

September 19, 2011

sdbj.com

SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL

Volume 32, Number 38

THE COMMUNITY OF BUSINESS™

September 19-25, 2011

\$2.00

Habitat's Efforts Build Interest at Construction Site



SDBJ INSIDER

Tom York

San Diego Habitat for Humanity will frame a new home as part of a special "Habitat Off Broadway!" event taking place downtown at Horton Square next door to Horton Plaza Sept. 30 through Oct. 5. The Irvine Co. is providing the foundation for the project at 225 Broadway, its landmark tower which includes high-profile tenant television station NBC 7-39. Habitat volunteers will frame the 1,300-square-foot home, which will later be broken down into pieces and moved to Imperial Beach, where it becomes one of four new homes for low-income families ... Precious metals? The September issue of **San Diego Downtown News** carries an interesting piece about the theft of at least two dozen historical plaques containing bronze around the city, many that had been mounted on buildings to denote historic landmarks and other

important designations. The story says that thieves can get up to \$2 per pound for the plaques at local recycling centers, which makes the thefts all the more ridiculous, given the low salvage prices involved. So far, none of the signs have been recovered, and no leads have been turned in on the culprits, despite a \$1,000 reward through the local private **Crime Stoppers** program ... Several "superstars" of small business, that is entrepreneurs who have built their businesses up to \$10 million in sales, will share their know-how with interested compatriots at a one-day event set for Sept. 21, sponsored by the Santa Monica-based **Making It! Institute for the Advancement of Business** in partnership with **National University**. The event will be held at the university's Spectrum campus in Kearny Mesa. More details at makingitinstitute.org ... Well, here's a switch, so to speak. The offices of **KMA Architecture & Engineering** and **DPR Construction** have cut back on lighting and turned off the air conditioners in an effort to lower their electric bills, and thereby contribute to a more sustainable working environment. KMA has already seen a 30 percent reduction in its use of electricity, while DPR says it has reduced its light bill 51 percent and expects its cooling bill to drop nearly 80 percent ... **Ramona Airport**, one of eight country-run airports, will hold its annual open house Sept. 24, an event that will feature a close-up look at vintage WWII fighter planes and experimental airplanes, as well as the dedication of "Big Jimmy," a 1939 GMC firetruck originally built for the **La Mesa Fire Department**. Preservationists rescued the truck from a vineyard up north, where it was being used to pump water to grow grapes ... And this final item. Looking for something to do after hours this week? The world premiere of "Milk Like Sugar," a coming-of-age tragi-comedy about three teenage girls trapped in a dead-end town, who make a somewhat unusual pact to live up their lives, continues its run at the **La Jolla Playhouse** through Sept. 25. Details and ducats at lajollaplayhouse.org. Till next week.

Tom York is contributing editor of the San Diego Business Journal. If you have interesting items, send them along to tyork@sdbj.com or tom.york@gmail.com.