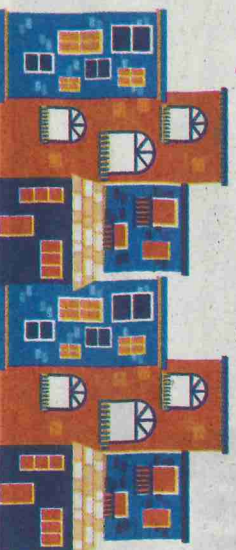




HISTORY MATTERS

THIS PLACE MATTERS
Celebrate Historic Preservation Month with CHA!
May 2020

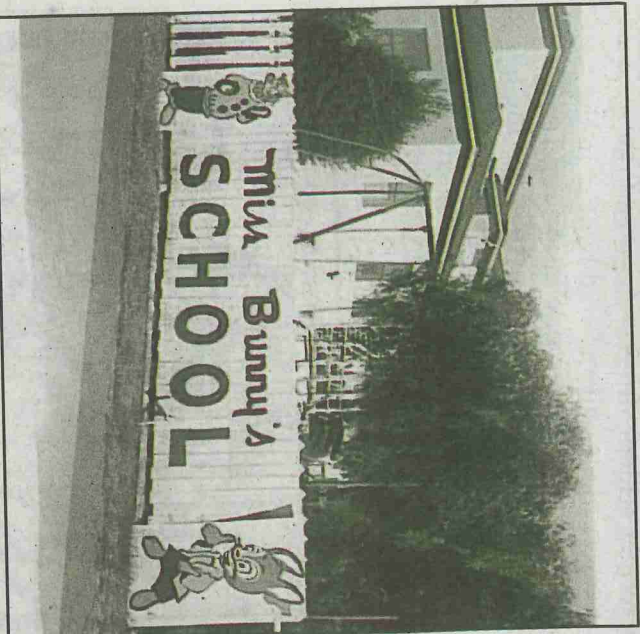


STAY TUNED FOR PRESERVATION MONTH PROGRAMMING

May is National Historic Preservation Month and CHA will be celebrating by hosting special online programming all month long! Stay tuned for more information.



CHA is helping to connect Girl Scouts with local seniors. Would you or someone you know benefit from a virtual connection? Let us know by emailing: info@coronadohistory.org.



HISTORY MYSTERY
 A monthly photo from CHA's Collection of Coronado's past for residents to guess. What does this photo depict? See next page for the answer.

CORONADO HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION - HISTORY MATTERS APRIL 2020

CORONADO'S VIRTUAL MUSEUM LAUNCHED

Museums around the world are transitioning their content to virtual platforms, as we stay home to flatten the curve. CHA is honored to offer local history content virtually during these times. In addition to our school and youth programs, we have moved our museum online. On March 24, the Coronado Historical Association launched the Coronado Virtual Museum, an online space for us to continue to share and celebrate Coronado's history! Every day that passes is a day closer to returning to normal, to a time when we can open our doors wide and return to our events and programs that are so important to Coronado's community who gather regularly at the Museum to celebrate local history. Meanwhile, you can visit our VIRTUAL MUSEUM, where you will learn about a new history topic every weekday.

For over 50 years Coronado has entrusted CHA to collect, preserve, and promote the history of our special community. Now, more than ever, we need to collect and preserve the History Happening! Now and how we as a community are coming together and coping with the COVID-19 pandemic.

If the past proves one thing, it is that we have always come together and we are Coronado Strong!

GEM AWARD WINNER ANNOUNCED

The Coronado Historical Association is excited to announce the winner of the 2020 Go the Extra Mile (GEM) award. The award honors one local home or business owner for their efforts to Go the Extra Mile to preserve a historic building or home in Coronado.

Each year the GEM Committee considers historic homes and properties that have been nominated by CHA membership. GEM Award finalists must have completed a recent restoration or renovation project true to the historic character of the home by December 31 of the prior year. The GEM committee researches the history of each home before making its selections. The Coronado Historical Association's 2020 GEM finalists were: 216 H Avenue, 1006 G Avenue, and 1109 F Avenue. These are Coronado's GEMs. These owners truly Go the Extra Mile (GEM).

