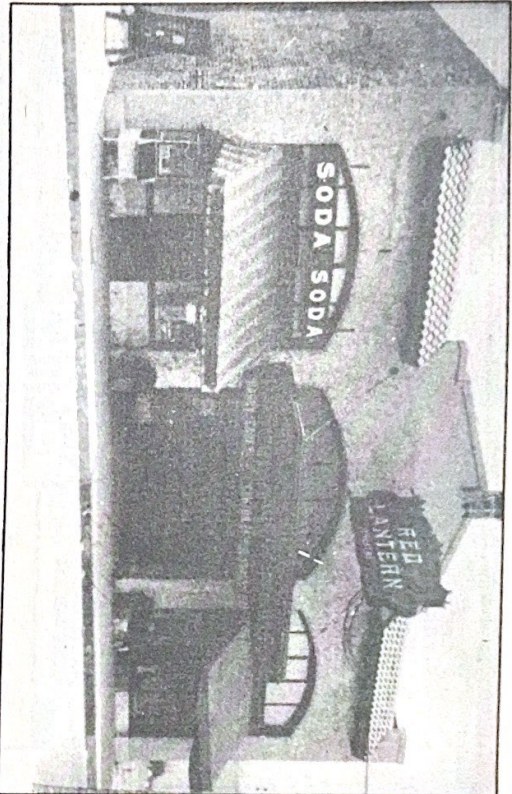


BREA JUBILEE JOURNAL



All lit up: Opening night at the Red Lantern Theatre was a gala event, complete with flood lights and a performance by the Brea Municipal Band.

Culture comes to Brea

After two years of unsuccessful attempts by out-of-town investors to bring legitimate theater to Brea, the Brea Investment Co. was formed and the Red Lantern Theatre was built in 1921. This is the same theater where Judy Garland later played. Brea's interest in live theater continues to flourish with the programs offered at the Curtis Theatre at the Brea Civic and Cultural Center.



1917 - 1992

This year marks Brea's 75th anniversary as an incorporated city. Throughout the year, citizens can celebrate this milestone with special Jubilee events, organized by a volunteer steering committee and numerous subcommittees.

Take a trip back to 1967, when a time capsule is opened at City Hall Park at noon Sunday, Feb. 23. For information, call the Jubilee Hotline at 980-7771.

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HERE TODAY,
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And it's a damn shame just that fact!

Musical revue opens in Brea

Favorite songs from the Broadway musical theater plus other pop, folk and traditional melodies will be heard in "Amy & Friends," an original musical revue conceived by and starring actress Amy Sheridan opens Tuesday, Feb. 9 for a limited four-Tuesday run at the Brea Civic/Cultural Center, 1 Civic Center Circle.

The Cabaret Repertory Theater production will be running in rotating repertory along with the two other current shows, the Neil Simon comedy

"Last of the Red Hot Lovers" and the 1867 musical melodrama "Under the Gaslight."

"Amy & Friends" showtimes are 8 p.m. on Tuesdays Feb. 9, 16, 23 and March 2 in the Dr. Glenn Curtis Performing Arts theater of the \$15-million Brea center.

Because of heavy season subscription audience for the two main shows in CRT's eighth winter season, tickets to the bonus "Amy" evening are over 90 percent sold-out.

Patrons should check

on current availability with the CRT Box Office by calling (714) 879-6865.

Sheridan is a veteran CRT performer, having been seen by Cabaret audiences in past stagings of "I Do! I Do!," "The Fantasticks," "Jacques Brel," "Carnival!" and "Side by Side by Sondheim."

Joining the musical actress in "Amy & Friends" are fellow performers Cherie L. Brown and Eileen Sheridan of Anaheim and Shelby Grimm of Los Angeles.

Providing musical accompaniment for the performers are Tom Brown, piano; Jim Brown, drums; and Ed PinCUSOFF, bass.

Amy Sheridan conceived the format for the original musical evening.

She was joined by director Susan Stauter in writing the show.

"The concept of 'Amy & Friends' first began

with my desire to take a risk, to create an opportunity for me to grow as a solo performer," explained Sheridan.

"As we began to develop and rehearse the show," she continued, "it became a friendly, warm and upbeat showcase for us to share our love of music and our favorite songs with the audience."

Among the many numbers in the revue are popular Broadway show standards, including "As Long as He Needs Me" from Oliver!, "Shall We Dance?" from The King and I and "What is a Woman?" from I Do! I Do!

Each of the performers brings to "Amy & Friends" the musical idiom he or she loves best, including numbers in the pop, folk, country and western and "oldie but goodie" genres.

