THE CORONADO NEWS

ONLINE 24/7 @ THECORONADONEWS.COM • FRIDAY, JAN. 3, 2025 • VOLUME 2, NUMBER 46



New Chief of Police Paul Connelly completes his first two weeks as Coronado's new police chief. *Staff photo by Madeline Yang.*

Get to know Police Chief Paul Connelly

BY MADELINE YANG
The Coronado News

Coronado's new top cop comes from an agency with over 2,600 officers, but he doesn't intend to bring big-city policing to a small town. Instead, Police Chief Paul Connelly says he wants to be on a first-name basis with every employee in the city's department.

"I (want to) get to know a little bit about each and every one of them," Connelly says. "To me that's how you build trust and relationships."

Connelly has been a law officer for just under three decades, his whole career at the San Diego Police Department.

Coronado's last police chief, Chuck Kaye, served for five years before retiring early this year. Before Connelly was sworn in on Dec. 9, Rick Martinez filled in as the department's interim chief. Connelly joined the Marine Corps after graduating college, moving on to pursue a career as a police officer and then even attending the FBI National Academy and graduating in 2019.

The Coronado News interviewed Connelly to learn more about his story and vision for a small-town Police Department with over 100 employees, including 44 sworn officers. The responses have been edited for clarity and brevity.

Q: You were in the Marine Corps, correct? Can you explain that for me?

Connelly: I'll just kind of go back a little further. My dad was an Air Force pilot, so I moved around quite a bit when I was a little kid, but I wound up in Pittsburgh in second grade. So I went to, you know, grade school, high school and college in Pittsburgh. And after college, I went to Officer Candidate School for the Marine Corps in Quantico, Virginia and I got stationed here at Camp Pendleton. So I kind of fell in love with San Diego. I met my wife out here and just never left.

And then when I got out of the Marine Corps, I had a job for about a year and a half in medical sales, but I always wanted to be a police officer, so I pursued that. And in 1997, I joined the San Diego Police Department.

Q: Was the plan always to be a police officer?

Connelly: After I got out of the Marine Corps … I kind of missed the camaraderie of the Marine Corps and the sense of purpose and serving the community. So I decided to pursue a childhood dream of being a police officer.

Q: Where does this dream come from?

Connelly: I just think growing up in a military family has always taught it was good to serve the community.

» Continued on Page 5

Cays RV resort project is no more

A controversial project proposed to be built at the Coronado Cays will no longer be moving forward as the Port of San Diego buys out the remainder of the 66-year lease.

BY MADELINE YANG
The Coronado News

The Port of San Diego has effectively blocked controversial plans to build an RV development next to the Coronado Cays, buying out the would-be developer's lease and announcing plans to upgrade a park on the property.

This piece of property, comprising a little over seven acres of land and over 100 acres of water, is currently being used as a boat storage yard. It has been a point of contention for the last half century, with many different project proposals sprouting up and dying throughout the decades.

The RV resort project — also known as the Cottages at the Cays — would have featured 41 cottage-style trailers as well as new shops and a restaurant built alongside the water.

On Dec. 10, the Port bought out the lease for $3 million to develop it further as a community park with future upgrades and amenities, essentially killing the RV resort project.

However, the biggest goal for the port at the moment is to recoup its $3 million investment before going forward with the community park, said Frank Urtasun, Coronado's appointee to the San Diego's Board of Port Commissioners.

"The big benefit, obviously, is that the community is at peace with this," Urtasun said.

With the lease being bought out and only 10 years left on the agreement, the community no longer has to worry about a project being built that seemingly no one wanted.

Coronado resident Laurie McCormick said the new project would

» Continued on Page 6

Piecing together history and shedding light on the 'The Girls of the Glimmer Factory'

BY ELAINE ALFARO
The Coronado News

Jennifer Coburn remembers the paintings and art she viewed while staying at a hotel in a Czech town, which was formerly the location of prisoner barracks.

She can tell you how she learned how to split mica, an electrical insulator that prisoners were forced to work on while in the concentration camp.

She recalls slipping through the slit of a chain link fence, following local students into the tunnels and encountering the prisoners' camp entry numbers, names and art etched into the walls.

And her constant companion in her discoveries of the town was music. That was an intentional decision.

She wanted to feel what it was like to be in the Theresienstadt concentration camp, which was a "model ghetto" used for propaganda films and Red Cross inspections. By 1940, Nazi Germany had assigned the Gestapo to turn the Czech town called Terezín into a Jewish ghetto and concentration camp.

Unlike other camps, on certain filming or inspection days, the atmosphere would be filled with Czech classical music and jazz of the era, along with the soundtracks of the many musicals and operas. Many prisoners at Theresienstadt were world-renowned artists, musicians and intellectuals. The children's opera "Brundibár" performed 55 times at Theresienstadt.

"There's a lot that I need[ed] to just come there and find out for myself," Coburn explained.

She spent five days in Terezín to tell the historical nonfiction story, "The Girls of the Glimmer Factory," inspired by the true story of Theresienstadt.

Coburn would not say that World War II historical fiction was what she had in mind when she first started writing.

In fact, she had an affinity and talent for romantic comedy, memoir

» Continued on Page 5



Jennifer Coburn splits mica in this undated photo. *Provided photo*

****ECRWSSEDDM****

Postal Customer
Coronado, CA 92118

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SAN DIEGO, CA
PERMIT NO. 3337

★ ★ ★ **INSIDE THIS ISSUE** ★ ★ ★

Opinion	4	Sports	8-9
Local News	5-6	Navy	10

this week

6 • Monday

At 1 p.m. in the Winn Room of the Coronado Public Library, a free lecture from the library will be presented about artificial intelligence (AI). This session will cover how AI works, where it's used and practical ways it can be beneficial.

8 • Wednesday

The Coronado Public Library, in partnership with the Coronado Island Film Festival, presents Film Forum Coronado at 6 p.m. in the library's Winn Room. Film expert Ralph DeLauro will provide a brief introduction to the film and lead a discussion afterwards, often including pointers about how lighting or camera angles contribute to a scene's mood or propel the story. The film "Repeat Performance" will be shown on Jan. 8.

