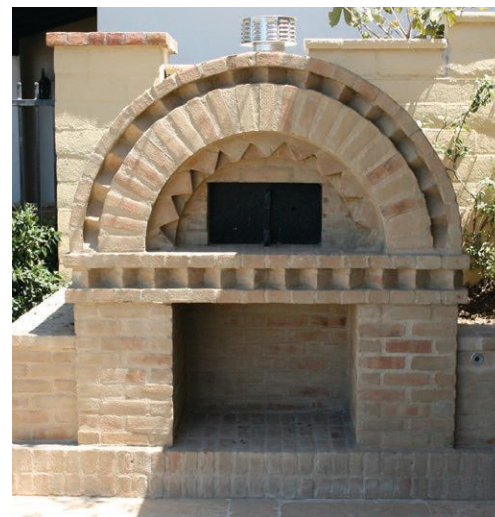
MARK SCOTT ASSOCIATES

room behind the counters for more than one person to be back there,” Mark says. “There will generally be caterers and bartenders, so the space needs to accommodate [them]. ... There needs to be space in front of the counters and bar, as well—be sure access to all the spaces is reasonable.”

In some cases, homeowners dedicate more than one space of their home to outdoor kitchens. One of Debbie’s Newport Beach clients took advantage of the coastal lifestyle by creating two kitchens—the first to enjoy the ocean views and the second for entertaining.

“We did a rooftop kitchen for a house that is literally on the sand,” Debbie explains. “The kitchen had a big grill, sink, icemaker, refrigerator and drawers. ... However, being a rooftop kitchen, it was pretty far from the main level, so the client came back to us to do a ground-level mini kitchen outdoors.”

Some of the more exotic outdoor kitchens Mark has designed involve swim-up bars with



LOS ANGELES OVENWORKS



ROOMSCAPES

televisions facing the water and dry land, as well as game stations. “We have designed water lounge areas with backgammons and chess tables,” he says. “You can sit in the warm water, watch television and eat, which is rather luxurious.

“It is like an outdoor room addition that works with the site and the environment,” he continues. “... A typical center will have the barbecue in the counter and cabinetry with a hood and television, so [residents] can just sit, have a beer and watch a game.”

In this city, it’s easier than nearly any other place in the world to have a kitchen outside the home. As Newport’s version of the old saying goes, “If you can enjoy the heat, get an outdoor kitchen.” NBM



Living the Resort Lifestyle

Designing backyard retreats in exclusive communities from Pelican Hill to Shady Canyon and the Hollywood Hills, Mark Scott brings more than 25 years of experience and a discerning eye for seamlessly blending a home's style with the outdoor living space. "I enjoy design; I love creating and transforming a space," the award-winning designer says.

His Newport Beach-based design firm—Mark Scott Associates, Landscape Architecture—is prepared to create a dream escape not only in landscaping but in the building's architecture as well. To reimagine an existing project, Mark's team conceived the idea of converting a traditional house into a tropical British West Indies estate. At another home, they extended a loggia and replaced a balcony with a view room on top, creating a place to step out of the cold to enjoy a glass of wine while watching the sunset.

With an extensive background designing luxury estates, Mark's portfolio includes everything from a formal dining pavilion with a sliding skylight roof to a wine cellar hidden by a cascade waterfall. Mark says that when a homeowner invites him to design the entire site, it provides an exciting opportunity to create a stunning environment that resembles a small destination resort.

One couple was so pleased with Mark's work at their Newport Coast estate that they hired him to recreate the design at their new home, a smaller space purchased after their grown children had moved out. The owners revealed to Mark how guests



never want to leave their home—they plan to go out to dinner, but never actually go because they enjoy the outdoor space so much. Mark says, "I love hearing that because it means you did your job."

While Mark is ready to indulge any client's style preference to create a comfortable yet elegant outdoor space, he says a few looks are receiving repeat requests in the Newport area, such as midcentury modern or an Asian aesthetic. The constraints of the predetermined architectural communities can make introducing "modern" a very sensitive challenge. However, there are basic tenets that you follow. "You can have that dichotomy of design, incorporating the appropriate materials to help soothe that transition," Mark says.

The designer notes that construction budgets are not usually under \$200,000—a worthy investment that homeowners will appreciate every time they step outside. With the warmer months drawing Newport residents outdoors, there's no better time to reimagine an outdoor space to enjoy your own personal retreat all summer long.



MARK SCOTT ASSOCIATES,
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
(949) 852-1727
MARK@MARKSCOTTASSOCIATES.COM



a green thumb

Native plants and sustainable methods help the environment while saving homeowners time and money.

BY SHARON STELLO | PHOTOS BY JODY TIONGCO



Succulent arrangement at
Sherman Library & Gardens



Shannon Inouye (left) incorporates sustainable accents into her Corona del Mar yard, such as a rain chain (middle) and native plants (right).

NOT A SINGLE BLADE OF GRASS GROWS IN Wayne and Shannon Inouye's front yard. Instead, the space features a dry creekbed of stones curving across a swath of redwood chips, punctuated by spikes of bright green yucca and small shrubs sprouting pink and purple flowers. Butterflies can often be found darting from blossom to blossom.

This Corona del Mar yard was built in a sustainable style to match the Inouyes' LEED Platinum-certified house, which is one of about 2,200 single-family homes in the world given this designation by the nonprofit U.S. Green Building Council for meeting high standards in environmental design. The garden—designed by Sarah Robinson from The Plant Nerd in Huntington Beach—won last year's California Friendly Garden Contest, a countywide competition sponsored by Roger's Gardens, a family-owned Corona del Mar home and garden store.

For Shannon, it was an easy decision to build a home and garden with less impact on the environment. "Our planet is being damaged by our current practices and we need to be proactive in our actions to improve things," she explains.

A trend that goes hand in hand with the organic food and healthy living movements, sustainability as an approach to gardening has received a green thumbs-up as it's less expensive to maintain and requires a smaller time investment, according to Ron Vanderhoff, general

manager of Roger's Gardens. When Ron started working in the gardening business 35 years ago, he says no one cared about sustainable practices besides a niche minority. In recent years, especially in times of drought like this one, the trend is moving away from the lush lawn—which Ron calls "a poster child for nonsustainable landscape"—and toward plants that thrive with less water.

Sustainable Steps

While most people who consider creating a sustainable garden don't eradicate the entire lawn like the Inouyes, more homeowners are taking steps in the "green" direction. Yard renovations today incorporate some eco-friendly elements, whether it's less turf, solar lights or native plants, which grow in the region naturally.

"You can take a traditional garden and do things in a sustainable way," says Scott LaFleur, garden director of Sherman Library & Gardens in Corona del Mar, explaining that homeowners can move in a sustainable direction by simply changing their current methods. Watering, for instance, can make all the difference.

"Most people are way overwatering everything," Scott says, noting that sprinkler timers need to be adjusted seasonally. "[People] set it and forget it."

One option for water control is to install weather-sensitive irrigation controllers, which shut off when it rains. Newport Beach residents

who choose to install weather-based irrigation controls—in addition to rotating sprinkler nozzles, soil moisture sensors and rain barrels—can receive rebates from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California with an accepted application. To further reduce water bills, irrigate in the early morning or evening—not during the heat of the day when much of the water is lost to evaporation. Likewise, plant beds should be covered with organic mulch such as bark chips to reduce evaporation and runoff.

Scott also encourages homeowners to compost lawn clippings and plant trimmings and then apply that rich material to the soil to give it a natural boost. He advises staying away from artificial fertilizers because the plants become dependent on these additives, which kill the living organisms that help a garden flourish.

"It's kind of like putting your plants on drugs," Scott says of synthetic fertilizers. "... [Instead,] you want to try to create balance in the ecosystem."

Making a yard environmentally friendly is not an all-or-nothing proposition, however. "Sustainable gardening is a degree—it's a gray area," Ron explains, defining a sustainable garden as one having fewer inputs and outputs. Inputs include money, time and energy; water and other natural resources; chemicals such as fertilizer and insecticides; and fuel or electricity to run lawn mowers and edgers. Outputs include garden



At Wayne and Shannon Inouye's home, LED lighting illuminates water-absorbing pathways.



Cactuses and succulents in creative layouts can enhance a garden's aesthetic.

clippings and other green waste; water runoff carrying chemicals to storm drains and the ocean; and pollution from leaf blowers and lawn mowers.

"If you can reduce [all of] those ... you're getting closer to a sustainable garden," Ron says.

When switching to sustainable, Ron and Scott both recommend taking small steps—adding one or two native plants, such as lavender or sage—or removing a small portion of lawn and becoming comfortable with those changes before embracing more eco-friendly elements.

"People look at converting their garden to sustainable and become overwhelmed," Ron says. "My approach is just change 10 percent; just get started. Don't worry about changing things all at once. Take the lawn down a few feet or, when buying a replacement plant, buy one that's a little more climate appropriate."

Eco-Friendly Flora

Coastal Southern California's mild winters and summers can support thousands of plants, particularly Mediterranean varieties and—a subset of those—California native plants. Cactuses and other succulents also flourish, adding interesting shapes and textures to gardens.

Such plants are viable options for homeowners who wish to dedicate their time to activities other than mowing and weeding every weekend. At the Inouye home, Shannon says she values the reduced maintenance of her sustainable garden because it saves both time and money by allowing succulents and native plants, such as sagebrush, salvia, monkey flower and yarrow, to thrive on their own.

Serving more than one purpose, native plants provide food and habitat for butterflies and birds, according to Scott, who knows a thing or two about native plants. He took the helm of Sherman Gardens in January after serving as director of horticulture at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden in Claremont, which boasts the largest collection of California native plants.

In his new role, Scott plans to expand Sherman Gardens' native plant area as a resource for community members to learn about sustainable gardening. "It's definitely something we are going to start doing more of," Scott says. "It's not the plant—it's how you use the plant in design and it's how you're interacting. It's finding that sweet spot between economics and aesthetics."

Perfect Presentation

Like the Inouyes did for their garden, Ron suggests choosing drought-tolerant plants that remain

attractive no matter the season. “Choose those that have beautiful, year-round interest,” he says. That could mean a plant that keeps its green foliage or features bright flowers in spring or berries in winter.

