

# OLD TOWN CHAMBER NEWS

oldtownsandiego.org

June 2023

@VisitOldTownSD

## 4th of July Celebration in OTSD State Historic Park

Step Back in Time and Experience a Memorable Fourth of July Celebration in Old Town San Diego State Historic Park!

Mark your calendars and get ready for an extraordinary Independence Day experience that takes you back to the roots of American history.

Old Town San Diego State Historic Park is excited to invite you and your family to a unique

Fourth of July celebration, where you can immerse yourself in the rich heritage and traditions of the past.

Join us for a day filled with historic kids' activities, crafts, and games that will transport you to a bygone era.

Activities will take place in the Plaza de las Armas.



## Virtual Adventurer: Explore California's History and Nature with California State Parks' New Mobile App

California State Parks has launched an exciting new mobile app called "Virtual Adventurer," which aims to provide users with an immersive and interactive guide to California's rich history and natural environment.

By combining augmented and virtual reality technologies, this official app offers a diverse range of educational and exploratory experiences that allow users to delve into the captivating stories and scenic wonders of California's 281 State Parks.

As an inaugural offering of the Virtual Adventurer app, Old Town San Diego State Historic Park takes users on an augmented reality journey through the creation stories of the Kumeyaay, San Diego's First People. Through the app, visitors can step into the past and witness the rich traditions, customs, and spirituality of the Kumeyaay people.

The app is available on Apple and Android devices and can be downloaded from your app store.

## Discover the Power of Music and Messages of Hope at 'Inspire' Concert Series at Mormon Battalion Site

The Mormon Battalion Historic Site in Old Town San Diego is proud to present its new concert series, "Inspire". The series is designed to uplift and inspire all who attend, with a focus on music and messages of hope. The concerts will be held on the second Friday of each month.

The "Inspire" concert series is a continuation of the MBHS's commitment to creating a space of peace and reflection in the midst of a busy world. The site commemorates the journey of the Mormon Battalion, a group

of Latter-day Saint men who were called to serve their country during the Mexican-American War. The site includes exhibits, artifacts, and interactive displays that tell the story of these brave men and their sacrifices.

The "Inspire" concert series builds on this legacy by bringing together musicians and speakers who share a message of hope and resilience. The concerts are designed to be a place of refuge and healing, where visitors can find peace and solace in the midst of life's challenges.

## A New Era for the Historic Old Town Community Foundation

The Historic Old Town Community Foundation (HOTCF) has recently come under new management, as the Old Town San Diego Chamber of Commerce has taken over its operations. This development marks a significant shift in the administration and organization of the HOTCF, which has been a central force in preserving and promoting the historical and cultural heritage of Old Town San Diego.

HOTCF was established in 2001 as a non-profit organization with a purpose to establish a fund for the enhancement of the Historic Old Town community and the education of students in connection therewith. Over the years, the foundation has planned and produced special events with the goal of raising money for education.

The transfer of management of HOTCF to the Old Town San Diego Chamber of Commerce is a positive development that promises to strengthen the foundation's operations and ensure its long-term sustainability. With the Chamber's support, HOTCF can continue to play a vital role in preserving and promoting the historic character and cultural heritage of Old Town San Diego, making it a vibrant and thriving community for generations to come.



## A. Gunalp: Trusted Horologist of Old Town

In the heart of Old Town San Diego stands a quaint and unassuming shop, adorned with the name Asim Gunalp, Horologist. For over three decades, this fine watch and clock shop has been a haven for timepiece enthusiasts seeking exceptional service and meticulous craftsmanship.

Established in 1988 by the renowned watchmaker Asim

Gunalp, this establishment has earned a reputation as a premier destination for watch and clock repair.

At Asim Gunalp's Watch & Clock Shop, the focus is on providing professional and friendly service to every customer who walks through the door. As a certified watchmaker with over 45 years of experience, Asim Gunalp himself

## Save the Date: Taste of Old Town Returns 9/21/23

Join us for an extraordinary culinary journey through the historic streets of Old Town! Indulge your senses and savor the flavors of our vibrant community at the highly anticipated Taste of Old Town event.

Experience the rich tapestry of Old Town's culinary scene as you embark on a tantalizing adventure through the area's finest restaurants, cafes, and food vendors. From savory bites to delectable sweets, this gastronomic extravaganza promises to be a feast for the palate.

Mark your calendars for Thursday, September 21, 2023, and be prepared for an unforgettable evening of culinary delights.

Stay tuned for more details on participating vendors, ticket sales, and event highlights.



## Caltrans 19th Annual Procurement & Resource Fair

Caltrans District 11, in partnership with the San Diego Public Agency Consortium, presents the 19th Annual Procurement and Resource Fair.

This event provides a great network opportunity for your small business.

Caltrans purchasers and partners will have a list of goods and contracts they are looking to procure at the Fair as well as upcoming opportunities for Small Business.