10 • Friday

At 1 p.m. in the Winn Room of the Coronado Public Library, Cellist Lars Hoefs and pianist Aline Alves will present the first performance of their Villa-Lobos Festival concert series. This year's festival kicks off with the "Invitation to the Danzon," performed by the Blue Rose Trio. The next two concerts will be performed on Jan. 17 and Jan. 24.

This concert is free and no reservations are required. Seating is first-come, first-served, general admission. Doors open at 12:30 p.m.

CONTACT US

For news tips, story submissions and letters to the editor, contact Editor Sofie Fransen at sofie@thecoronadonews.com or 619-990-8465.

To advertise contact Ad Executive Braeden Stegman at braeden@numbersix.com

Coronado Playhouse kicks off its 80th season with 'Barbecue'

Coronado News staff

Coronado Playhouse is kicking off its milestone 80th season with Robert O'Hara's "Barbecue," a play that challenges the expectations of comedy, race and family dynamics.

Opening on Jan. 10, "Barbecue" delivers a sharp, hilarious and absurd exploration of family secrets, identity and societal truths.

The O'Mallery family is the picture-perfect American clan — until they decide to hold an intervention in their backyard barbecue for their troubled sister, who's been spiraling out of control. What starts as a family gathering quickly escalates into chaos with unfiltered emotions, explosive confessions and a series of unpredictable events.

The O'Mallerys are a mirror reflecting humanity — imperfect, complicated, and ultimately, striving for connection.

"What I love about 'Barbecue' is the introspection it requires the audience to do," said Director Kimberly King. "You'll be rolling in the aisles one minute, and the next minute (or when you get home) your inner monologue is like, 'Wait a minute … The potential for empathy is astounding.'"

Performances will run from Jan. 10 to Feb. 2 at 8 p.m. on Thursdays through Saturdays. There will also be matinee performances on Saturdays and Sundays at 2 p.m. Single tickets are $27 and there are discount options for active duty military, students and seniors.



Meet Lolita, the pet of the week. She's at PAWS of Coronado and is looking for her forever home. *Photo provided by PAWS of Coronado.*

PET OF THE WEEK

Meet Lolita

Are you getting Betty White vibes? Because we are. Meet Lolita, a female shepherd who is chatty, sweet and surprisingly spry at 8 years old.

She likes to talk about pretty much everything, especially over the excitement of going in her room or the yard to play. Lolita goes to day foster, and her caregivers feel like she would be a great family member, as she looks for affection and attention from her human friends.

This quiet lady loves to relax, whether it's lounging in a sunny spot or snuggling up on the couch. Lolita's calm demeanor makes her the perfect companion for a peaceful home.

She enjoys gentle walks and appreciates the simple joys in life. With her loving nature, Lolita will bring warmth and companionship to anyone lucky enough to welcome her into their family.

All animals at PAWS are spayed/neutered, microchipped, vaccinated and up to date on flea prevention. Adoptions are by appointment only. If you are interested in adopting Lolita or other pets, please visit pawsofcoronado.org.



Stay Safe While Celebrating the Season

Emergency room visits increase over the holidays. **Sharp Coronado Hospital** shares three tips to help you avoid illness and injury:

1. **Hang decorations with care**. Avoid standing on furniture when decorating. Wear stable, closed-toe shoes and watch out for tripping hazards, like extension cords. Have someone hold the ladder when you're on it.
2. **Focus when cooking**. Use safe knife skills. Keep oven mitts nearby. Use a metal pot lid to smother a grease fire. Wash utensils, surfaces and hands after touching raw meat.
3. **Enjoy, but don't overdo**. Use moderation when indulging in food and drinks. Never drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

The Sharp Coronado Emergency Department is open 24/7, even during the holidays.
Visit **sharp.com/coronado** to learn more.

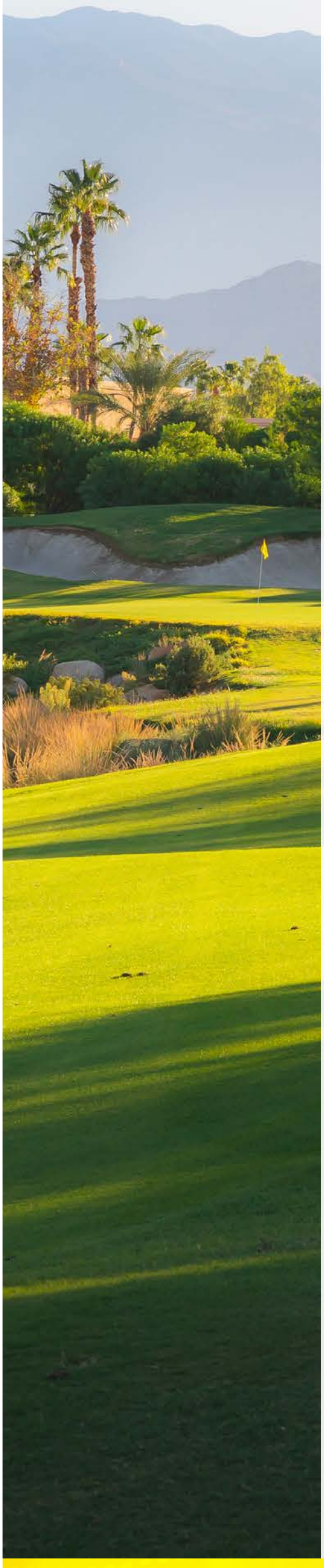
If you are experiencing a medical emergency, call 911 or visit the nearest emergency room.

SHARP CORONADO HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

COR05300 ©2024 SHC

RAD SOLAR CARTS
RIDE ALL DAY

Never Worry About Charging Your Golf Cart Again



OUR STORY

"Once Upon A Time" my son and I were discussing solar systems over lunch. Being licensed electricians, we were familiar with Solar Applications and its advantages.

After conducting a fair amount of research, we determined that Solar Technology had advanced to the point that adding a Solar Panel to the roof of a golf cart could significantly add to the travel range, as well as several other advantages including Green Movement Tax Credits.