When putting together a sustainable garden, sometimes it takes a designer’s plant knowledge and artistic eye to make it flow in a way that works and is aesthetically pleasing.

“Every element has to tie into each other,” says Warwick Hunt, principal designer and founder of Studio H Landscape Architecture, which has an office on Balboa Peninsula. For example, it’s important to group plants based on their needs for water, light and soil. Certain plants need a designated amount of space between others or else everything around it may soon be squeezed out or hidden in shade.

“That’s where an expert can help,” Ron says.

For landscape inspiration, Sherman Gardens features an impressive array of succulents in creative layouts, a big part of making a garden inviting.

Warwick notes that sustainable gardens extend beyond plants to the lighting and building materials used for patios. He tries to incorporate sustainable elements, from drip irrigation to LED lights, in his projects. “We try to explain that the extra \$35 per light fixture will pay for itself and it’s a better product,” Warwick says.

For decks, he steers homeowners to ipe, a sustainable Brazilian hardwood that is certified by the Forest Stewardship Council—an organization that promotes responsible management of forests such as replacing trees every time one’s cut down. “It’s a very hard wood and it’s long-lasting and has a nice, dark, rich color to it,” he explains.

When choosing stone, Warwick opts for limestone from quarries in the U.S. rather than Asia to reduce the cost and carbon footprint. He also recommends Carlsbad-based Oceanside Glasstile for tiles made in part with recycled glass bottles.

While some clients may not be thinking about the environment when they begin a garden project, Warwick tries to educate them about eco-friendly options. “I just try to open their eyes [to] ... a great product,” he says. “[They] can save some money and it looks as good or better. It’s an easy sell.”

While sustainable design is still a low percentage of his firm’s work, he says more clients are seeking this kind of landscaping every year: “It’s definitely going in the right direction.”

With a sustainable mindset, a palette of native plants and better-for-the-environment materials, any garden can go green with minimal effort. And for those ready to make a bold move, there’s always the option of ditching the lawn altogether. **NBM**

Notable Natives

Native plants require less water than traditional landscape options and maintain appeal across seasons. To grow a sustainable garden with such flora, here is a carefully curated list of easy-to-grow native plants recommended by local experts Ron Vanderhoff of Roger’s Gardens and Scott LaFleur of Sherman Library & Gardens.



California fuchsia:
Features red tubular flowers



California lilac:
A variety of forms and sizes from shrubs to ground cover; features white to purple-blue flowers



Deer grass:
An accent bunchgrass; grows in dense clumps



Erigeron:
A long-blooming, light purple daisy



Manzanita:
Evergreen shrubs with smooth, red-brown bark, pink blooms in winter and berries in spring and summer



Lavender:
Purple flowers, ranging from light to dark



Sedge:
A meadow-type native grass; works as a traditional turf replacement



Toyon:
Evergreen shrub; looks like holly and features red berries in fall and winter



Hummingbird sage:
Excellent groundcover; features spikes of maroon flowers



Oak:
Sturdy trees that provide plenty of shade



Penstemon:
Sprouts of purple or red tubular flowers

A PLACE TO CALL HOME

With charming waterfront communities, sprawling estates with unforgettable views and so much more, there's a residence in Newport Beach for every price range.

BY PETER A. BALASKAS



AS THOUGH IT WERE A DIAMOND WITH COUNTLESS SHINING facets, Newport is composed of diverse neighborhoods, each possessing a unique character. There's the exclusive Bay Island and the neighboring Bay Avenue, which is snugly bookended by the beach and Newport Harbor. Across the channel, the sidewalks that hug the canals of Balboa Island are constantly filled with joggers, dog walkers, couples strolling hand in hand and children running alongside the docks. On the mainland, One Ford Road is home to

elaborate estates, while the brick roads of Linda Isle lead the way to many seafront sanctuaries.

The homes in these exquisite neighborhoods—among many others across the city—showcase just how much your money will buy you in this coastal community. From expansive estates starting at nearly \$20 million to tasteful cottages priced between \$1 million and \$3 million, there's a choice of architectural styles and design features to suit any taste and budget.



More Than \$10 Million

12 TROON DR.; \$19.5 MILLION

Three dwellings make up this sprawling, luxurious residence housed on an acre of pristine land in the exclusive One Ford Road community. Architect David Obitz designed the 12,000-square-foot, four-level, two-winged main house in a Pennsylvania Dutch Colonial style collaborating with the owner



as well as the interior designer, Courtney Lawrence Ziething. The adjacent guesthouses—a stone cottage dwelling and a quaint barn-like structure—exude rustic qualities.

“People love this house from the moment they first see it, as it genuinely reflects the learned art of architecture from days past,” says Rob Giem of HOM Sotheby’s International Realty.

In the main abode, ample space is provided in the living room, family room, morning room (used for breakfast) and an immense library, which contains built-in shelves and a brick fireplace. An airy, multipurpose kitchen with a center island complete with a veggie sink, a butler’s pantry, an office/crafts room and even a “mud room” to store dirty shoes all add to the charm of the ground floor.

The master bedroom and its respective bath and closets, as well as a sitting room for morning tea, fill the second level of the house. There is also an upstairs family room and guest bedroom suite; an

adjoining bridge offers access to a children’s study room and three additional guest bedroom suites located in the other wing of the house.

The third floor of the manor provides a unique sanctuary in the form of an atelier that can be used for storage or as a workshop or studio. Meanwhile, the basement level is a dream come true for oenophiles and cinephiles alike with a fully functional wine room and spacious movie theater.

“The house was designed for entertaining and can easily accommodate hundreds of people for gatherings,” Rob says. “It provides the lifestyle that many people want, but cannot find this close to the water in Orange County.”

With all these amenities, as well as a scenic pool pavilion surrounded by a variety of luscious foliage, future homeowners can relish in this dream resort of peace and tranquility.

HOM Sotheby’s International Realty: 949-554-1200; homgroup.com



\$7 Million to \$10 Million

27 LINDA ISLE; \$8,495,000

As potential homeowners enter the guarded gate from Bayside Drive, they'll take a leisurely cruise across the bridge and explore the horseshoe-shaped Linda Isle before arriving at this Mediterranean-style hideaway, which was completely remodeled in 2011 by Hilton Builders. It offers not only a spacious three-bedroom, five-and-a-half bath dwelling, but is also fully furnished with entertainment centers for all bedrooms, leather furniture and a flat-screen TV for the downstairs library, and glass dining tables for both the main indoor dining room and the outdoor patio.

"[The homeowners] can walk in here and not have to do a thing," says Evan Corkett of Villa Real

Estate. "This house is ready, done [and] practically new. ... Hardly anything has been used."

The ground level—set with porcelain-tiled floors crafted to resemble delicate limestone marbling—contains the living room, dining room and a kitchen. The multipurpose kitchen is a chef's—and host's—haven, containing maple wood cabinets, granite counters, a generous center island, two pantries and a six-burner Wolf range oven. The nearby side patio includes a Jacuzzi and an elevator equipped to transport guests to the second level.

A sanctuary for homeowners, the master bedroom and one of the guest bedrooms on the second level share an outdoor balcony that offers a breathtaking view of the main channel and turning basin. Evan says that this view, as well as the home's

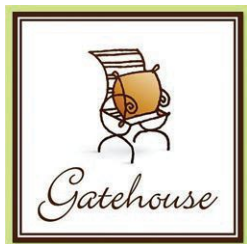
renovated private pier and slip for a boat up to 57 feet, is what makes the location one of the best.

"The value of having a turning basin view is really what it's about," she says. "That's the real advantage of this house."

When a nighttime soiree is desired, entertaining can be taken to the upstairs media room where hosts can screen movies or sporting events on either a flat-screen TV or a 100-foot retractable screen and overhead projection system, provided by Orange County-based AudioVisions. With plenty of entertainment inside, as well as a bay-side view ideal for barbecuing while watching the sunset, this Linda Isle home is the quintessential island hideaway.

Villa Real Estate: 949-698-1904; villarealestate.com





The Ins and Outs of Home Design

Before “bringing the outdoors in” became a catchphrase, Kim Sankey of Gatehouse, an interior design store, was embracing this approach—helping homeowners seamlessly blend the look of their indoor and outdoor spaces. Whether it’s a one-bedroom cottage or a luxury estate on Newport Coast, Kim says it’s important to create consistency throughout the home to make it look pulled together while also feeling comfortable and inviting.

Kim provides interior design services and offers a showroom in Costa Mesa where clients can try out the furniture rather than just blindly ordering pieces from a catalog. Gatehouse focuses on a “sophisticated coastal” style—natural wicker and neutral palettes—where the indoor and outdoor spaces are reflective of one another.

“Our aesthetic, in general, is very neutral and organic,” Kim explains. However, she emphasizes that her clients’ preferences are the most important component and she works to make their unique style shine.