The show's elegant costumes were created

by Pamela Johnson. Lighting design is by Kevin Cook.

Included in the CRT admission price for "Amy & Friends" are hot mulled wine, spiced cider and a popular "cabaret" dessert served at intermission.

All seating is reserved, when ordering season tickets to the two main shows "Last of the Red Hot Lovers" and "Under the Gaslight."

Tickets are available by telephone (VISA or MasterCard) charge, in person or by mail order addressed to: CRT, P.O. Box 217; Brea, CA 92621.

Tickets to "Amy & Friends" are \$5. (\$4 with season ticket discount).

Cabaret Repertory Theater is a nonprofit adjunct company produced by the theater department of California State University, Fullerton.



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Nomination Committee — A nomination committee was named to suggest officers for the ensuing year, to be elected in the near future and to be installed about June 1. From the executive board there were named Mrs. W. E. Fanning, chairman, and Mrs. T. P. Wallace; from the floor these were elected Tuesday—Mrs. Ralph Barnes, Mrs. Howard Robinson and Mrs. Hugh Jones.

Mrs. Fleisher as president and other delegates, to be named, will attend the county federation at Orange on April 29, and the state federation in the Biltmore hotel in Los Angeles on May 4, 5 and 6.

Garden-Book Groups — The garden group will hold its meeting regularly on the first and third Tuesday of each month, on mornings and afternoons, respectively. The members will meet next Tuesday morning at the club house, and on May 6 they will visit the Rancho Santa Ana Botanical gardens in Santa Ana canyon.

The book group members will meet with Mrs. T. P. Wallace on April 22.

Shower For Miss Renfro — Miss Helen Renfro who resides with her sister, Mrs. Ralph Solebee of Brea, was honored at a miscellaneous shower given Saturday night by Mr. and Mrs. Jack Harmony, in Fullerton.

Miss Renfro is soon to be married to Mrs. Harmony's brother, Leonard Carroll, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mortimer Carroll of Fullerton.

The shower also served to introduce Miss Renfro to relatives and friends of her fiancé. After

mentary dinner for all men was served at six-thirty o'clock a full course banquet. The Pomona high school orchestra played during the dinner hour. There were over two hundred and fifty guests in the dining room.

With Mrs. Cox — Mrs. Stewart Cox entertained a bridge, Wednesday evening in home on Central avenue. Guests were Mr. and Mrs. J. Pate, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Sar and Mr. and Mrs. Howard Bar. The two Sarchets won the prize. The hostess served refreshments.

With Mrs. Burquist — Mrs. J. M. Burquist was hostess to the members of the Brea Woman's club, when they met in her home last Friday afternoon. Mrs. R. M. Ross reviewed "Citadel" by A. J. Crownin. Those present included Mesdames T. Wallace, O. S. Close, A. A. V. Hoess, Frank Schweitzer, R. Fleisher, J. H. Griest and W. Fanning. The next regular meeting will be on April 22 with Mrs. Wallace.

Announce Ramona Play — In the natural amphitheater Ramona Bowl, located near Hemet, thousands are expected to witness the opening of the fifteenth season of that celebrated play "Ramona" April 23.

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Approval of Edwards Theatres' second phase postponed

Planning Commission wants the city's staff to provide more details concerning complex

By Jennifer D'Andrea
Brea Progress

The Planning Commission on Tuesday postponed voting on a conditional use permit that would allow Edwards Theatres to build a 10-screen movie theater complex in downtown Brea, citing a lack of information supplied by the city's staff members.

The proposed theater complex would be located on Birch Street between Walnut and Madrona

avenues, next to the 12-screen Edwards Theatres that were completed in September.

The theaters form the centerpiece of the downtown's new Birch Street Promenade, which will feature restaurants and retail shops.

The proposed theater complex, which is slated for completion next year, has a contemporary architectural style with a 54-foot tower, in contrast to the neighboring theater's art deco motif and 60-foot tower.

The theater would measure about 55,000 square feet and seat approximately 2,200 patrons.

Two pad buildings with storefronts for retail establishments and restaurants are planned to be attached to the front of the theater and a courtyard box of-

“We showed up tonight and looked at colored pencil drawings virtually for the first time, and I don't think that's adequate with all the controversy that's swirling around the colors in the downtown.”

BILL WORKMAN
Brea Planning Commissioner

rice will be located between the pad buildings.

Commissioners told city staff members that they want more specific information regarding the colors planned for the building, trash storage and pick-up, and landscaping for an area behind the building that faces the Ash Street Cottages.