I had recently moved to a golf cart community and purchased a cart of my own, after installing the best and most powerful system available, the concept of installing Solar Panels on golf carts was conceived.

We began spreading the word to our friends who owned electric carts and began installing Solar Panels on their carts in our spare time out of our garage in Oceanside, CA. Due to the publicized acceptance and popularity in Beach Communities of San Diego County, we decided to expand the business even further. Many beach cities have permitted the use of golf carts in 35 mph zones and are expanding Bike Lanes to 7 feet wide to accommodate their use.

So, there you have it. There is more to the story and we would love to discuss it with you while we install your Solar Panels on your cart.

We took the concept of Green Solar Energy and put it to practical use to lessen the carbon footprint.

We look forward to meeting you soon.

Richard Stachowicz
Ride All Day Solar Carts
Owner and Coronado Resident



ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

Make the Earth Happy. Solar energy is clean. No carbon dioxide is released into the atmosphere as it is when batteries are plugged into the wall to charge. Similarly, no fossil fuels are consumed as they are in gas-powered golf carts. The sun's energy is both clean and renewable. With their renewable, clean energy and lack of generated pollution, solar charged golf carts are an Earth-friendly option. You can help ensure that golf courses will be around for a very long time.

FINANCIAL BENEFITS

While it can be costly up front to buy a solar-powered golf cart or convert your existing cart to solar, in the long run, you might save money. You might be eligible for cost incentives offered to people who go solar. Some programs include:

- Federal tax credits
- Federal grants
- State and local utility tax credits
- Rebates

Together, these can help make solar power an affordable option for your golf cart. Additionally, you will likely save quite a bit of money on your electricity bill without having an electric vehicle drawing from your home's electricity supply. Individuals aren't the only ones who benefit monetarily from solar power. When entire golf courses convert their fleets to solar-powered vehicles, they can slash their annual charging costs by about 20 percent. Whether you want to enhance the performance of your golf cart, help the environment, or save money in the long run, you're sure to benefit from changing your power to the sun.

WINTER SPECIAL

$1,495 installed!

www.ridealldaysolarcarts.com

Calls: 619-943-5575

OPINION



ERIC ALLIE



JACK OHMAN



CORONADO

Piecing together history and shedding light on the 'The Girls of the Glimmer Factory'

» Continued from Page 1

and novels centering on women's voices.

And yet, certain stories kept calling her, and her community spurred her on.

"I know a lot of historical fiction authors, and they kept saying to me, 'Why don't you write this book?' And I thought, 'Why do they keep saying that? As if it's something that I could do?'" Coburn said.

It was a television show that actually piqued her interest in this period of history, so she started researching what's known as the Lebensborn program, a secret breeding program that operated from 1935 to 1945.

Their aim was to repopulate Germany with a homogenous community. They tried to accomplish that plan through the systematic kidnapping of thousands of "biologically valuable" foreign children to be raised in German homes.

"I just thought, I cannot wait to read the novel about this," Coburn explained. "I like learning about history through historical novels. I don't want to just read a history book with dates and fall asleep."

So, she looked up the topic.

"I found about 20-25 nonfiction books," Coburn said. "Not a single novel. I decided I would write the book that I wanted to read with a book club, because it seemed really ripe for book club discussions and storytelling."

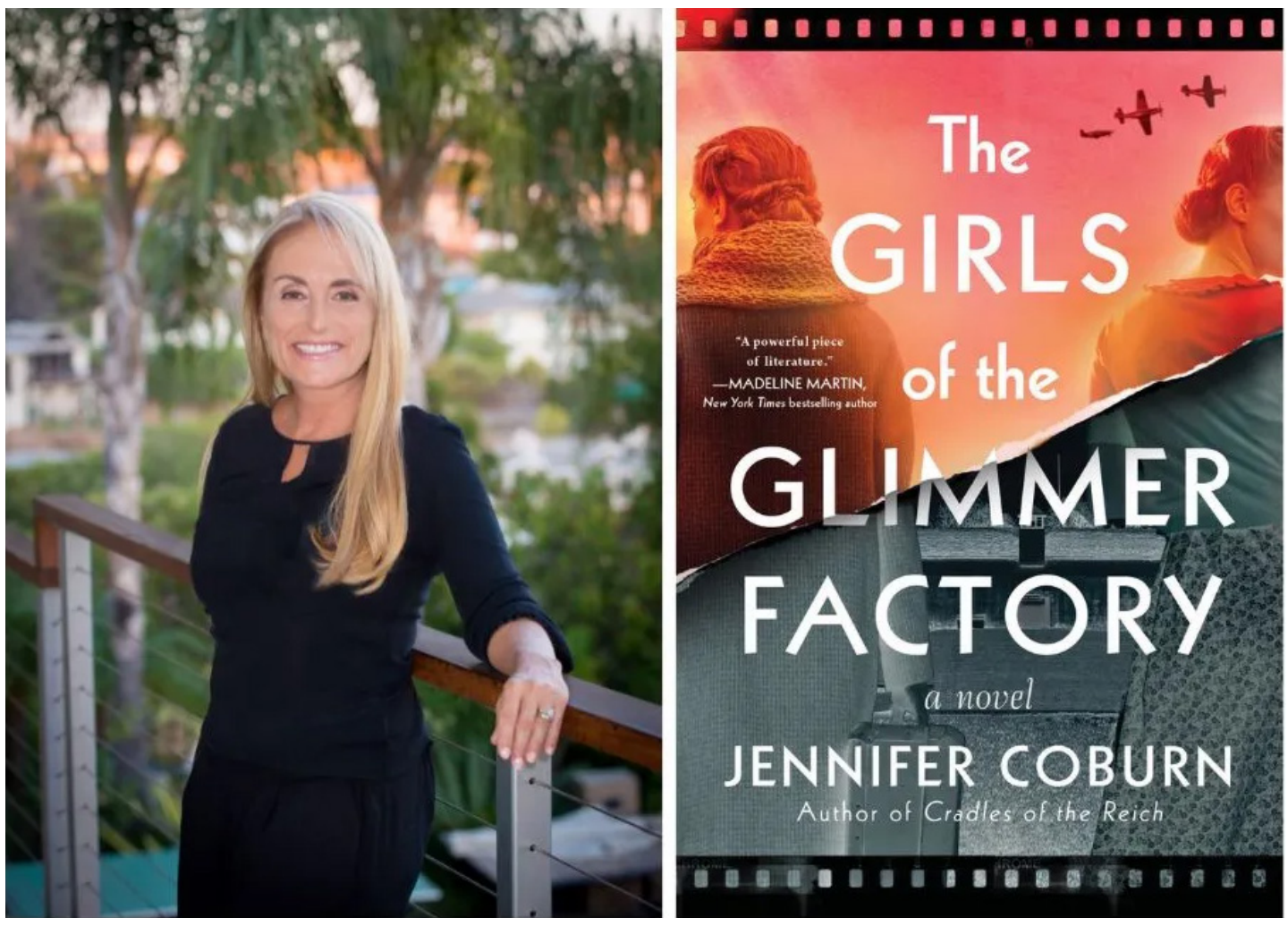
The result was her 2022 historical fiction novel, "Cradle of the Reich." During that research period, she realized there was so much history to tap into.