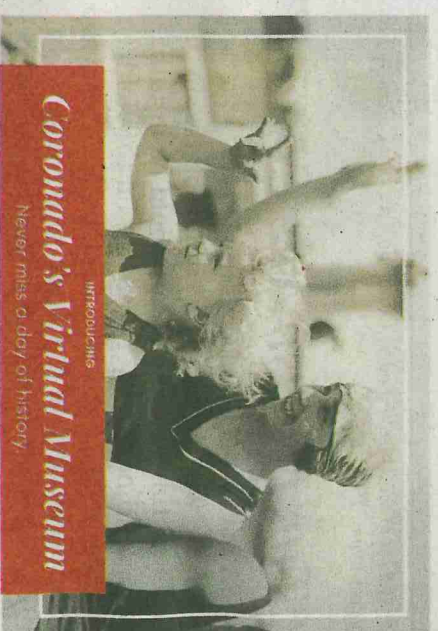
The award was created in 2013 to honor the thoughtful efforts of homeowners to preserve and restore, rather than replace existing homes, and turn potential tear-downs into architectural gems. The award is given to a home that has restoration completed within the last year. We are excited to announce the 2020 GEM winner:

1006 G AVENUE

This Dutch Colonial Revival home at 1006 G Avenue dates back to Coronado's aviation beginnings, with its connection to two early Naval aviators. The home was built in 1917 for Commander and Mrs. H. B. Cecil. Commander Cecil was one of the first 50 pilots trained by the Navy at North Island. He served in the Navy Air Force during World War I. Cecil lost his life when the dirigible Akron crashed on April 4, 1933. His widow remained living in the home until it was purchased by another Navy widow in the 1940s.

Mrs. Marc Mitscher made G Avenue her home after the passing of her husband, Admiral Marc Mitscher. Mitscher was another pioneer in naval aviation, a contemporary of Commander Cecil. He eventually served as commander of the Fast Carrier Task Force in the Pacific in World War II and rose to the rank of Admiral. Soon after his passing, Mrs. Mitscher moved into the home in 1947 and stayed there until her passing in 1982. She was an active member

GEM Winner, continued on next page.



You can learn about this history on the VIRTUAL MUSEUM and contribute your stories of History Happening! Now through CHA's website.

Over the last month, we've been working hard with the help of our committed volunteers and interns to bring you new history content every weekday. Join us as we do our best to keep our community connected and never miss a day of history. Consider this your resource for creating conversations, learning new things, getting nostalgic, and, most important, staying linked to each other.

Check out the Coronado Virtual Museum on CHA's website, coronadohistory.org.



Congratulations to our 2020 GEM award winner, Chip and Candice Kislack at 1006 G Avenue!



Snapshots of the Harrow Lodge, Coronado City, and Coronado Seals soccer teams, 1979.

“THE BRITISH ARE COMING”

A look back at Coronado Soccer in 1979

If we were in ordinary circumstances, in ordinary time, soccer season would be in full swing. Although players can't be on the field together today, CHA is looking back 41 years ago to a special time in Coronado soccer history. In 1979, Coronado hosted an English under-16 soccer team, one of the first cities on the West Coast to host such an exchange. The British team was from the Harrow Lodge School in Hornchurch, Essex.

The exchange was much anticipated with the Coronado High School pep band even playing at the airport to welcome the group. Once the Harrow Lodge team arrived, team players and coaches stayed with different Coronado families starting on December 21st through January 7, 1980.

The Harrow Lodge team played several exhibition games against various teams in the San Diego area. The skills of the British team were not lost on local soccer enthusiasts. The newsletter *Soccer San Diego* wrote, “In their first game, against Coronado, the British youths displayed a remarkable amount of ball control and speed, plus tight teamwork, even though several of their older players did not make the trip.”

In addition to playing lots of soccer, the team's itinerary also included Christmas celebrations, a visit to Disneyland, and a trip out to the desert in Borrego Springs. The exchange forged lifelong friendships between members of the team and their host families in Coronado.

Later in 1980, the Coronado Youth Soccer Club got to experience their exchange adventure with a trip to Europe. Soccer games were played in various European cities, but London was their hub, where the Coronado teams stayed with the families of the Harrow Lodge players.

The two organizers of the exchange were Tippy Thibodeau and Bonnie Carpenter, then president of the Coronado Soccer Club. Both of the women had sons in the local under-16 teams the Coronado Seals and Coronado City. They both recently visited CHA to share a photo album that documented the soccer exchange trip and share the stories of this special soccer memory.

CHA LAUNCHES THE COVID-19 CORONADO COMMUNITY COLLECTION

The Coronado Historical Association recognizes that today's current events surrounding the new coronavirus have historic significance around the globe and in our own community. As the primary organization that documents Coronado's history, CHA is committed to collecting and archiving this moment.

The Coronado Historical Association is currently collecting materials that document the response of our community to the coronavirus pandemic.