Commissioners also requested more details about the proposed building's neon lighting, signs

and outdoor lighting.

“We showed up tonight and looked at colored pencil drawings virtually for the first time, and I don't think that's adequate with all the controversy that's swirling around the colors in the downtown,” Commissioner Bill Workman said.


Colors planned for the building include muted greens and yellows and oranges with bright accents.

Workman wanted assurance that the colors the commission approves are the colors that will be painted on the building.


“We've had many, many projects come through us that we've approved, and what we expect to be the trim color is actually the main color and it looks terrible,” Workman said. “Immediately we hear about it (when that happens), whether it's Union Plaza, the Gateway Center or the new theater.”

Workman was also concerned about developers using loud, bright colors in order to draw patrons.


The Planning Commission will reconsider the conditional use permit for Edwards Theatres at an upcoming meeting.



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EDWARDS: THE SEQUEL

Once the 10-plex is added, the theaters will be Edwards' only building megaplex in the nation, (Edwards Vice President Frank) Haffar said.

— again. The Planning Commission on Feb. 24 approved a permit for Edwards Theaters to build a second movie theater complex on Birch Street Promenade downtown.

The 10-screen, 2,000-seat theater will have a contemporary architectural design with a 54-foot tower, mimicking main

Planning Commission approves second film complex for the Birch Street Promenade

By Jennifer D'Andrea
Bea Progress

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A weekly newspaper with personality
PUBLISHED BY THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER ON THURSDAY MARCH 5, 1998

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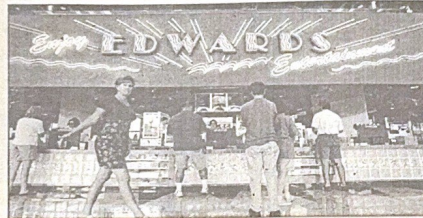
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1997 MET BREA'S BUSINESS

PUBLISHED BY THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER ON THURSDAY JANUARY 4, 1998
A weekly newspaper with personality

BREA PRESS

CURTAIN RISES, CONTROVERSY ROLLS



M. Loren Hernandez/Brea Progress
Neon lights outside newly opened Edwards Theatres in Brea (top) welcomed moviegoers inside (left), where they found more neon, as well as shiny floors and free popcorn.

wise, if it helps the city, I think it's a good thing. There's not a whole lot to do in Brea anyway, so it will give students something to do."

The colors do not appeal to Brea resident Vickie Jones, 48, although she likes the theaters. "I think (the theaters) are a

■ YOUR OPINION? What do Brea folks like yourself think of the new Edwards Theatres complex downtown? ■

ed bright pink and purple tones and presented modified drawings to the council on Aug. 5. Council members remained dissatisfied, finding the new color scheme too vivid.

City officials hired a color consultant to work with Edwards. The colors might be toned down depending on the consultant's recommendation, Councilwoman Bev Perry said.

"I think the inside and outside (of the theaters) are beautiful," Perry said. "I know there's been a question about colors, and I know people will either like them or hate them. I'd rather have that than people who don't care."

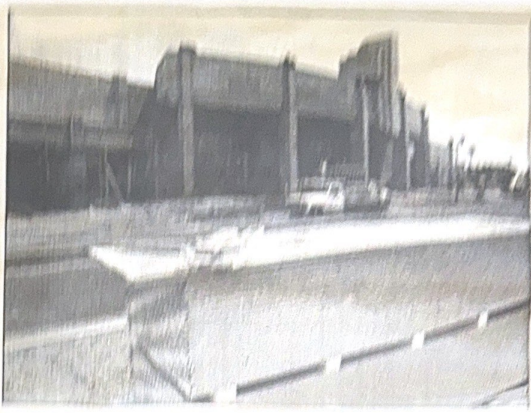
"It's a change and people don't like change. It's very hard, but I hope that when we're done, people will like (the new downtown). The proof will be 10 years from now if people are happy about downtown."

Brea resident Ray Cranston believes the city needed a new downtown and is pleased with the theater.

"The location is great and the architecture is excellent," Cranston said of the theater. "It's spacious and I like the art deco look. The lighting is exciting and vibrant. I sort of miss the old Brea, but I like the concept of redeveloping the old downtown area and getting people to come back to

September 28, 1987 - 10:00 AM - 10:00 AM

EN'S DRAMATIC DEBUT new downtown has price



The Red Lantern, Tampa Bay's newest high-rise, the city of 100 stories and approximately 1.5 million sq ft, was started in 1984 at 145 5th St. Estimated to cost \$100 million after serving for a few years as a meeting place for Tampa's Chamber of Commerce, the new downtown building is being completed.