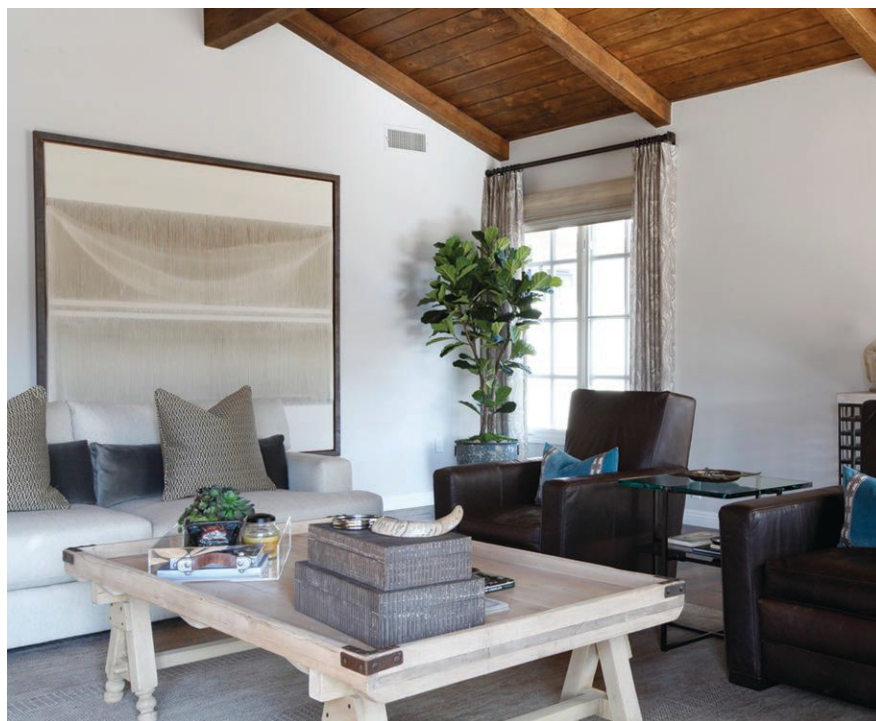
No matter the look, Kim selects quality, functional pieces for every home. For indoor furniture, she favors makers such as LEE Industries, a family-owned, eco-conscious company that still



makes its sofas and chairs in the United States. For outdoor patios, her go-to company is Gloster Furniture. “The quality and their attention to detail ... there isn’t anybody like them,” she says. In the store, Kim also carries accessories by local artists, including lamps handcrafted by a Huntington Beach glass blower. As she says, “It’s nice to support people right in our neighborhood.”

Kim opened Gatehouse after working as a furniture representative, selling to stores on the wholesale side of the industry. She always wanted her own shop, and when it came time to turn that dream into a reality in 2004, she sought to offer something different from existing stores, which all seemed to carry the same type of outdoor furniture: brown iron with fabric sporting palm trees or monkeys. After a trip to Europe for a home furnishing show in Paris—and with some recommendations from her husband Bill, who works in the outdoor industry—Kim pulled together a curated collection of inspired pieces.

At the time, it was a new idea to make the design flow from the home to the backyard. But now, on the cusp of the store’s 10th anniversary this fall, Kim says the philosophy is a category that’s here to stay.

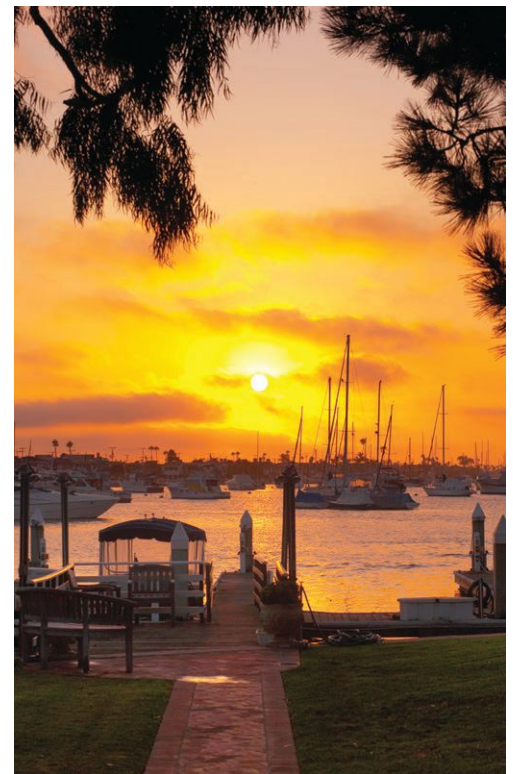


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\$5 Million to \$7 Million

21 BAY ISLAND; \$6,288,000

Designed by the late architect Kurt Donat, this traditional Cape Cod-style home—which is the only one on Bay Island with three above-ground stories—boasts trademark mahogany paneling, white wood walls and walnut wood floors in the ground level family room, living room and the nautical-themed dining room. The latter completes its vintage cruise liner aesthetics with an arched white slat ceiling, a built-in varnished cabinet with a glass display area and brass ship lock hinges, fixtures and wall lights.

“I’ve sold real estate in town for 28 years; that’s probably my favorite dining room I have ever seen of any house,” says Steve High of Villa Real Estate. “To me, it feels like you’re in a luxury cruiser from the 1930s or 1940s. There’s nothing quite like it.”

At the heart of the ground level is the kitchen with an open, welcoming layout featuring a mahogany breakfast bar adjacent to a five-burner gas cooktop on the granite counter island, an interior breakfast room and a rear patio that opens up to a gas fire pit and secured koi pond.

On the second level, the master bedroom has a stunning view of Balboa Peninsula as well as dramatic high ceilings. Two guest bedrooms, a laundry room and an office are also on the floor. Moving up, the third level features what Steve calls a “grandchild playroom,” which has ample



romping room, an adjoining bath, a built-in desk and French doors that lead to a balcony overlooking the bay.

With all the available space and amenities—including a private parking lot just one block away from the island, as well as a private pier and slip for a large boat—Steve feels this house is a must for any future homeowner

interested in keeping a family home through many generations.

“There are only 23 houses on this island, and they don’t come up that frequently,” he says. “This is an opportunity of a lifetime for a potential purchaser to create a legacy ... for their family.”

Villa Real Estate: 949-968-1903; villarealestate.com



PHOTOS BY DANNY KIM



\$3 Million to \$5 Million

300 EAST BAY AVE.; APPROXIMATELY \$3 MILLION

Onlookers from East Bay Avenue see a house that resembles a three-story deluxe apartment building, with balconies on each level boasting views of the shore and a distant harbor. Upon entering, it's clear that this roomy residence served as a comfortable home for a family who savored the beach lifestyle and contemporary architecture—courtesy of Newport Beach architect Richard Dodd and builder Brian Lewotsky.

"[This area] is very family-oriented," explains Shauna Covington of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices. "People look out for each other, and it's a very friendly environment."

Inside, the ground level provides what Shauna

describes as the "in-laws quarters," which include a guest bedroom suite complete with a kitchen and dining area, flat-screen TV and outdoor patio deck with a panoramic beach view. Nestled nearby is another guest bedroom.

Hardwood stairs lead to the second level, where a master bedroom suite exudes warm comfort thanks to its fireplace and patio with an unobstructed view of the beach. The guest bedroom next to the master suite also leads to an outdoor patio deck featuring an unparalleled view of Harbor Bay. Both the master and secondary baths have elegant Carrara marble counters and tubs.

Considered the entertainment level, the third floor's family room dominates with a complex sound and security system, plus plenty of room for a flat-screen TV. This floor also houses yet

another fireplace, a breakfast nook, a dining room that can easily be converted into a fifth bedroom, the main kitchen and a master patio deck with an outdoor bar and barbecue.

But the rooftop deck is what separates this home from the others on the block. Here, homeowners can enjoy a deluxe state-of-the-art barbecue and an eight-person Jacuzzi, as well as a 360-degree view of Newport Beach—perfect to enjoy summer sunsets or the Newport Beach Christmas Boat Parade in winter.

"This house truly takes advantage of all of the views," Shauna says. "When you are on the rooftop deck, you will notice that this house has really maximized its potential."

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices: 949-395-8786; shaunacovington.com



\$1 Million to \$3 Million

217 GRAND CANAL, BALBOA ISLAND;
\$2,695,000

This intimate Balboa Island beach cottage greets visitors with the small town charm of the island and welcomes them in with a fenced-in front patio—the perfect spot for an alfresco breakfast. Around the corner, a second patio completes the home's outdoor accouterments with an exclusive extension leading to a dock ready to accommodate an 18-foot boat.

Once inside, the fresh openness of the water-front home proves to be its most stunning feature. On the ground level, the cottage includes refinished, original hardwood oak floors and Carrara marble countertops and backsplash for both the kitchen and bathrooms. The open living room, which overlooks the water, completes the layout with a classic red Dutch door that either leads out to the patio or to the office/den, breakfast bar and dining room areas. The upstairs features an above-garage apartment that was originally a separate space until a former owner



connected it to the rest of the house, creating a roomy, private master bedroom with a walk-in closet, bath and a separate outdoor stairway.

The cottage's homey charm is attributed to the architecture, which reflects its construction in 1930 by displaying the lasting signature look that many other Grand Canal houses seem to possess.

"The houses that were built with a good architectural style were really well constructed and lasted 80-plus years," says Don Abrams of Abrams Coastal Properties. "[This house] is one of the best examples of a restored Balboa beach cottage in the 1930s."

The friendly neighborhood only adds to the

cozy atmosphere—especially since the cottage is raised above the boardwalk, offering a full, scenic view of the canal.

Residents are within walking distance from a variety of restaurants, coffee houses and retail stores on Marine Avenue—and there's plenty of opportunities to visit with neighbors at the occasional barbecue.

Abrams Coastal Properties: 949-675-4822; abramscoastalproperties.com NBM

Editor's note: Some of the homes featured here may no longer be on the market as of press time.



NEWPORT FLOOR COVERING

Woven Into the Fabric of the Community

Newport Floor Covering, serving the community for more than 55 years from its Corona del Mar shop, is moving to a larger showroom in Costa Mesa this spring as the current building is being sold. Although their address will change, the one-stop interior design center will continue its longstanding commitment to customers in the Corona del Mar area, helping these “good neighbors” find the best in flooring—from carpet to hardwood, tile, vinyl and laminate—and Hunter Douglas window coverings, including custom shades, blinds, shutters and sheers.

These quality products go hand in hand with competitive prices at Newport Floor Covering, part of the Carpet One Floor & Home cooperative, which boasts the purchasing power of nearly 1,000 stores to negotiate with mills for the lowest possible price. “People think we’re too expensive because we’re in Corona del Mar, and we’re not,” says Debbie Gilia, the shop’s office manager and a certified Hunter Douglas specialist. “We can compete with the big box stores.”

Newport Floor Covering provides a free measurement and design consultation, as well as Carpet One’s warranty: “You will love the way your new flooring looks or we will replace it for free—installation included,” the warranty states.

That guarantee is backed by a knowledgeable, service-minded staff; owner Steve Terpstra has been in the business for more than 40 years and each employee has at least a decade of experience. “We’re focused on building relationships and helping



PHOTOS BY BACEKAMP

people solve their flooring needs. No job is too small,” explains Debbie, who enjoys teaching clients about the benefits and features of products so they can make a better-educated decision.