CHA needs the community's help with the project. As Coronado residents like you react to new policies and recommendations aimed to restrict the virus's spread, we aim to document and preserve the materials and stories that demonstrate how you are continuing to communicate, work, commute, learn, teach, create, pray, celebrate, mourn, and give aid to others. Tell us your story or consider what objects or recordings best represent the experiences and observations that have stood out to you most. How are you and your family members adapting and spending your time? What do you regard as your biggest challenges? Do you have examples of how our community is coming together? Was there a moment when you realized a historic event was taking place?

The collected stories and materials will allow CHA and the community to study and share these experiences in the future. There are a few ways to share. CHA is working with the City's Neighbor 2 Neighbor program to help get the word out and collect the history in the making. If you are part of the N2N program and would like to collaborate, contact your block captain. You can also help through the ways listed below:

Help Us By Contributing Physical Items
CHA is collecting select materials that demonstrate the impact of the coronavirus in Coronado. These might include items that represent the medical and economic impact of the virus on our region, such as modified take out menus, business signage, home lesson plans, grocery lists, homemade masks, application forms, mass mailings for charity



requests, artwork placed in public view, and other objects that represent changes to daily life and community projects.

To offer physical objects please contact Curator of Collections, Vickie Stone, at vstone@coronadohistory.org.

Help Us By Contributing Your Digital Content
CHA is collecting select digital materials that demonstrate the impact of the coronavirus in Coronado. These might include typed personal reflections and stories, digital images, sound and film recordings such as home movies, social media posts, websites, blog posts, emails, and other digital content. You can help us by sharing documentation of your personal experiences. We especially encourage the donation of photographs and other media as file uploads, rather than as links to online posts.

To submit your written story or URL links, you can use our Collection Form on CHA's website by clicking on “Share Your Experience” from the home page. To submit directly and to submit digital files such as images, film, or audio, please email the files as attachments to info@coronadohistory.org.

GEM Winner, continued from previous page.

of the Coronado gardening community, winning many home front prizes in the Flower Show.

After Mrs. Mitscher, the home remained in the family until 2017, when Chip and Candice Kislack bought the property. They are only the third family to own it over its long history.

The Kislacks kept a lot of the historic touches to the home, including keeping the original staircase and flooring, and restoring the original windows with a weighted rope system. They left a lot of the character but had to balance modern needs and upgrades.

Candice explained that the whole aim of the renovation was to “respect an old house but have modern amenities and style.” For example, to keep

HISTORY MYSTERY ANSWER

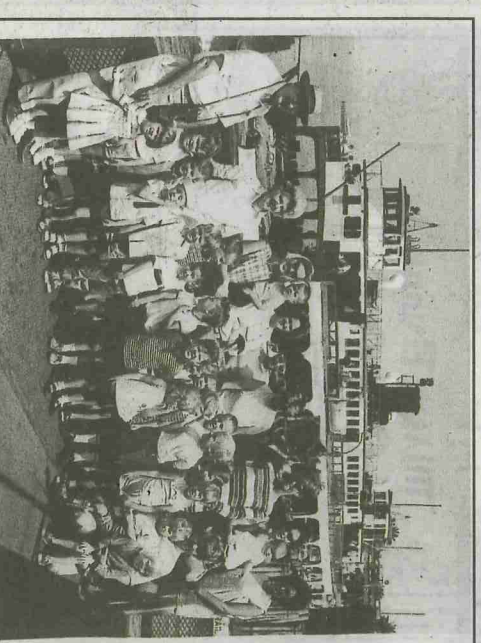
This month's history mystery may not be much of a mystery at all to many Coronado residents. The photograph shows a sign outside of Miss Bunny's School that was located at 411 Orange Avenue. The school was a pre-school dedicated to 2-6 year olds and operated by “Miss Bunny,” a beloved local.

Bunny Mackenzie, known locally as “Miss Bunny,” was born in Coronado in 1912. As a young student at the Hotel Del's Beach School (located on the sand between the old hotel and the Pacific Ocean) she demonstrated early on a fascination for the history of the island and for stories told to her by teachers

and family elders. She developed a passion for history, especially about her island community.

Bunny studied early childhood development at Whittier College. She returned home and in short order recognized the needs of a multitude of Navy mothers on the island. Miss Bunny's Preschool was born in the garden of her family home in 1935.

In 1938 her preschool moved to a larger facility on the corner of Fourth Street and Orange Avenue where it operated for 50 years. Today thousands of adults look back fondly at their time with Miss Bunny.



Miss Bunny is seen here in 1969 taking her class of young charges aboard the ferryboat San Diego for their last ride.