"What really interests me with World War II is you see the worst and the best of humanity," Coburn said. "You see people who are just ordinary, or who thought they were just ordinary folks, and given the right circumstances they become heroes and risk their lives to save people that they don't even know. I just find that so inspiring. And then, I'm also intrigued by how someone can be seduced by hate."

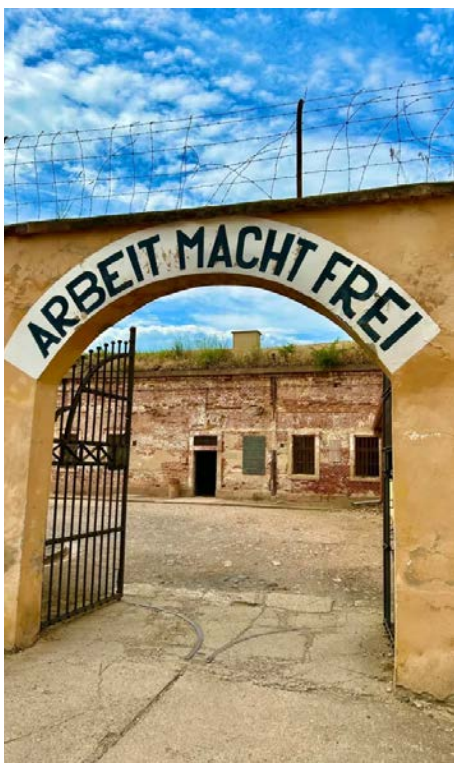
While she was researching "Cradle of the Reich," she stumbled across Theresienstadt.

"The more I learned about this camp, the more I said, 'This is not a story element. This camp Terezín star needs its own novel,'" Coburn said. "So that's how I decided to write about this one."

Coburn combined her affinity for strong women characters and this



Jennifer Coburn and the cover of her new book, "The Girls of the Glimmer Factory," are shown in this undated photo. *Photos provided by Jennifer Coburn*



The entrance to the small fortress of the Theresienstadt ghetto, which is now a historic site in the Czech Republic.

significant, but terrifying, part of the propaganda history.

The story tells the narrative of the Theresienstadt concentration camp, in particular, the factory that many of the imprisoned women worked in. In "the Glimmer Factory," women were tasked with splitting mica, an electrical insulator to be put in Nazis planes. Coburn learned this was how the women came up with the nickname for the factory.

"This tedious job for the women was sitting there all day and slicing the mica," Coburn said. "They maintained their sense of humor, called this place the Glimmer Factory, because mica is very glimmering."

The story centers on two main characters, Hilde and Hannah. Hilde is a true believer in the Nazi cause, working in the Reich Ministry of Enlightenment and Propaganda. Hannah is a Jewish prisoner at Theresienstadt. The characters were old childhood friends.

"I wanted to really dive in and see, 'How does a person, how does an entire culture go from a civilized society and a pretty decent person… How do you descend into a cult of hatred? How does that happen?" Coburn said.

She wanted to explore how two people with shared history would eventually become such different adults but also come back together.

"It's a story about how women's friendship can help see us through even the most harrowing of times," Coburn said. "For me, as a writer, that was more interesting to see what happened to Hilda to make her this way. I wanted to also have someone who was in the camp so that I could really take you behind the gates and show you this is the reality, and this is what was shown to the world."

"The Girls of the Glimmer Factory" comes out Jan. 28, 2025. But, Coburn will be hosting a pre-release event at the Coronado Public Library on Jan. 22, 2025.

She hopes people will learn not only about history through this book, but also think about it in relation to the present and future.

"There's so much we can learn about human nature, about how people react in their own communities and towards other communities once the world around them is changing," Coburn said. "I think it's fascinating. I think it's also a real warning to what can happen if we are left unchecked."

The library, in partnership with Adventures by the Book, will be hosting the event at 6:30 p.m. in the Winn Room. Visit the library's website for more information.

Get to know Police Chief Paul Connelly

» Continued from Page 1

The sense of service was always kind of instilled in me since I was a little kid.

Q: Why did you not continue that dream through the Marine Corps?

Connelly: I went into the Marine Corps with the mindset that I was only going to do four years because I thought it would be good to serve our country in that format, and then just wanted to see what the future had to offer after that.

Q: What was the biggest thing you took away from the FBI National Academy?

Connelly: I really think that the networking (was the biggest thing). Having friends now in different agencies across the country that if I have a need … I can give a call and we can share information.

Q: What is your biggest goal as chief of police in Coronado?

Connelly: Right now I'm spending my time getting to know everything I can about the Coronado Police Department, what their culture is, how they do things. I also want to spend a lot of time getting to know the Coronado community and how the Coronado Police Department can continue to best serve them.

I really want to focus internally after I get to know the community members, and focus on creating a new leadership team. We have some promotions we have to do. And I made a commitment to the officers to always hold myself and the Coronado Police Department to the highest moral, ethical and professional standards. I'm here to support them and I really want to make sure that they have all the training, equipment and support they need to do their jobs safely and effectively.