CITY COUNCIL REPORT

Edwards Theaters' new color choice has city seeing red

Councilman fears time spent on issue could delay opening

City officials on Tuesday told Edwards Theaters representatives they are still dissatisfied with the color scheme for the first of two theaters being built downtown. The City Council previously expressed concern about the build-

ing's colors during a meeting June 17. An artist's rendering of the 12-plex, art deco-style theater's earth tones was less vivid than the council had initially approved, according to Director of Development Jim Cutts.

The drawings of the building have been modified to include bright pink and purple tones, but councilmembers still disapprove. "You've put together a beauti-

ful building and the colors we saw (in the first drawing) didn't do the building justice," Councilwoman Bev Perry told Edwards representatives. "(The new colors) are a little more than we wanted. It made the building come alive more to me, but it's a little much for the community." Councilman Burnie Dunlap was concerned that the delay in choosing colors for the building might postpone the theater's

opening. The council will meet on Monday to discuss the issue further. Here are other results of the Brea City Council meeting Tuesday night.

PRESENTATIONS

▶ Third District Supervisor Todd Spitzer gave the city of Brea a \$100,000 check for seismic retrofits for the Old City Hall building on Brea Boulevard, which will become the new headquarters for Brea Girl Scouts and Brea Boy Scouts.

▶ Brea Olinda Unified School District board members presented the Leonard McKim Friend of Education Award to the city of Brea to recognize the city's cooperative relationship with the school district. The city has provided the D.A.R.E. program free to elementary schools and has maintained playing fields for school and city use.

WIRELESS COMMUNICATION

▶ Adopt an ordinance that establishes regulations for wireless communication facilities such as antennas. **Approved.** Mayor Glenn Parker, Yes; Lynn Daucher, Yes; Bev Perry, Yes; Marty Simonoff, Yes; Burnie Dunlap, Yes.

SPORTS COMPLEX

▶ Approve an amendment to the city's agreement with the County of Orange regarding the Olinda-Alpha Landfill. The amendment specifies that the county will pay the city \$4 million to buy land for a sports complex and will spend about \$4.25 million to widen Valencia Avenue. **Approved 5-0.**

HOLIDAY OBSERVANCES

▶ Adopt resolutions that would authorize the city manager to change the city's holiday observances from Dec. 24-Jan. 2 to Dec. 24-26 and Dec. 31-Jan. 2. **Approved 5-0.**

LAW FIRM MERGER

▶ Approve an amendment to an agreement with the city attorney that would recognize a firm's name change from Markman, Arczynski, Hanson, Curley & Slough to Richards, Watson and Gershon. **Approved 5-0.**

DOWNTOWN DESIGN

▶ Approve an agreement with RTKL Associates, Inc. to provide architectural and urban design services for the downtown revitalization project. The cost will be based on hourly rates. **Approved 5-0.**

DRIVEWAY AND SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS

▶ Approve plans for reconstructing the driveway of Fire Station No. 1 on Berry Street and other sidewalk improvements. Cost: \$128,000. **Approved 5-0.**

DOWNTOWN PARKING

▶ Approve changes to a contract for a parking structure in the downtown and accept the contract for the structure as complete. Cost: \$538,438. **Approved 5-0.**

WIDENING BREYA BOULEVARD

▶ Approve changes to a contract for a project which consists of widening Brea Boulevard from Birch Street north to Bracken Street. Cost: \$16,110,277. **Approved 5-0.**

LIABILITY AND WORKERS' COMPENSATION CLAIMS

▶ Adopt a resolution that would increase the settlement authority delegated to the city manager for settling liability and workers' compensation claims from \$5,000 to \$10,000. **Approved 3-0.** Daucher, No; Simonoff, No.

COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

▶ The council appointed Clarice Blamer, the Rev. Rick Marshall and Larry Tarbell to the city's Housing Breans Advisory Board, which is an affordable housing review board.

— Compiled by Jennifer D'Andrea

BIRCH STREET REBIRTH

With construction set to begin soon, City Council gives mixed reviews to first model of promenade

By Vanessa Jezin
Brea Progress

Imagine a place where you can take a stroll, gather with friends, dine at a variety of ethnic restaurants, or bask in the sun, all without having to drive outside Brea.

The City Council recently viewed a preliminary architectural model of four of the six new buildings that will make up Birch Street Promenade, the downtown redevelopment project that has been in the works for more than seven years.