For example, she says, the increasingly popular wool carpet is durable, flame retardant, hypoallergenic and acts like a natural humidifier to keep the room cooler by capturing moisture and releasing it back into the air. “Wool is a forever carpet,” Debbie says. “You put it down once and never have to worry about it again.”

Other flooring favorites are porcelain tile and luxury vinyl tile that look like wood planks. The shop’s wide variety of flooring options—including custom-designed area rugs—are paired with an expansive selection of window treatments with ultraviolet protection to help prevent floors from fading. One of the best-sellers is the Hunter Douglas Silhouette shade, a sheer fabric allowing visibility while still providing optimum ultraviolet protection. “The reason we offer window coverings is to protect your investment on the floor,” Debbie says.

With these premier products, Newport Floor Covering has helped three generations transform their living spaces—while also donating to local charities—since opening in 1956. As Debbie says, “We will continue to support the Corona del Mar schools and community organizations as well as reach out to our new neighbors in Costa Mesa and Newport Harbor.”

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NewportFloorCoronaDelMar.com

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Isle of Art

Celebrating its 20th edition this May, Balboa Island Artwalk brings art, music and a convivial spirit to the waterfront community.

SECTION BY KARLEE PRAZAK

ERIN HOUGHTON



ERIN HOUGHTON

The Balboa Island Artwalk, held each year in May, marks the unofficial start of summer.

WHAT BEGAN WITH A HANDFUL OF TALENTED artists gathering in an empty studio to show their work is now the largest art walk of its kind in Newport Beach. Currently in its 20th iteration, the Balboa Island Artwalk runs along South Bayfront from Marine Avenue clear past the ferry dock, populating the stretch with live music, art and family fun—a distance that co-founder Debra Huse never anticipated.

“We started the first art walk inside a vacant storefront with maybe 12 artists,” explains Debra, who, along with local artist Michelle

Rudolph and supporter Jan Herrington, organized the inaugural event in May 1995 as a way to promote Newport’s talent.

“It’s not easy to have the opportunity to show your work and get involved with the community,” Debra continues. “[Balboa Island Artwalk is] a way to highlight the local artists and not be too strict, to let people just starting know what it’s like to show—[it’s] an opportunity to start their career or give established artists an opportunity to expand.”

This focus on community-to-artist interaction

is what makes Balboa’s art walk unique and intriguing. “The artists are encouraged to demonstrate, ... from watercolor to oil and sculptures to handcrafting and painting scarves on-site,” Debra says. “Often people don’t get the chance to meet the artists and interact with them. This changes that—it really is an all-around interactive day.”

By its second year, this method helped the art walk’s popularity grow in both artists and attendees, so Michelle and Debra orchestrated its move to the current bayfront location. Debra took the helm alone in 2000, introduced live

music to the mix and opened the event to a handful of artists up and down the coast, from LA to Oceanside and Palm Springs, to participate alongside the locals.

Debra says that today there are five stages with live music—residents along the bayfront donate their patios for the event—with more than 100 artists and 4,000 attendees.

This year's event is hailed by organizers as the 20th Annual Balboa Island Artwalk and takes place Sunday, May 18. Organization efforts began last year, and hopeful artists were required to submit entry requests six months in advance. This allowed ample time to select participants and put together the ever-growing event. That task is led by Debra, and aided by city coordinator Mary Beth Saucerman—who is fondly known as the “legwork person”—and primary sponsor Mary Hardesty, a local real estate agent.

“It touches my heart because I love Balboa Island and I’ve been here since 1969,” Mary says about her involvement. “People can come, stroll and enjoy the island, and support local artists. It’s just a highlight event.”

In honor of the 20th iteration, many artists are offering discounts on their work. Additionally, attendees who “like” the Balboa Island Artwalk’s Facebook page will be entered to receive a free collector T-shirt commemorating the event.

Apart from these perks, attendees can expect this year’s art walk, which runs from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., to be similar to the last, with a lively atmosphere inviting all to enjoy the roughly 100 artists and live bands that spread the length of the boardwalk. A map showing exact participant information is available on the art walk website.

Debra says a private resident or business may host a food truck, but local restaurants will be welcoming hungry art connoisseurs during their regular hours. The OC Cruiser will provide complimentary shuttle service to and from the parking lot at Bayside Drive and Pacific Coast Highway.

This year also marks the art walk’s first photo contest. Debra says participants will be asked to send in their best photographs taken at the Balboa Island Artwalk for a chance to be featured on the website. It’s a way to get everyone involved while also showcasing the beauty and excitement surrounding the event—which is one that many see as the unofficial kickoff to the summer.

“It brings the community together,” Debra explains. “Everybody looks forward to emerging out of winter into spring and summertime together, listening to music and enjoying the beautiful weather, view and art.”



BILL FURNISH

JAZZ IT UP

Smooth melodies and soulful serenades will once again encompass the Back Bay Amphitheater as the Hyatt Regency Newport Beach welcomes its 2014 jazz festival. From May 30 to June 1, guests are invited to dance and sing along, or simply enjoy a glass of wine while listening to the live lineup of award-winning, charismatic jazz musicians. The event, put on by the Hyatt along with Omega Events, will feature autograph sessions and a specialty music store this year, according to Lex Davies, marketing manager of Omega. But the real treat comes in the lineup, Lex says. One highlight to expect is the welcoming of Grammy Award-winning Chaka Khan, as well as nominee Brian McKnight. Dave Koz & Friends, on the Summer Horns Tour with Mindi Abair, Gerald Albright and Richard Elliot, will also take the stage, in addition to several to-be-determined performers. (949-360-7800; festivals.hyattconcerts.com)



MUSICAL MENTORS

The young and musically inclined are encouraged to expand upon their knowledge of notes with help from Orange County’s largest orchestra, the Pacific Symphony. Beginning May 31 and running through June 15, auditions will be held for the Pacific Symphony Youth Ensembles’ 2014-2015 season.

The nine-month learning opportunity of a musical lifetime is spearheaded by the symphony’s own music director, Carl St.Clair, and introduces students to performing at major concert halls, such as the Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall. While a breadth of musical knowledge is required, expertise across instruments is not. The program is broken down into three factions based on individual interests—Pacific Symphony Youth Wind Ensemble (grades eight to 12), Pacific

Symphony Youth Orchestra (grades nine to 12) and Pacific Symphony Santiago Strings (grades six to nine).

For its finale performances at the Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall, the wind ensemble will take the stage May 11 at 1:30 p.m.; the youth orchestra on May 11 at 7:30 p.m.; and the strings group on April 27 at 3 p.m. (714-755-5799; pacificsymphony.org)

ARTS CALENDAR

"Dividing the Estate"

Through April 27; Newport Theatre Arts Center
Set in a fictitious Texas town, this play provides a satirical look at how plunging real estate values bring out a family's struggle for power and greed. The commentary on the American family turns out to be quite comical, so anticipate laughs. (949-631-0288; ntaonline.com)

"Travels with Millard Sheets, 1950-1986"

Through June 1; Laguna Art Museum
The whimsical works of California artist Millard Sheets are on loan from the E. Gene Crain Collection for a limited time. The series of paintings mirrors Millard's own worldly travels, which included six months in Paris, trips to Mexico and an assignment in India during World War II. (949-494-8971; lagunaartmuseum.org)

"Soulful Creatures: Animal Mummies in Ancient Egypt"

Through June 15; Bowers Museum
Adding a new layer of mystification to mummies, the Bowers Museum shines a light upon another ancient Egyptian practice—the mummification of animals. The "soulful creatures" are explained and displayed in this exhibit organized by the Brooklyn



The "Soulful Creatures" exhibition runs through June 15 at the Bowers Museum.



"The Book of Mormon" comes to Segerstrom Center for the Arts in mid-May.

Museum, providing a further glimpse into this intriguing society. (714-567-3600; bowers.org)

"Rest"

April 5-27; South Coast Repertory

In this world premiere play written by Samuel D. Hunter, the audience is transported to northern Idaho in the midst of a blizzard that has introduced a new problem to a retirement home on the verge of shutting down. A 91-year-old patient is lost and, with only a handful of staff and patients left at the facility, the search efforts take an unexpected turn. (714-708-5555; scr.org)

"Mamma Mia!"

April 8-13; Segerstrom Hall

Take a chance on this jubilant musical—set to the enduring hits of the 1970s Swedish pop group, Abba—which follows a bride-to-be's attempts to uncover the true identity of her father on the eve of her wedding. Deemed by many as a "feel-good show," "Mamma Mia!" is a display of grand costumes, impressive vocals and touching mother-daughter moments. (714-556-2787; scfta.org)

"Time Capsule: Recently Acquired Works from the 1970s and 1980s"

April 13 - July 27; Orange County Museum of Art
Embark on a trip back to the 1970s and 1980s via traditional (sculpture, painting and drawing) and modern (photo and videography) media in

this exhibition composed entirely of works created during this time period, which were recently acquired to be displayed at OCMA. (949-759-1122; ocma.net)

"Tartuffe"

May 9 - June 8; South Coast Repertory

In celebration of its 50th season, SCR will reopen its doors to a classic comedy that follows the tribulations of the man accredited with giving the word "hypocrite" an unfavorable reputation. (714-708-5555; scr.org)

"The Book of Mormon"

May 13-25; Segerstrom Hall

"South Park" creators Trey Parker and Matt Stone and award-winning composer Robert Lopez deliver a modern comedic journey of two missionaries who are sent to northern Uganda. Premiered in 2011, the musical has received recognition nationwide, garnering a Grammy for Best Musical Theater Album and nine Tony Awards. (714-556-2787; scfta.org)

"Transit Space"

May 16-17; Irvine Barclay Theatre

Presented by Diavolo Dance Theater, "Transit Space" takes the audience on a journey through the daredevil nature of competitive skateboarding. The show is inspired by the documentary "Dogtown and Z-Boys," but performed through dance. (949-854-4646; thebarclay.org)

COURTESY OF THE E. GENE CRAIN COLLECTION



"Night of the Dead, Mexico" by Millard Sheets

"Portals of Changing Light"