Q: Do you have anything that you want to bring from SDPD to Coronado?

Connelly: They're two really different departments, right? I mean, San Diego Police Department is a massive department. There's 2,600 employees. We work out of 11 different police facilities. So I certainly have a lot of experience from working in a big city that has a lot of things going on in regards to crime and community type events.

I really want to spend my time learning about Coronado Police Department, and I don't want to turn Coronado Police Department into San Diego Police Department. I want to … take what experience I have to help make Coronado Police Department the best Coronado Police Department it can be.

One thing that really interests me is when you're working at a big agency, it's hard to get to know everyone, right? So I'm really excited to be working in one facility with a great team of men and women, both sworn and nonsworn, and I'm going to get to know all of them by their first names. And I (want to) get to know a little bit about each and every one of them. To me that's how you build trust and relationships. And you know, I'm better able to lead them in the right direction. I can also get to know about who they are, what their goals are, and help them achieve their personal goals.

Q: Do you have any philosophies on community policing?

Connelly: I really want to focus on our officers continuing to treat everyone with dignity and respect and providing a kind of white glove service to the community members. And that involves engagement. I expect (it) from me all the way down to the lowest denominator in the department to really engage with community members, attend events, be approachable, engaged and be ready to help when they need it.

Q: Was there a police chief that you looked up to in your past?

Connelly: I've worked for a couple great bosses. You know, my former chief, I think one of the things that I admired about him is just, (he's) very down to earth and approachable even though he's chief of this major organization. He's very easy to talk to. I think that's important in a leader: You've got to be humble and you've got to be able to connect with the people who work for you.

Q: How do you view leadership?

Connelly: I think it's important to set clear expectations to people, so they know what they should do and what they shouldn't be doing, to communicate effectively with them, to hold them accountable to policies and procedures and what community expectations are and to support them and help them try to achieve their goals in their career.

CORONADO



The Port of San Diego has effectively blocked controversial plans to build an RV development next to the Coronado Cays at Grande Caribe Shoreline Park. *Staff photo by Madeline Yang.*

Coronado Cays RV resort project is no more

» Continued from Page 1

bring "too many people, too many cars, too much traffic," at a Feb. 21 Coronado City Council meeting last year.

"The land-use designation, from the Port's perspective, is that this is going to become a recreational open space," Urtasun said. "So that means at the end of this (lease) term, that's what the port is planning to do with the property."

At the time, the Port of San Diego approved this project 4-3 to move forward with just an environmental assessment and seek analysis.

"There was not a single person here that wanted to do this," Council member Carrie Anne Downey had said at the Feb. 21 Coronado City Council meeting last year, days after the port directors voted to commence an environmental analysis.

However, even before that environmental assessment, the proposal was abandoned.

Urtasun explained that the project would have required years of design work, approvals and construction – more time than what was left on the lease.

"Nobody's going to go out and make an investment not knowing that they have the time to recoup their investment," Urtasun said. "When a developer owns a piece of property, then he's got a longer term to recoup the investment. But when there is a diminishing term on a lease, that's a concern to a developer."

According to Urtasun, the lessee, Cays Resort, LLC, reached out to the Port District in the fourth quarter of last year indicating an interest in selling the lease.

Urtasun noted that the funds the port used to buy the lease was with taxpayer money, so "you got to make sure that you're doing everything correctly."



Pictured here is a map of Grand Caribe Shoreline Park, where the boat storage yard currently sits and where the RV resort park would have been.

Laura Wilkinson Sinton, who has owned a home in the Cays since 1999, said that the influx of people and traffic was the main concern residents had for opposing the RV park.

"People who are on vacation behave differently than people who live there. It's just the way it is. They're having a good time," Wilkinson Sinton said. "You'd have a lot more traffic, you'd have a lot more deliveries. There's concern in the Cays that that would increase crime, because when you have transient populations, that can happen."

Wilkinson Sinton said she and her neighbors are hoping the new open space will expand on an existing recreation area.

"Grand Caribe Park is fabulous, we love Grand Caribe Park," Wilkinson Sinton said. "We're hoping the port will put more investment in it."

Recycling and drop-off locations for Christmas trees

Christmas trees, including flocked trees, may be recycled in Coronado by using either the green waste curbside program or the drop-off program between Dec. 26 and Jan. 14.

For the green waste curbside program, 4-foot sections of Christmas trees can be placed in yard waste recycling containers that are then placed on the curb. Sections of trees can also be bundled with twine — at a maximum size of 4 feet in length and 18 inches in diameter — and set on the curb.

Two drop-off locations will be taking trees from Dec. 26 to Jan. 14: The Glorietta Bay boat launch parking lot and the Cays Park parking lot. Trees of any size can be placed in the large roll-off dumpsters at those locations.

Here are a few Christmas tree recycling tips from the city:

- Strung lights cannot be recycled. They tangle the machines and cause the system to shut down for de-tangling.
- Flocked or fake snow (flock) contains chemicals. Therefore, these trees cannot be composted.
- Tinsel must be completely removed and placed in the trash before a tree can be recycled.
- Make sure to remove all ornaments, garlands, lights, nails, tree bags and tree stands (metal or plastic) before recycling.
- Reuse or donate artificial trees that are in good condition. Purchasing new plastic trees create more waste and greenhouse gasses. To show any environmental benefit, they need to be used for at least 20 years.
- Real trees should not sit around too long after the holidays. They can dry out and become fire hazards. Organic wreaths and similar organic decorations can be recycled with trees.

Information provided by the City of Coronado

Crime Doesn't Discriminate
If you're a victim of crime, our Victim Services Division can help
Call (619) 531-4041

San Diego County District Attorney
SanDiegoDA.com

lifewaymobility

Stay Safe in the Home You Love
Our local accessibility experts can help find the right solution for you:
- Stair Lifts
- Wheelchair Ramps
- Platform Lifts & Elevators
- Transfer Aids
- Bath Safety


Call 619-817-8863 to Schedule a FREE in-home consultation.
Fully licensed and insured. See lifewaymobility.com/licenses for more information.
Why Lifeway Mobility
Quick & Professional Installation & Service
Over 6,000 5 star reviews
Affordable options, including rentals & financing
Made in USA Products & Solutions

THE CORONADO ISLAND FILM FESTIVAL SENDS A HEARTFELT

Thank You!

