

SEFTON MANSION GARDEN PARTY

There is an 110-year old mansion with extensive gardens on 1.2 acres situated in the middle of Ocean Beach and Point Loma. The owner, Susan Elms, for five years now, is slowly restoring this once condemned and foreclosed estate into a magical world of wonder everywhere. Now the public can experience it for yourselves. The event at 1865 Sefton Place will have gardening lessons, music, bouncy houses, refreshments and more from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 6. Elms has invited Coastal Sage Gardening and Botany for Kids to help make an educational garden open to the community. They will be regularly working in the garden on Saturdays and offering classes. Volunteers and donations are welcome.

At noon, John Noble will hold a talk on the history of the estate. Entering this property from the street, you can feel as though you are going back in time. There are two lion statues that invite you to enter the long brick drive. The gardens and the buildings are slowly revealed like living ruins, where treasures are found everywhere. In 1912, Joseph W. Sefton Jr. had two houses built on the crest near where Narragansett Avenue and Chatsworth Boulevard intersect. The magnificent homes were designed by William S. Hebbard, who was a partner with Irving Gill on earlier architectural projects. The landscape architect for the original 37 acre estate was Wilbur David Cook, who designed Beverly Hills.

Peninsula Shepherd Center holds successful Summer Celebration to raise funds for programs

Peninsula Shepherd Center held its annual in-person Summer Celebration Fundraiser on June 24 in All Souls' Episcopal Church's Gooden Hall at 1475 Catalina Blvd.

"We got a great response from the community," said Peninsula Shepherd Center executive director Lisa Nokes, noting the event drew 125 guests and 30 volunteers who enjoyed lunch, live entertainment, a silent auction, and an opportunity drawing.

"New to the event was the Summer Celebration Challenge, with two anonymous donors pledging \$2,000, which was matched more than double by the community," said Nokes. "All proceeds are used for Peninsula Shepherd Center programs and services."

Nokes added bridge and other games were also part of the popular event.

The Summer Celebration was sponsored by: Stratton & Greene, ALC; The Hartley Co.; Bayview and Harbor View Senior Assisted Living; Erin Jaszczak of Willis Allen, and Nelson Photo and Supply.

"Empowering Senior Independence" is the mission of Peninsula Shepherd Center, a nonprofit providing for older adults living independently," pointed

out Nokes. She added Peninsula Shepherd Center provides transportation services through its Out & About Senior Transportation Program.

Also provided by the center are computer tablets and training through its PSC Connections Through Technology Program. Monthly "Lunch and Learn events," along with social opportunities in the Senior Lounge, are also available at the senior center.

Peninsula Shepherd Center also collaborates with other senior organizations throughout the Peninsula to provide a wide variety of social, service, and wellness opportunities for older adults.

Peninsula Shepherd Center is a nonprofit serving seniors age 65 and older in Point Loma, Ocean Beach, and Midway. It is one of 28 senior centers countywide.

Nokes noted San Diego's senior demographic is changing, pointing out there will be more people over age 65 than under age 18 by 2032. Human longevity has also



Kathy Angela Quejado, Paul Hartley, and Jean Durgan participated in an auction during the Peninsula Shepherd Center's Summer Celebration Fundraiser.

COURTESY PHOTO

increased from an average age of 55 to well into the 80s.

"That means almost a third of our lives are now spent close to, or after, retirement," said Nokes asking, "What do you want to do with that time?"

In response, Nokes said senior centers are now broadening their mix of services offered to include things like language and cooking classes, along with walking or exercise opportunities.

Nokes added Peninsula Shepherd Center is now offering

seniors lunches and monthly excursions to popular places like the Mingie International Museum in Balboa Park, Birch Aquarium in La Jolla, Cabrillo National Monument in Point Loma, and Arts District Liberty Station.

Nokes said Peninsula Shepherd Center is also participating in a new senior pilot program free to members called the Wellness Navigator, which provides seniors with healthcare, legal assistance, and other social services.

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