May 17 - June 14; *SCAPE Gallery*

The newest exhibit at Southern California Art Projects and Exhibitions (SCAPE) comes courtesy of Sue Dirksen, who uses thin brushstrokes of acrylic paint to represent all facets of light in her latest creations. The colors bounce off each other, and when viewed from different angles, the canvases transform into living surfaces of pulsating hues. (949-723-3406; scapesite.com)

"The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales"

May 23 - June 8; *South Coast Repertory*

Bring along a youthful accomplice to relish in the outrageously captivating versions of popular fairy tales spearheaded by the Stinky Cheese Man himself. Audiences will laugh as favorite fairy tale characters collide—among other tales, cheer along as Jack sends the giant in his story back up the beanstalk. Directed by Jessica Kubzansky, this performance is based on the beloved book of the same name. (714-708-5555; scr.org)

"Carmina Burana"

June 5-7; *Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall*

The Pacific Symphony will perform the impressive notes that are the signature of the dramatic "Carmina Burana." The iconic melody is instantly recognizable from powerful moments within movie soundtracks, video games and TV commercials. (714-556-2787; scfta.org) *NBM*

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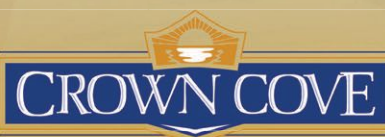
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COURTESY OF SCOTT HANFT PHOTOGRAPHY, THE SHOPS AT KUKUIULA



“As the plane descends into Lihue ... [the view] is



"Sunny Poipu" in Koloa, Hawaii

By Air, Land and Sea

Explore Kauai's South Shore three ways, with myriad options for getting your feet wet, soaring over endless green spaces and staying grounded in the island paradise.

BY ALLISON HATA

A LOVER'S RETREAT, A GREEN SANCTUARY, THE most historic of Hawaii's main islands—there are many things that define Kauai. While the entire island is bursting with lush foliage and white sand beaches, locals lovingly refer to an area of the southern shore as "sunny Poipu," a nickname that reflects the endless days of warmth characteristic of the coastal town in Koloa, Hawaii. It's the perfect spot for honeymooners and families alike, packed with beaches, trails and breathtaking vistas.

With so much to see and do on the island, it's hard to know where to even begin. Here, explore the South Shore three ways—whether by air, land or sea, the community encourages adventure, exploration and relaxation at every turn.

Flying High

As the plane descends into Lihue, the site of the island's main airport, a visitor's first glimpse of Kauai is typically an aerial view—one filled with green hillsides and bright blue waves crashing against the shore. It's fitting, then, to continue the aerial adventuring with one of the many helicopter tours offered in the area that provide incredible vantage points for seeing the untamed landscape of Kauai. Lihue, approximately 30 minutes from Poipu, boasts a handful of tour companies offering a bird's-eye view of the island. Blue Hawaiian Helicopters flies over the southern coast, providing

vistas of Hanapepe Valley (slightly west of Koloa) before circling up to the North Shore's resort area, home to The St. Regis Princeville Resort, Hanalei Bay and the Napali Coast.

Those who want to enjoy the warm island breezes a little closer to the ground can soar through the South Shore's tropical greenery firmly strapped to a zip line. There are a few options to choose from across the island, but Outfitters Kauai offers one of the most comprehensive experiences with the Nui Nui Loa Zipline Trek, a series of nine lines that wind through Kipu Ranch.

The six-hour tour heads slightly inland to a site that sends participants hurtling over green gullies and waterfalls. If the location seems familiar, chances are good that you've actually seen the scenic landscape before on the big screen. Kipu Ranch is a popular location for Hollywood blockbusters, including "The Descendents," "Pirates of the Caribbean," "Indiana Jones" and "Jurassic Park." Embrace your inner movie daredevil—whether it's the swashbuckling Capt. Jack Sparrow or rugged Indiana Jones—and fly free on the specialty zip lines. The last platform features a tandem ride across an 1,800-foot-long line, and guides encourage everyone to kick their heels up and soar upside down for the ultimate rush of adrenaline. The trek concludes with a chance to free-fall off an untethered zip line over a natural waterfall pool.

filled with green hillsides and bright blue waves ..."



MIKE COOTS



Private garden bungalows are a feature at the Grand Hyatt's Anara Spa.

Rentals at The Club Cottages at Kukuiula (top) include access to the club's private pools (above).



The Grand Hyatt Kauai Resort and Spa boasts a championship 18-hole golf course, restaurants, a spa, pools and more.

Ground Level

While some come to Kauai to indulge an adventurous spirit, others prefer a more relaxing stay filled with ocean views, pampering and great food at the two resorts and numerous vacation rentals that stretch for miles along the southern coastline.

Both hotels—the Grand Hyatt Kauai Resort and Spa and Koa Kea Hotel & Resort—offer resort-style amenities and proximity to the water, but the former comes highly recommended by locals as their top choice for a staycation. The hotel's temperature-controlled pools, which include a waterslide, lava rock-lined lazy river and a saltwater lagoon, create an aquatic playground for guests, while unobstructed ocean view rooms feature private lanais and plenty of natural light. Guests can indulge their palates at one of the many restaurants, including the Zagat-rated Tidepools, which has an unbeatable location next to a koi pond plus a contemporary Hawaiian fine dining menu brimming with seafood options like seared ahi, lobster bisque, flavorful opah and crabcakes. In a region not historically known for its culinary offerings, Kauai is coming into its own

with inventive gourmet fare—and restaurants like Tidepools only serve to further this budding reputation. Another on-site indulgence can be found at Anara Spa, where anyone can book an appointment in a private garden bungalow for a Hawaiian massage before stepping outdoors for a lava rock shower.

If you're traveling with family or friends in tow, you may opt for a vacation rental that allows larger groups to enjoy a trip together. Timeshares and private condos line the shore at every price range, but for a premier experience, splurge with a stay at The Club Cottages at Kukuiula. Part of a members-only community, some of the privately owned sites are available for public rental through The Parrish Collection Kauai, the management company that oversees rentals for the cottages. Fully furnished, these two- or three-bedroom bungalows feature large master bedrooms, an updated kitchen, living room, dining area and an indoor/outdoor enclosed lanai. The three-bedroom option also has a separate guest cottage, with its own sleeping area, mini fridge and bathroom. Guests can also enjoy exclusive access to The Club at Kukuiula, the only



Capt. Andy's luxury catamaran sails the Napali Coast.

private club of its kind on the island. The Plantation House restaurant, an 18-hole golf course and pro shop, and on-site farm perched above a lake are just the beginning of the many amenities. A private spa, open to members (and renters) only, has a full complement of treatments—but before slipping away into a state of relaxation, partake in the seven-step guided water ritual that sends guests through the sauna, steam room, outdoor shower, and hot and cold plunge pools.

After resting your head, stretch your legs with a stroll through The Shops at Kukuiula, nestled between the hotels and rentals. Boutiques and galleries abound, but the local dining scene also flourishes in the small center. A culinary gem—Josselin's Tapas Bar & Grill—is tucked away up a flight of stairs and features a sharable dinner experience. Managed and co-owned by Southern California native Andrew Ha, there's not a bad dish on the menu—cocktails are fresh and light, a sangria cart offers tableside service and small plates allow diners to sample an array of seafood and meat creations with Asian influences, like the salmon-opakapaka ceviche with Korean pear or rock shrimp tempura with a kimchee ranch dressing. Finish your evening with a local tradition: Hawaiian shave ice, made to order at Uncle's on the far side of the center.

Open Water

For those who feel Kauai should be experienced aquatically, there are plenty of ways to explore the sandy shores. Snorkeling provides an underwater perspective of marine life—paired with great food and a breezy sail up to the Napali Coast, it's an unbeatable adventure.

Capt. Andy's is just one of the companies operating out of the Port Allen Harbor, but it takes the experience to a new level with a 65-foot luxury catamaran and an on-board chef serving up made-to-order barbecue. After departing from the harbor, the boat follows the coast to calm, shallower waters



Explorers soar through jungles and over green valleys during the Outfitters Kauai Nui Nui Loa Zipline Trek.

where schools of colorful fish swim just below the surface. For first-time snorkelers and kids, the crew offers up inflatable vests that help swimmers of any level enjoy the water. The sail continues along the shore, passing the naval training base, and reaches a turnaround point at the stunning Napali Coast, which boasts a resplendent display of waterfalls and jagged cliffs that aren't accessible by land vehicles. On the way back, keep an eye out for playful dolphins that swim alongside the catamaran, as well as sprays of mist that indicate whale sightings from December to May.

Another traditional way to enjoy Kauai is, of course, on a beach. Poipu Beach is among the most popular options on the South Shore for relaxing on golden sand, snorkeling, swimming or surfing under the watchful eye of a lifeguard. Shipwreck

Beach also offers a stretch of shore and a great vantage point to watch thrill-seekers attempt the iconic swan dive made by Harrison Ford at Makawehi Point in the 1998 film "Six Days Seven Nights" (though it's not recommended due to unpredictable winds). The sloping cliff is easily accessible on foot via the Mahaulepu Trail, an approximately 4.5-mile round-trip trek that takes hikers through a series of scenic overlooks and geological features, like the Makauwahi Sinkhole, a portion of the largest limestone cave found in Hawaii.

Whether it's an aquatic experience, views of the ocean or a tropical sanctuary you're seeking, Kauai offers it all in spades. No matter how you choose to explore the South Shore, one thing is guaranteed—as you discover the untouched paradise of the island, you'll never want to return home.

HAWAIIAN TRADITION

No visit to Hawaii is complete without experiencing an island tradition typically held for major celebrations like birthdays and weddings: the luau. On the South Shore, the Aulii Luau at the Sheraton Kauai Resort is among the newest offerings, with lively entertainment and authentic culinary treats. Hear the ocean crashing against the shore as you sip mai tais from an open bar and sample an array of pupus (appetizers), poke and richly marinated meats—including lau lau, the Hawaiian delicacy of pork wrapped in a taro leaf. Following a buffet-style dinner, the setting sun serves as a breathtaking backdrop as performers offer a journey through music and dance into the cultures of Polynesia, Samoa, New Zealand and Hawaii. Fire spinning, energetic Samoan slap dances and a fierce Maori "haka" are just a few highlights of the exciting evening.