TO OUR OUR VOLUNTEERS, BADGE AND TICKET HOLDERS, FILMMAKERS AND OUR WONDERFUL COMMUNITY THAT HELPED MAKE OUR 9TH SEASON MEMORABLE

























SPORTS

Eight new WNBA coaches now in place

In 2025, 7 women and 6 men will be in charge on the bench

Associated Press



Connecticut Sun head coach Stephanie White shouts instructions to her players in July 2024 during the first half of a WNBA basketball game against the Phoenix Mercury in Phoenix. *AP Photo/Ross D. Franklin, File*

The WNBA now has all of its head coaching spots filled after there were eight open positions this offseason.

Dallas named Chris Koclanes as its head coach on Monday and then an hour later Washington hired Sydney Johnson as its new head, rounding out the seven hirings.

There's no common thread among the seven hires; three are former college head coaches (Karl Smesko, Lynne Roberts and Johnson), three were WNBA assistants (Koclanes, Johnson and Tyler Marsh) and one is an international coach (Rachid Meziane).

Stephanie White is the only former WNBA head coach to get one of the positions as she moved from Connecticut and returns to Indiana.

With the addition of Golden State next season, which hired Natalie Nakase as it's coach, the 13 teams will have seven women in charge and six men.

At the end of the 2022 season, half of the 12 head coaches in the league were Black. Three years later that number is down to three with Seattle's Noelle Quinn the only Black female after Teresa Weatherspoon (Chicago) and Tanisha Wright (Atlanta) were fired. Nakase is the first Asian American to lead a WNBA franchise.

Two of the openings did go to Black men in Johnson and Marsh.

The WNBA currently does have three Black general managers, including Morgan Tuck in Connecticut, Ohemaa Nyanin in Golden State and Jamila Wideman in Washington.

Here's a look at the eight new coaches in the WNBA:

Atlanta Dream — Karl Smesko

Experience: Smesko comes to the WNBA after spending 23 years at Florida Gulf Coast. He had the third highest winning percentage (.829) among active coaches, trailing only UConn's Geno Auriemma and LSU's Kim Mulkey.

Outlook: His teams have constantly been near the top in the country in 3-point shooting and the Dream have talented players in Rhyne Howard and Allisha Gray.

Chicago Sky — Tyler Marsh

Experience: Marsh heads to the Sky after a successful stint as an assistant coach in Las Vegas, helping the Aces win consecutive championships in 2022 and 2023.

Outlook: Marsh inherits a squad led by talented post players Angel Reese and Kamilla Cardoso. The Sky also have the No. 3 pick in next year's WNBA draft.

Connecticut Sun — Rachid Meziane

Resume: Meziane comes to the WNBA after coaching professionally in France for many years as well as leading Belgium's national team. Belgium came in fourth at the Paris Olympics this past summer.

Outlook: He inherits a team in flux with many of its top players unrestricted free agents.

Dallas Wings — Chris Koclanes

Experience: Koclanes worked with new GM Curt Miller in Connecticut on his staff from 2016-22 and helped the Sun reach the WNBA Finals in 2019 and 2022. Miller was hired as the Wings' general manager last month.

Outlook: The Wings have the No. 1 pick in the draft next April as well as a strong nucleus headlined by Arike Ogunbowale.

Golden State Valkyries — Natalie Nakase

Experience: Nakase is the first coach in the expansion franchise's history. She had a lot of success as an assistant in Las Vegas and the franchise got its initial set of players through the expansion draft earlier this month.

Outlook: The Valkyries, who have the No. 5 pick in the draft, also are expected to be active in free agency which begins next month.

Indiana Fever — Stephanie White

Experience: White has the most WNBA experience of of the offseason hires. She returns to the Fever after leading the Connecticut Sun to the playoffs the last two seasons.

Outlook: She has a stellar young core to work with led by the last two WNBA Rookie of the Year winners, record-setting guard Caitlin Clark and center Aliyah Boston.

Los Angeles Sparks — Lynne Roberts

Experience: Roberts is returning to her native California after spending nine seasons in charge of Utah where she went 165-116. She was the Pac-12 Coach of the Year in 2023.

Outlook: She inherits a team that finished last in the standings but has a strong young nucleus of Rickea Jackson, Cameron Brink and Dearica Hamby. The Sparks have the No. 2 pick in next year's WNBA draft.

Washington Mystics — Sydney Johnson

Experience: Johnson has worked with USA Basketball over the past five years as well as being an assistant coach with the Chicago Sky last season. Before that the 50-year-old Princeton grad spent eight years as head coach of Fairfield University men's team (2011-2019), leading the Stags to four postseason appearances.

Outlook: He inherits a team that missed the playoffs by one game is led by Shakira Austin, Brittney Sykes and Ariel Atkins.

Harbaugh, Chargers focused on accomplishing more

Associated Press



Los Angeles Chargers wide receiver Ladd McConkey celebrates after his touchdown Dec. 28 during the second half of an NFL football game against the New England Patriots in Foxborough, Mass. *AP Photo/Robert F. Bukaty*

Jim Harbaugh, Justin Herbert and the Los Angeles Chargers celebrated in the locker room on Dec. 28 after they wrapped up a playoff spot with a 40-7 victory over the New England Patriots.

But even as they realized one goal by making the postseason, Harbaugh tried to keep things focused on the road ahead by stressing: "There's more to do."

The Chargers (10-6) go into the regular-season finale at Las Vegas knowing they will be at least the AFC's sixth seed and avoid a trip to Buffalo for the wild-card round.

Los Angeles currently is in line to face Baltimore in a Harbaugh Bowl rematch, but it has an outside shot at the fifth seed and a trip to Houston if Cincinnati beats Pittsburgh next weekend.

While Harbaugh credited his players for the turnaround from five wins last year to double-digit victories this season, Herbert gave most of it to Harbaugh and first-year general manager Joe Hortiz.