Connect with

- Caltrans District 11 Purchasers from every Division
- 30+ Public Agencies
- Construction Primes
- Architectural and Engineering Primes

Wednesday, August 30, 2023  
9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

District 11 Courtyard  
4050 Taylor Street  
San Diego, CA 92110

Keep  
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Register →





## Restaurant Icon, Diane Powers, Receives Lifetime Achievement Award from California Restaurant Association

Diane Powers, Owner-Operator of Bazaar del Mundo Shops and Restaurants was recognized by the California Restaurant Association (CRA) with its Lifetime Achievement award at the San Diego Chapter's 38th Annual Gold Medallion Awards on June 13.

"This prestigious award not only recognizes Diane's exceptional restaurateur skills and warm hospitality, but also acknowledges her significant contributions in shaping the local restaurant community," said CRA Board Member Susie Baumann. "As a founding member of our chapter, Diane's dedication has been instrumental in establishing and furthering San Diego's dining scene."

Powers' legacy started in 1971 when she opened Casa de Pico in a run-down motel in Old Town San Diego. Over 50 years later, her restaurants – Casa Guadalajara in Old Town, Casa de Pico in La Mesa

and Casa de Bandini in Carlsbad – are home to award-winning Mexican cuisine, vibrant courtyards, breezy outdoor patios and trumpeting mariachis.

The CRA San Diego Chapter's Annual Gold Medallion Awards serves as an opportunity to bring together premier industry leaders and San Diego's most prominent restaurants to celebrate the area's culinary experience.

"I am humbled to receive this recognition from the California Restaurant Association," said Diane Powers. "And I share this with the entire Bazaar del Mundo team, some of whom have been with me for many years – with their children and expanded families also working for our shops and restaurants – and it is their loyalty and passion that has allowed us to create memorable dining experiences."

## Attention Retail Businesses: Organic Waste Recycling Waiver

The City's Recycling Ordinance is a mandatory policy requiring the public to separate recyclable material and newly added organic waste materials at residences, businesses, mixed use facilities and permitted special events.

Recyclable materials include:

Plastic, glass bottles and jars, paper, newspaper, metal containers, cardboard, rigid plastics including clean food containers, jugs, tubs, trays, pots, buckets and toys.

New organic waste recyclable materials include:

Food scraps and food-soiled paper from kitchens and food operations and yard waste such as garden and landscape waste and nonhazardous wood waste.

The recycling ordinance updates ensure the City is complying with the mandatory state law Senate Bill 1383 (SB 1383). The new law requires the reduction of organic waste currently disposed of in landfills.

A De Minimis Waiver (Minimal Generation Waiver) may be granted if:

The commercial business' total solid waste collection service is two (2) cubic yards or more per week and organic waste comprises less than 20-gallons per week; or,

The commercial business' total solid waste collection service is less than two (2) cubic yards per week and organic waste comprises less than 10-gallons per week.

If a business would like to be considered for a De Minimis Waiver and fit one of the two thresholds listed above, they can now request a waiver online.

For questions, please contact: [sdrecyclingworks@sandiego.gov](mailto:sdrecyclingworks@sandiego.gov).

[Learn More →](#)



## Sign Up for Council District 2 Newsletter



Stay informed and connected with your community by signing up for the "Campbell Chronicles" - the official newsletter for Councilmember Dr. Jen Campbell of District 2 in San Diego. This newsletter will keep you up-to-date on the latest news, events, and initiatives happening in your

neighborhood, as well as important updates from City Hall. Don't miss out on this valuable resource - sign up now to receive the "Campbell Chronicles" directly in your inbox!

Scan the QR code above to sign up for the newsletter.

## Advertise with the Chamber

Advertising with the Chamber can provide businesses with access to a targeted audience, enhanced credibility, networking opportunities, community support, and cost-effective advertising. All of these benefits can help businesses to attract new customers and grow their businesses.

There are several advertising opportunities available:

- Flyers, Posters, Guides, and Videos in Visitors Center
- [www.oldtownsandiego.org](http://www.oldtownsandiego.org)
- Special event sponsorships

For more information, contact [alex@oldtownsandiego.org](mailto:alex@oldtownsandiego.org).

## Upcoming Meetings

- **Board of Directors** - Wednesday, June 21 - 8:30am - Mormon Battalion Historic Site
- **Design Committee** - Wednesday, June 21 - 12pm - 2383 San Diego Ave
- **Promotions Committee** - Tuesday, July 11 - 10am - Café Coyote
- **Organization Committee** - Wednesday, July 12 - 11:30am - 2383 San Diego Ave

[View Meeting Agendas & Minutes →](#)



## Get It Done



Simple and easy to connect with the City:

- Report non-emergency problems
- Schedule appointments
- Obtain information

[sandiego.gov/get-it-done](http://sandiego.gov/get-it-done)  
or download your mobile app today!  
"Get It Done San Diego"



## Download the Get It Done App & Get Results

Get It Done San Diego is the official app for reporting non-emergency problems to the City of San Diego. App users can report problems like potholes or graffiti and connect directly to the City's work tracking system.

Get It Done can be used to report problems related to City assets, making appointments for Passport services or to schedule time at the City's Household Hazardous Waste Materials drop-off facility. Do not use Get It Done for reporting emergencies or other time-sensitive issues. It can take up to 48 hours to review your report or request for appointment.

Get It Done is available on Apple and Android devices.

[Scan to Visit the Official City Website →](#)



## Get In Touch

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