AROUND THE ISLANDS

If you have a few days to spare, head to the airport and discover the treasure trove of beaches, wildlife and city sights that the Hawaiian Islands have to offer.

THE BIG ISLAND

Home to one of the world's most active volcanoes, Kilauea, and the most massive mountain by volume, Mauna Loa, it's no surprise that the Big Island continues to grow. Nearly twice the size of all the other islands combined, the Big Island is home to resorts, golf courses, historical sites and beautiful beaches alike. Magma flows from Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, while history is preserved at the birthplace of King Kamehameha I. Coffee plantations take travelers inside the process of harvesting the rare 100 percent pure Kona coffee, but those more interested in just sampling fresh brews—and other Hawaiian delicacies—can visit downtown Hilo to find restaurants, shops, art galleries and museums.



MAUI

Blanketed in green, the Valley Isle is home to dramatic vistas in a variety of environs. The tropical Iao Valley State Monument and sprawling Haleakala National Park draw hikers, horseback riders, history buffs and those simply on a quest to experience an unforgettable sunrise. The charming town of Lahaina allows visitors a sampling of local culture with shops, restaurants and the storied whaling village. And, of course, Maui's beaches are irresistible and just as diverse as its inland landscapes, with areas great for families, surfers, snorkelers, sun-bathers and more. **NBM**

OAHU

With opportunities for surfing, hiking and other exciting outdoor pursuits in convenient proximity to excellent shopping, dining, nightlife and entertainment, Oahu really is an island that has it all. Honolulu's downtown, including its vibrant Chinatown district, is attracting more and more visitors with the recent additions of colorful boutiques and innovative bars and restaurants. The thriving urban culture has added yet another dynamic to an island consistently recognized by travel media as having some of the world's best beaches and most luxurious resorts. From the pristine waves of the North Shore to the breathtaking panoramas of Diamond Head, Oahu has the most diverse range of activities and settings in Hawaii.



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TAKE A TOUR THROUGH SOME OF NEWPORT'S MOST MAGNIFICENT HOMES

WITH CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE SAND AND SWEEPING OCEAN VIEWS, Newport Beach offers some of the best homes in Orange County. On the following pages, we bring you a special section that highlights a handful of the nicest neighborhoods and most spectacular homes on the market today. All of the properties are represented by Orange County's top Realtors and real estate agents dedicated to sharing their extensive knowledge and providing exemplary customer service.

Pictured on this page:

Address: 10 Canyon Fairway Dr., Newport Beach

Offering price: \$4,395,000

Agents: Natalie Raney (949-698-1256) and
Lindsay Bibb (949-698-1300)

Villa Real Estate | 660 Newport Center Dr., Ste. 200

1101 DOLPHIN TERRACE, CORONA DEL MAR

PRICE: \$9,995,000

Nestled atop Irvine Terrace bluff, this spectacular 4-bed, 5-bath custom estate offers 250-degree panoramic views spanning coastal Orange County. Property features a resort-style, 2,000+-square-foot backyard, complemented by the infinity Jacuzzi and palapa-covered kitchen.

2531 BAYSHORE DRIVE, NEWPORT BEACH

PRICE: \$4,995,000

Designed by award-winning Sander Architects, this gorgeous 4 br, 4.5 ba turnkey residence was just built in 2014 and boasts over 3,600 sq. ft. of chic contemporary design. Stunning bay & marina views from nearly every state-of-the-art room.

601 LIDO PARK DRIVE #1A, NEWPORT BEACH

PRICE: \$3,950,000

This oversized condo combines two units, #A and #F, to make one seamless unit, ideally located on the desirable Lido Isle. This one-of-a-kind unit offers stunning views of Newport Bay and Marina.

430 HELIOTROPE, CORONA DEL MAR

PRICE: \$2,950,000

Rare-to-market Bohemian-inspired home is perfectly positioned on a large lot just South of PCH. Throughout the home, you will find the finest hand-selected finishes with close attention to detail, including dark hardwood plank flooring, artisan stone, custom cabinetry, and voluminous ceilings.

526 SAN BERNARDINO, NEWPORT BEACH

PRICE: \$2,599,000

Never before on the market, this gorgeous 5 bedroom, 6 bath home is inviting, warm and an entertainer's delight located in the heart of Newport Heights. Custom built in 2000, this home features upgraded amenities and impressive living spaces throughout.

3245 CLAY STREET, NEWPORT BEACH

PRICE: \$1,175,000

Located in one of Newport's most desirable neighborhoods, this beautifully upgraded home was carefully designed with a bright and open floor plan. Lavish amenities include high-vaulted ceilings, large bay windows, and a spacious rooftop deck offering gorgeous panoramic views – perfect for entertaining!

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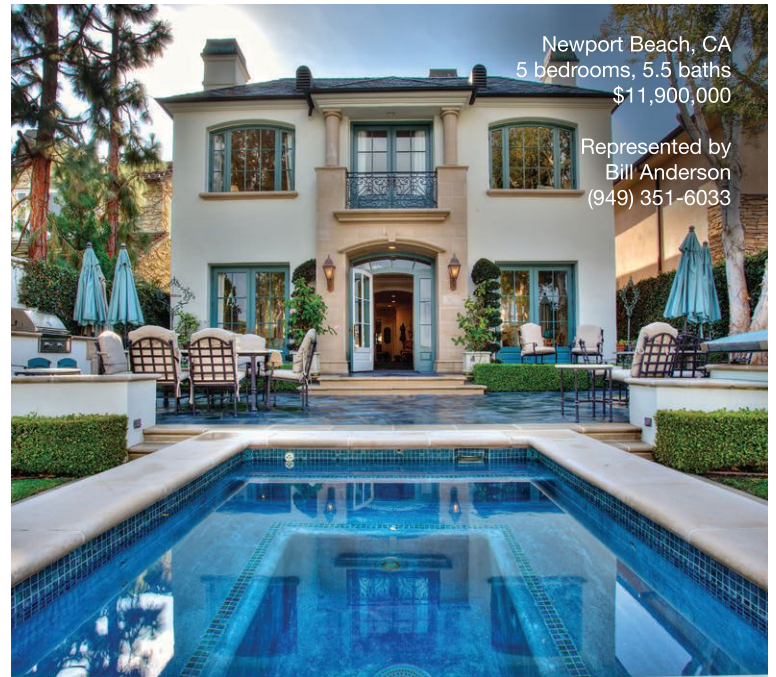
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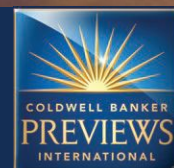
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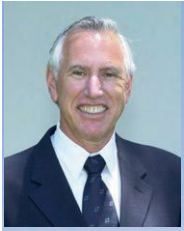
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FESTIVAL OF TASTES

For food and wine lovers, one of the most anticipated weekends of the year is approaching. Balboa Bay Resort will host the 11th annual Newport Beach Wine Festival from May 23-25, offering attendees a chance to experience the culinary prowess of the beloved waterfront resort. The first event of the weekend-long festival, the Master Sommelier Coasting Through California dinner, consists of a six-course dinner—including wine pairings—with each course representing a different region of California. On Saturday, attendees can expect several gastronomic activities, including a class that will focus on the delights of cooking with wine.

Additionally, there are two educational wine seminars during the day followed by the premier event of the evening, the Grand Tasting gala. The occasion will transform the resort's ballroom into a tasting room with more than 90 wineries presenting their offerings alongside gourmet cuisine. Sunday's finale of activities includes Beer for Breakfast, which pairs breakfast fare such as quail egg and prosciutto sliders with craft brews. Lunchtime brings the All-American Seafood Festival, an outdoor barbecue on the bay with live entertainment. To close the weekend, Cigar "On the Rocks" provides the perfect nightcap, offering cocktails and cigars alongside delectable desserts. (949-645-5000; balboabayresort.com) —B.B.





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NB EATS

FIG & OLIVE



Rosemary lamb chops



Tasting of desserts

Ornate Plates

Fig & Olive debuts in Newport Beach with a fresh take on Mediterranean cuisine, a serious cocktail list and a stylish environment.

BY LINDA DOMINGO | PHOTOS BY JODY TIONGCO

FASHION ISLAND'S DINING SCENE HAS UNDERGONE a facelift in the past couple of years, with some of Orange County's hippest eateries opening in and adjacent to the open-air mall. Part of the recent nip and tuck is Fig & Olive, bringing Mediterranean dishes, an impressive wine and cocktail list, and a scene that rivals those of its New York and LA counterparts.

Fig & Olive's interior seamlessly blends contemporary sleekness with welcoming touches reminiscent of an airy Mediterranean abode. The bar is the obvious centerpiece to the great room that greets diners upon entrance, flanked by a variety of seating for diners stopping in for drinks or looking to savor a four-course meal.

For the former, the cocktail menu is an expertly curated list of elegant sips made with fresh ingredients. The Summer in Provence is a refreshing option for any season, made with gin, house-made rosemary thyme syrup, muddled blackberries and

lime juice. The wine list includes more than 30 varietals from California and European regions.