"They have done such a great job of getting the right guys here. You look in the locker room and everybody plays for each other," Herbert said. "(Harbaugh's) a competitor, and he wants to win no matter what it is. It definitely shows, and it's the way everyone fights for him, wants to play for him, and respects him."

Harbaugh is the fifth coach in NFL history to win at least 10 games in his first season with two teams. He is also the eighth to make the playoffs in his first season with two teams.

"Very little to do with me. If it goes right, then it's our players. They're doing a great job. It's gone bad a couple times. That's on me," he said. "I've been drinking the Kool-Aid here from day one, I can't give enough credit to Derwin James, Justin Herbert, and those two in particular. And Khalil Mack and Rashawn Slater. I mean, stalwarts. Brad Bozeman has come in. He's been a stalwart. There's a bunch. There's probably, like — I counted it up early. There was maybe 15, 15 stalwarts that we had, and it's grown since then."

Even though the Chargers are 3-5 against teams with winning records at the time they've played them, they are 7-1 against teams that were at or under .500. Four of those wins against opponents with losing records have come by at least 17 points, the first time since 2017 the Bolts have won that many games by as big a margin.

Since halftime of their Dec. 19 game against Denver, the Chargers have outscored the Broncos and Patriots 61-13 over six quarters.

"That's the type of football we want to be playing in December, January, and hopefully on. That's the type of football you want to be playing, especially in these big games like that. It was really good to see," Herbert said.

What's working

Offensive coordinator Greg Roman has said throughout the season it's tough to use the full playbook when the Chargers have short drives. They came into Saturday's game ranked 26th with only 23 possessions of at least 10 plays, but they had four against the Patriots, leading to three touchdowns and a field goal. It was the first time since Week 10 last season against Detroit they have had at least four drives of double-digit plays.

SPORTS

INSIDE THE NUMBERS

With LeBron James turning 40, a look at statistical NBA milestones at that age

LeBron James turned 40 on Dec. 30, and the Los Angeles Lakers star is about to join a small list of NBA players who have been in the league at that age. A look at some statistical milestones for players in their 40s in NBA history:



Los Angeles Lakers forward LeBron James warms up Dec. 19 prior to an NBA basketball game against the Sacramento Kings in Sacramento, Calif.
AP Photo/Jed Jacobsohn

Scoring 40 at 40

There's been only one 40-point game by a 40-something in NBA history. That milestone belongs to Michael Jordan.

On Feb. 21, 2003, four days after turning 40, Jordan scored 43 points for Washington in an 89-86 win over New Jersey.

There have been only seven games of 30 points or more by players after they turn 40 — Jordan has four of them, while Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Karl Malone and Dirk Nowitzki all have one. The ones by Abdul-Jabbar and Malone came in playoff games.

Triple Doubles

Like 40-point games, triple doubles are extremely rare for 40-year-olds — with just one ever recorded in the league.

Karl Malone had it: 10 points, 11 rebounds, 10 assists for the Los Angeles Lakers in a 103-87 win over San Antonio on Nov. 28, 2003.

Double-doubles are way more common for 40somethings. There's been 95 of those over the years: John Stockton had 23, Robert Parish had 22, Malone had 21, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar had 14, Michael Jordan had eight, Dikembe Mutombo had five, and Steve Nash and Dirk Nowitzki each had one.

Total points after 40

James is going to vault up this list.

Not counting Tim Duncan and Danny Schayes — they both played playoff games at 40, but never a regular season contest — there have been 29 players to score in the NBA after their 40th birthday.

And eight of those players — Juwan Howard, Charles Jones, Rick Mahorn, Charles Oakley, Bob Cousy, Jamal Crawford, Nat Hickey and Joe Johnson — scored no more than 21 points, total, after turning 40. James might pass them all in one game.Kareem Abdul-Jabbar has the most points after turning 40: He scored 1,941. Only he, Robert Parish (1,706), Vince Carter (1,433) and John Stockton (1,088) have more than 1,000 points at that age.

LeBron won't be the oldest

James is the oldest player in the NBA right now, but it's probably safe to say that he won't set the record as the oldest in NBA history.

He'll have to play six more years to do that.

The oldest man to play in an NBA game was Nat Hickey, who got into two games with the Providence Steamrollers on Jan. 27 and 28, 1948. Hickey played the second of those games two days shy of his 46th birthday.

He was 0 for 6 from the field and 2 for 3 from the foul line. In his second game, he was charged with four fouls in three minutes of playing time. And he never played again.

40 in the Finals

There's been only one player in the last two decades to play in an NBA Finals game in his 40s. That would be Miami's Udonis Haslem, who was two days from turning 43 when he played in a Heat game in the 2023 title series against Denver.

Before him, the most recent 40-something in the finals was Karl Malone in 2004.

An average night

The average game for a player once he turns 40: 6.6 points, 3.5 rebounds and 1.4 assists.

That should be a standard James tops on a nightly basis. His average game as a 30something: 26.5 points, 8.0 rebounds, 8.1 assists.

Who's next?

After James, the next NBA player to turn 40 will be San Antonio's Chris Paul — who hits the milestone on May 6. He'd have to probably be part of a second-round playoff run to play at 40 this season.

Charlotte's Taj Gibson turns 40 on June 24, so he'd have to come back next season to play at that age.

The next one from there would be Philadelphia's Kyle Lowry, who turns 40 on March 25, 2026 and would play at that age if he comes back for a 20th year next season.



Attention, Coronado Art Collectors and Art Enthusiasts



Pauline Johnson- Brown
Worldwide Art and Auction Advisor
New York, San Diego, Washington D.C.
San Francisco, Paris. London

I am very excited about introducing myself to the Coronado Community. Over the course of my extensive career in Real Estate and in Fine Art, I have been involved in unearthing hidden art provenances, achieving record auction results, as well as making gifts to major museums for my clients.

If you have art that you are curious to know more about and have considered selling, do not hesitate to call me. I will work as your liaison to assist you with Provenance Research, Preliminary No fee Valuations and access to the leading National and International auction houses. I will handle your art consignments and sales with the utmost integrity and discretion. As your Art liaison I will provide you with exceptional, discreet service.