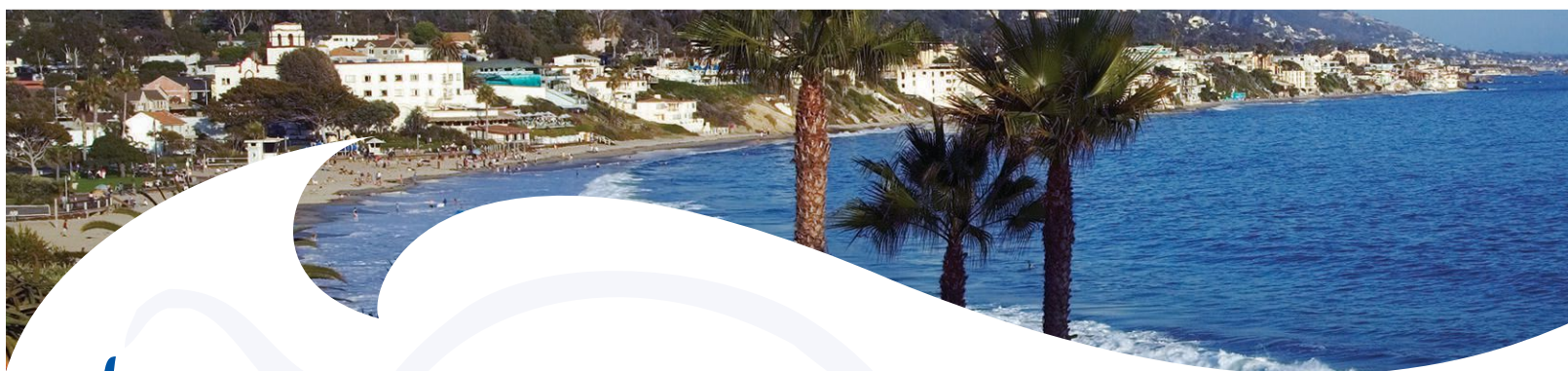
The edible menu, crafted by Executive Chef Pascal Lorange and Chef de Cuisine Kevine Hee, is a seasonal showcase of flavors spanning France, Italy and Spain, but created with ingredients from local farms when possible. There's a crostino for every taste, with toppings ranging from the light and vegetarian-friendly mushroom, artichoke, scallion and Parmesan, to the decadent prosciutto, ricotta, cilantro and tomato. It's also worth sharing a carpaccio plate: The thinly sliced beef comes on a large plate drizzled with 18-year balsamic and white truffle oil along with tomatoes and Parmesan cheese. An interesting alternative, the zucchini carpaccio comes seasoned with lemon, pine nut, Parmesan and picholine olive oil—a harmonious marriage of nuttiness and acidity.

Seafood is a focus at the restaurant and diners can find comfort in a traditional bouillabaisse,

but red meat is served with bravado. Grilled and smoked a la minute, the rosemary lamb chops are served with a fragrant bouquet of herbs de Provence, goat cheese and chive gnocchi, and roasted honey alongside eggplant prepared with thyme, all under rosemary garlic olive oil. The dish is presented under a cloche that encapsulates the aromas until the plate arrives and is ready to be eaten. Of course, there are chicken, pasta and risotto dishes along with salads that can be enjoyed as entrees as well.

Dessert is no afterthought. Diners have a choice of classics like a chocolate souffle or apple tart, but the tasting and sharing plate is a delicate sampling of four of Executive Pastry Chef Andrew LeStourgeon's favorite treats: the dessert "crostini," chocolate pot de creme, a praline and raspberry sorbet. Sometimes the best choice, especially when it comes to dessert, is not to choose at all. **NBM**

Fig & Olive, 151 Newport Center Dr.; 949-877-3005; figandolive.com



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NB EATS

JAVIER'S



Cucumber and jalapeno signature margaritas



The Cabo Azul seafood plate

An Epicurean Escape

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BY SHARON STELLO | PHOTOS BY JODY TIONGCO

STEPPING INTO JAVIER'S IS LIKE ENTERING A resort on the Mexican coast, with its panoramic views of the Pacific and lush tropical landscaping. "We want to make you feel like you're on a vacation in Mexico. ... When you're here, you're taken away," says Javier Sosa Jr., the owner's son and general manager of the restaurant at Crystal Cove Shopping Center.

The Old World-meets-contemporary ambience is evident upon entering. Behind the bar, some of the bottles are displayed in a metal tree sculpture that has a skeleton keeping watch from one branch. The intriguing decor continues into the main dining room with punched metal light pendants, high ceilings and white stucco walls surrounding booths that open up to stunning vistas of the ocean just across the way. Candles flicker on dark wood tables alongside rich leather seats, and a mosaic of colored light filters through windows made of glass bottle tops and bottoms.

Take a seat in one of the many dining areas; whether it's at the cantina, main dining room, one of two private rooms or the loggia, the dining experience is comparable to none.

The appetizing journey begins by sipping a signature margarita—try the refreshing cucumber or slightly spicy jalapeno—made from a curated collection of about 60 premium tequilas. Meanwhile, a basket of fresh chips is presented with salsas prepared from scratch, including a smoky salsa verde made from roasted tomatoes and peppers.

Skilled chefs prepare all dishes with authentic recipes and fresh flavors in beautiful presentations. A perfect example is the "salpicon deshebrado," a light salad made with shredded beef brisket, cabbage, tomato, red onion, chilies, radishes and avocado, dressed in only lime juice, olive oil and vinegar. "If you use good ingredients, you don't want to mask them," Javier says.

The restaurant uses only the highest quality

meats and produce—mostly organic—and the sustainable seafood is brought in fresh every day. Perhaps the most popular plate is the Cabo Azul, a Maine lobster enchilada in a light, creamy pasilla pepper sauce served alongside a grilled chili relleno stuffed with shrimp and Dungeness crab, and a shrimp soft taco accompanied by refried black beans and white rice. Another dish, the Carne Tampiquena, also offers a taste of several favorites: a grilled USDA prime center-cut, 6-ounce New York steak, a chicken mole enchilada, a taquito, refried beans and guacamole. The meat is tender and the savory sauces leave you wishing for more.

Delectable ingredients translate to the dessert menu as the guava cheesecake makes it impossible to put the fork down. It pairs perfectly with a cup of house-blended coffee, which is smooth and flavorful—a fine finale to this culinary holiday that whisks diners away, if only for an hour. **NBM**

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CULINARY EXPANSION

Newport diners will soon have even more mealtime options, as several new restaurants are on the way this spring. **Bosscat Kitchen & Libations** is set to open in April on MacArthur Boulevard in the space adjacent to Ten Asian Bistro, serving up rustic, Southern fare with a lighter, California twist. Expect dishes such as shrimp and grits, along with mixology-focused cocktails and a dedicated whiskey room—the first in Southern California, according to co-owner John Reed. Bosscat will stock 80 to 100 kinds of whiskey and make its own fruit-infused bourbon.

Three artisanal pizzerias are also landing in Newport in the coming months. Alessandro Pirozzi—the award-winning chef behind Mare Culinary Lounge and Alessá Laguna Beach—plans to open **Pirozzi Corona del Mar** in the former KFC space this April, with amenities such as a wood-burning pizza oven and a prosciutto and mozzarella bar. In May, **Sapori Ristorante** is adding a small-scale spinoff in the space next door to the main restaurant, while San Diego-based **Pizza Nova** will take over the Mariner's Mile building vacated in late fall by DivBar. The structure is being remodeled to take better advantage of the waterfront view and, once open, the eatery will offer wood-fired pizzas, seasonal dishes and seafood specials, as well as 16 craft beers on tap.

Also in May, Fashion Island welcomes **Minamoto Kitchoan's** first OC location. The shop offers Japanese sweets called "wagashi," which includes everyday treats like "dorayaki," a pancake filled with azuki red bean paste, as well as elegant seasonal delicacies. —S.S.



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850 Avocado Ave.; 949-718-0188;
hillstone.com

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johnnysrealnypizza.com

LA FOGATA

3025 E. Coast Hwy.; 949-673-2211;
lafogatacdm.com

LANDMARK

3520 E. Coast Hwy.; 949-675-5556;
landmarknewport.com

MAYUR

2931 E. Coast Hwy.; 949-675-6622;
mayur-oc.com

MODO MIO CUCINA RUSTICA

7946 E. Coast Hwy.; 949-497-9770;
modomiocucinarustica.com

NAGISA SUSHI RESTAURANT

3840 E. Coast Hwy.; 949-673-3933;
nagisasushi.com

ORANGE COAST WINERY TASTING ROOM

3734 E. Coast Hwy.; orangecoastwinery.com

PANINI CAFE

2333 E. Coast Hwy.; 949-675-8101;
mypaninicafe.com

PIROZZI CORONA DEL MAR (OPENING SOON)

2929 E. Coast Hwy.; 949-675-2932;
pirozzicdm.com

PORT RESTAURANT AND BAR

440 Heliotrope Ave.; 949-723-9685;
portcdm.com

THAI DEL MAR

2754 E. Coast Hwy.; 949-721-9220;
thaidelmar.com

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2920 E. Coast Hwy.; 949-644-0210

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3224 E. Coast Hwy.; 949-640-7440;
quietwoman.com

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3330 E. Coast Hwy.; 949-791-8730

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3536 E. Coast Hwy.; 949-675-3151;
rosebakerycafe.net

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2407 E. Coast Hwy.; 949-673-3750;
rothschildsrestaurant.com

SIDEDOOR

3801 E. Coast Hwy.; 949-717-4322;
sidedoorcdm.com

SOTA

3344 E. Coast Hwy.; 949-675-0771;
sotasushi.com

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summerhousecdm.com

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tommybahama.com

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zinccafe.com

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949-729-6600; bloomingdales.com

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1095 Newport Center Dr.;
bluecsushi.com

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953 Newport Center Dr.; 949-640-4402;
cafebeausoleil.net

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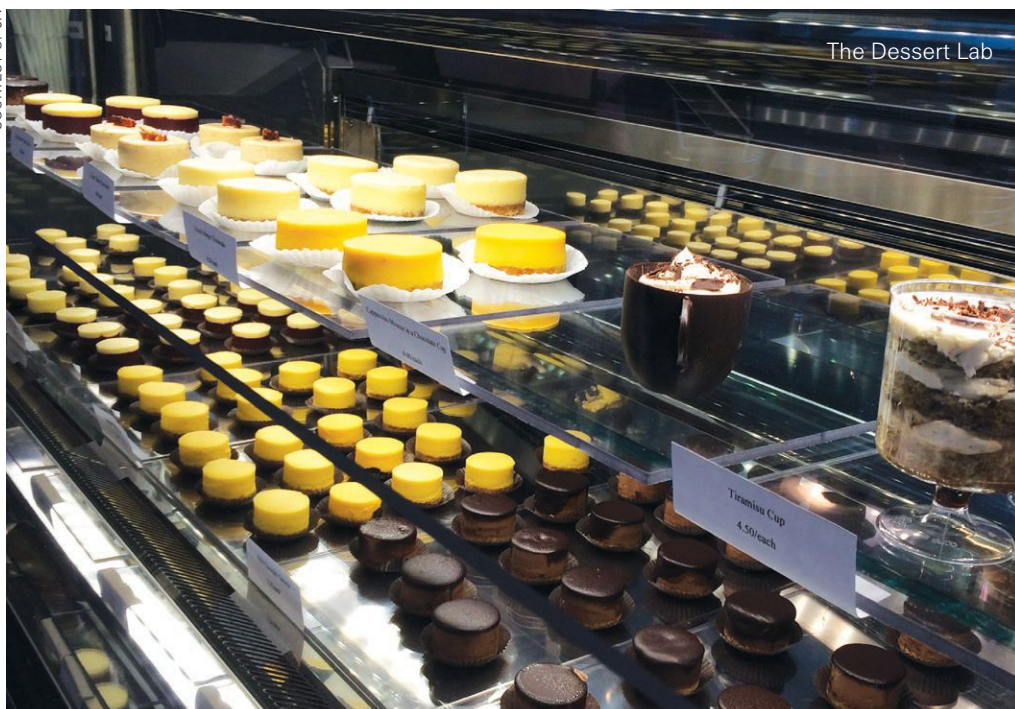
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Known as "The Lab," this ode to decadent treats is an update to the spot's former tenant, Vijay's Cheesecakes. The Lab is still run by Vijay, but it now features creative additions—like French toast with bacon and chocolate chipotle—to the classic cheesecake offerings, plus coffee, lunch and various dessert specials. (4221 MacArthur Blvd., Ste. B4; 949-300-6016; dessertlaboc.com)

BOWL OF HEAVEN

The satisfying sweetness of a large bowl of frozen yogurt meets the health benefits of a tall, cold-pressed juice at Bowl of Heaven. The made-to-order eatery specializes in antioxidant-packed, acai bowls topped with fruit and granola, as well as nutritious smoothies and juices. (1280 Bison Ave.; 949-706-7833; bowlofheaven.com)

ORANGE COAST WINERY OCEAN CELLAR

There really is nothing to whine about when it comes to the high-quality varietals that recently found a home nestled in the flower streets of Corona del Mar. Orange Coast Winery's Ocean Cellar pours everything from mild chardonnays to robust cabs (by reservation) Wednesday through Sunday afternoons and evenings. The cellar also offers wines by the bottle and boutique finds. (3734 E. Coast Hwy.; 949-645-0400; orangecoastwinery.com)

PELICAN GRILL TASTING TABLE

The Resort at Pelican Hill's Pelican Grill opened up its already visible kitchen to an even more intimate dining experience. Available by reservation, the restaurant now houses a 10-person communal tasting table with an

entirely new and unique custom menu prepared nightly by chef Derek Brooks, along with wine pairings by sommelier Sorin Dina. (22701 Pelican Hill Rd.; 855-315-8214; pelicanhill.com)

BLEND AT BALBOA BAY RESORT

Opened earlier this year, Blend is a casual coffee shop offering an array of beverages and small bites. Authentic Italian coffee, cappuccinos, lattes and espressos are among the popular offerings, in addition to hot tea, three types of smoothies, and wine by the bottle or glass. Those who stop by with an appetite can pick up a grab-and-go breakfast or hot lunch. Blend is open to the public, and complimentary valet is offered with proof of a purchase. (1221 Pacific Coast Hwy.; 949-645-5000; balboabayresort.com) —K.P.

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987 Newport Center Dr.; 949-717-7525; lemonadela.com

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Neiman Marcus, Fashion Island, 601 Newport Center Dr.; 949-467-3350; neimanmarcus.com

MULDOON'S IRISH PUB

202 Newport Center Dr.; 949-640-4110; muldoonspub.com

R+D KITCHEN

555 Newport Center Dr.; 949-219-0555; hillstone.com

RED O

143 Newport Center Dr.; 949-718-0300; redorestaurant.com

ROY'S

453 Newport Center Dr.; 949-640-7697; roysrestaurant.com

SAM & HARRY'S

Newport Beach Marriott Hotel & Spa, 900 Newport Center Dr.; 949-640-4000; marriott.com

SHOR AMERICAN SEAFOOD GRILL

Hyatt Regency Newport Beach, 1107 Jamboree Rd.; 949-729-1234; newportbeach.hyatt.com

TACO ROSA

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451 Newport Center Dr.; 949-644-2400; truefoodkitchen.com

WAHOO'S FISH TACO

401 Newport Center Dr.; 949-760-0290; wahoos.com

WILD STRAWBERRY CAFÉ

240 Newport Center Dr., Ste. 100; 949-706-0462; wildstrawberrycafe.com

YARD HOUSE

849 Newport Center Dr.; 949-640-9273; yardhouse.com

Newport Coast/Crystal Cove

ANDREA

The Resort at Pelican Hill, 22701 Pelican Hill Rd. S.; 855-315-8214; pelicanhill.com

BABETTE'S (OPENING SOON)

7962 E. Coast Hwy.; babettesrestaurant.com

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bluefinbyabe.com

COLISEUM POOL & GRILL

The Resort at Pelican Hill, 22701 Pelican Hill Rd. S.; 855-315-8214; pelicanhill.com

JAVIER'S

7832 E. Coast Hwy.; 949-494-1239;
javier-cantina.com

MASTRO'S OCEAN CLUB

8112 E. Coast Hwy.; 949-376-6990;
mastrosrestaurants.com

MODO MIO CUCINA RUSTICA

7946 E. Coast Hwy.; 949-497-9770;
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MUSTARD CAFE

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mustardcafe.com

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newportcoastpizza.com

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21135 Newport Coast Dr.; 949-721-5884;
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PALM TERRACE

Island Hotel, 690 Newport Center Dr.;
866-554-4619; islandhotel.com

PELICAN GRILL

The Resort at Pelican Hill, 22800 Pelican Hill Rd. S.; 855-315-8214; pelicanhill.com

SETTEBELLO PIZZERIA NAPOLETANA

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7864 E. Coast Hwy.; settebello.net

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tamarindoflondon.com

ZOV'S CAFÉ BAKERY & BAR

21123 Newport Coast Dr.; 949-760-9687;
zovs.com

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AMELIA'S RESTAURANT

311 Marine Ave.; 949-673-6580;
ameliasbalboaisland.com

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305 Marine Ave.; 949-675-6193

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217 Marine Ave.; 949-673-0570;
basilicrestaurant.com

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cannerynewport.com

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SPRING WITH PASCAL LORANGE

Fig & Olive celebrates the season with the debut of a new spring menu. The dishes continue to embrace Executive Chef Pascal Lorange's love of olive oils while blending French Riviera fare with the flavors of Southern California.

Spring menu highlights include carrots and Brussels sprouts, spaghetti del mare, and zucchini blossom and house-made goat cheese ravioli. The seasonal selection centers around ingredients chosen from local California farms, including Babe Farm in Santa Maria Valley and Kenter Canyon Farm in Fillmore.

The restaurant continues to offer a rotating selection of olive oils from France, Spain and Italy, as well as an extensive wine list of more than 30 varietals, and signature craft cocktails. (949-877-3005; figandolive.com) —*L.D.*



DIN TAI FUNG (OPENING SOON)

3333 Bristol St.; dintaifungusa.com

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WHY NOT IN NEWPORT?: A BREWED AWAKENING

A Newport Beach Magazine editor shares her thoughts on why the city should be home to its own microbrewery.

BY BRIA BALLIET

Confession: I used to hate beer. Even worse? I spent my college years in the heart of San Diego, the mecca of the California craft beer scene, yet was never able to appreciate the incredible network of local breweries that surrounded me. I'm not entirely sure if it was my meager college bank account, the fact that my first beer experience involved a room temperature case of the cheapest kind possible or just pure ignorance of the gloriousness that was to be had. In any case, my typical reaction to an offered brew was to wrinkle my nose and reach for a Smirnoff Ice.

Then, a few years ago, a friend invited me on a trip to the Bootlegger's Brewery tasting room in Fullerton, and everything changed. The beer had flavor, depth and a distinctly delicious aroma that completely shifted my thoughts on what beer could and should be. It's this experience that inspires me to propose that Newport Beach take measures to open its very own microbrewery and tasting room. Aside from pleasing would-be beer connoisseurs such as myself, it has the potential to increase year-round traffic to the area, grow local businesses and garner a reputation for the city as a power player in the craft beer world.

Now, don't think that I'm forgetting about Newport Beach Brewing Co., a quality brewpub serving top-notch beer and food for almost 20 years—the brewing company is great at what it does. What I would love to see, however, is the Newport Beach name expand beyond its front doors. While a brewpub's beer is for sale at its own restaurant, a microbrewery would focus solely on the beer aspect, be able to produce beer in larger quantities and distribute it to a wider audience.

A microbrewery in Newport could easily capitalize on the already healthy tourism rush during



JODY TONGCO

A microbrewery—like Bootlegger's Brewery in Fullerton—would supply craft beer to the local community.

the summer months. A trip to the local tasting room after a day at the beach would appeal to most demographics visiting the area, from the younger college crowd to the more mature set. The more established the business becomes and the further its reach, the more people will want to visit year-round. This kind of success can be found at The Bruery, an established microbrewery in Placentia, which offers beer that's now available in 23 states. Benjamin Weiss, director of marketing at The Bruery, says a large number of the tasting room's visitors have traveled many miles just to try the company's beer.

Additionally, the opportunities to collaborate with other local businesses are abundant. The Bruery hosts various OC-based food trucks

Thursday through Sunday, which simultaneously combats the problem of not having an on-site kitchen (drinking on an empty stomach can be less than desirable) and promotes local establishments. A plethora of food trucks are based in Newport Beach and the surrounding area, providing endless food-and-beer pairing possibilities.

It is a bit of uncharted territory, but I believe Newport Beach has the tools and capability to be home to a truly great microbrewery. After all, according to Benjamin, the key to success is endearingly simple: "You've got to make good beer." So, Newport—challenge accepted? **NBM**

Bria Balliet is an editorial assistant at Newport Beach Magazine and a craft beer convert.

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