Call or email today, I look forward to discussing your art with you!

Pauline Johnson-Brown

Email: pjbrealest@aol.com Phone: 646-438-0982

https://paulinejohnsonbrown.com/

Principal | Consultant | Broker | Auction Specialist
San Diego | New York | Washington DC | San Francisco | Paris | London

NAVY

Warren Upton, the oldest living survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor, dies at 105

Associated Press

HONOLULU — Warren Upton, the oldest living survivor of the 1941 Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and the last remaining survivor of the USS Utah, has died. He was 105.

Upton died Dec. 25 at a hospital in Los Gatos, California, after suffering a bout of pneumonia, said Kathleen Farley, the California state chair of the Sons and Daughters of Pearl Harbor Survivors.

The Utah, a battleship, was moored at Pearl Harbor when Japanese planes began bombing the Hawaii naval base in the early hours of Dec. 7, 1941, in an attack that propelled the U.S. into World War II.

Upton told The Associated Press in 2020 that he had been getting ready to shave when he felt the first torpedo hit the Utah. He recalled that no one on board knew what made the ship shake. Then, the second torpedo hit and the ship began to list and capsize.

The then-22-year-old swam ashore to Ford Island, where he jumped in a trench to avoid Japanese planes strafing the area. He stayed for about 30 minutes until a truck came and took him to safety.

Upton said he didn't mind talking about what happened during the attack. Instead, what upset him was that he kept losing shipmates over the years. By 2020, there were only three crew members of the Utah still alive, including himself.

There were an estimated 87,000 military personnel on Oahu on the day of the attack, according to military historian J. Michael Wenger. After Upton's death, there are only 15 still alive.



Warren Upton sits for a portrait with his daughter Barbara Upton in 2021 at his home in San Jose, Calif. *Shae Hammond/Bay Area News Group via AP*

EMPIRE TODAY®
CARPET & FLOORING
We Make Getting Beautiful New Floors Easy
GET FLOORS NOW PAY OVER TIME◊
OUR BIGGEST SALE
50% OFF* Carpet & Flooring
50% OFF* Padding & Materials
50% OFF* Professional Installation
Select Styles.
You Can Save Thousands!
Schedule a FREE In-Home Estimate!
Call 619-365-8024
Visit EmpireToday.com/SAVE
*Discount is applied to the regular price of select styles of carpet, hardwood, tile, vinyl, and laminate, basic installation, standard padding, and materials. Excludes upgrades, stairs, take-up of permanently affixed flooring, non-standard furniture moving, other miscellaneous charges, and prior purchases. Product may not be sold separately from installation. Residential installations only. **Promotion is not valid in AL, AR, FL, GA, MN, MS, and TN. Not available in all areas.** Valid through 1/19/2025. Subject to change. Details at EmpireToday.com.
◊With approved credit. Details at EmpireToday.com/financing.
Installation provided by independent contractors. Licensure at EmpireToday.com. CSLB 1047108
© 2024 Empire Today, LLC

3DAYBLINDS®
YOU'LL LOVE THE TREATMENT
CUSTOM BLINDS, SHADES, SHUTTERS & DRAPERY
BUY ONE GET ONE 50%* OFF
on Custom Blinds, Shades & Drapery
CALL TO SCHEDULE
FREE in-home design consultation with no obligation!
866-489-1560
BBB A+ ACCREDITED BUSINESS
45 YEARS
WE DESIGN, WE MEASURE, WE INSTALL, YOU RELAX!®
*Offer valid on 3 Day Blinds brand products only, excluding shutters and special orders. Buy 1 qualifying window covering and receive the 2nd qualifying window covering of equal or lesser value at 50% off! Offer excludes installation, sales tax, shipping and handling. Not valid on previous purchases or with any other offer or discount. **Offer Code BGXB. Expires 12/31/24.** State Contractor and Home Improvement Licenses: Arizona 321056. California 1005986. Connecticut HIC.0644950. New Jersey 13VH09390200. Oregon 209181. Pennsylvania PA107656. Tennessee 10020. Washington 3DAYBDB842KS. County Licenses: Nassau County, NY H0107310100. Rockland County, NY H-12401-34-00-00. Licensed through Great Windows Services, LLC: Virginia 2705172678. West Virginia WV061238. Various City Licenses Available Upon Request. © 2024 3 Day Blinds LLC.

Home Buying is a *Journey*

Find The Path That's Best For You



Right now, the Buyer's journey to a new home is full of obstacles. Having a great guide, one that can help the process go faster, smoother and less expensive, is the best investment you can make.

AddressCoronado.com

will connect you with the best in the marketplace

DON'T BE AFRAID TO TAKE THE EASY WAY



The Plot Restaurant, Oceanside

Sustainability is a powerful ingredient.

SDG&E is proud to support The Plot, in Oceanside, where sustainability is always on the menu. Their zero-waste approach and our net-zero initiatives are serving up a healthier environment for our communities every day. **Learn more at SDGEtoday.com**

We Bring Good Energy.

SDGE™

©2024 San Diego Gas & Electric Company. All copyright and trademark rights reserved.

SPARKLE ALL SEASON

EXPLORE THE COLLECTION



$73,850

Yael Designs 3.01 Fancy Intense Pink VVS1 Halo Ring Plat

This rectangle shape halo features a fancy intense pink radiant cut that weighs 3.01 carats (GIA- FIP VVS2 Color Treated) accented with round and baguette diamonds weighing .33cttw. Custom made in platinum!



$807

Emilie .31cttw Small Diamond Hoops 14KY

These dainty 14k yellow gold hoop earrings have a 14.2mm circumference and accented with .31cttw of round brilliant diamonds to give them sparkle.



$73,850

Yael Designs 3.01 Fancy Intense Pink VVS1 Halo Ring Plat

This rectangle shape halo features a fancy intense pink radiant cut that weighs 3.01 carats (GIA- FIP VVS2 Color Treated) accented with round and baguette diamonds weighing .33cttw. Custom made in platinum!

CALL TODAY
844-213-8445

FREE GIFT

WITH PURCHASE USE CODE **CORONADO NEWS**

LONDON GOLD