Construction to complete the 22-screen Edwards Theater complex on Birch Street is expected to begin this spring. The separate 10-screen, 2,200-seat theater is slated to be finished by December. Unlike the art deco-style 12-screen theater which opened in November, the new building will take on a more modern style.

Council members were pleased with the project's progress, but some expressed concern for the look of the buildings.

"Let's get going," was Councilman Burnie Dunlap's reaction to the model.

"It's so exciting to finally see some representation of what can be done there," Dunlap said. "I've been dealing with this for seven years and I'm just enthusiastic about it."



Jack E. Hancock/Brea Progress
At top, a view of the Edwards Theaters from Birch Street and Brea Boulevard. Construction of the Birch Street Promenade, which will be located on the vacant area between the theaters and the Gateway shopping center, begins this spring. The open-air promenade will feature restaurants, retail shops, and loft apartments. It is scheduled to be completed in 1999.

Mayor Lynn Daucher said the modern look will draw people to the area.

"The building is quite star-



each buildings' height, mass, and scale in relation to the other buildings in the area. The council and the develop-

COMING SOON?

CIM Group is negotiating with

Fate of old hotel is bleak

City Council agrees to look for other uses

By Vanessa Jezin
Brea Progress

The old Brea Hotel — the last of the original downtown buildings still standing on Brea Boulevard — is closer to being a thing of the past.

At Tuesday's City Council meeting, council members received a report from city staff which concluded that a last ditch effort failed to get money to renovate the dilapidated structure.

City Manager Frank Benest said staff will propose alternative uses for the property within 30 days.

"The interior is literally terrible," Benest said, referring to slides which showed pictures of the building. "There's dry rot, structural problems... It's current condition is not suited for residential or retail (use)."

The city moved the 86-year-old building in 1996 to its current location at North Brea Boulevard and Ash Street when Brea Boulevard was widened.

City Planner Jay Trevino said the last hope of saving the building was trying to get grants to fund the hotel's restoration.

"There are not many grants available, and those that are are highly competitive," Trevino said.

Councilmember Glenn Parker

EDWARDS: THE SEQUEL

Planning Commission approves second film complex for the Birch Street Promenade

By Jennifer D'Andrea
Brea Progress

Brea is going to the movies — again.

The Planning Commission on Feb. 24 approved a permit for Edwards Theatres to build a second movie theater complex on Birch Street Promenade downtown.

The 10-screen, 2,200-seat theater will have a contemporary architectural design with a 54-foot tower, mimicking main street theaters that might have been found in Los Angeles in the late 1930s, Brea senior planner David Crabtree said.

Slated for completion in December, the theater will be located on Birch Street between Walnut and Madrona avenues, next to the existing 12-plex theater which opened in September.

Two pad buildings with storefronts for retail establishments and restaurants will be attached to the front of the theater. A courtyard box office with a canopy marquee will be located between the pad buildings next to the sidewalk.

The two theaters will form the centerpiece of downtown's Birch Street Promenade, which will include shops and restaurants.

Edwards Vice President Frank Haffar said the existing

once the 10-plex is added, the theaters will be Edwards' only two-building megaplex in the nation, (Edwards Vice President Frank) Haffar said.

theaters will be Edwards' only two-building megaplex in the nation, Haffar maintained.

Planning Commissioners in December delayed voting on the conditional use permit for Edwards, seeking more information from city planners about theater colors, signs, neon lighting and trash facilities, and landscaping for an area behind the building facing Ash Street Cottages.

The building's color scheme will feature muted yellow, green, orange and soft gold. The colors will be softer than those found on the existing 12-plex and will match the natural shades of background hills, Crabtree observed.

Planning Commission chairman Richard Creagh requested assurances from city planners that the building's color scheme won't be altered once it has been approved.

"The color I see here is the color I'll see when it goes up, right?" Creagh asked city planners. "I've been burned before."

At the commission meeting, Ash Street Cottage residents James Blakely and Noah Albin shared their concerns regarding the new theater development.

IT'S SUPER-FIRE-MAN



Jack E. Hancock/Brea Progress

Ryan Blake, left, and Justin Kernes join other children watching a Brea fire ladder as it is extended 80 feet into the sky during a recent Community Center afterschool program.

Midbury Street gets closer to Brea

Rudy Valentino Drew Breans To Red Lantern In The Roaring 20's

Brea was a show town back in the roaring 20's with tent theaters and a movie house called The Red Lantern. On the stage there was vaudeville and occasionally a play. Amateur performances were put on the various halls.

After two years of unsuccessful attempts by out-of-town promoters to build a theater, local interests formed the Brea Investment Company with the building got under way in the fall of 1921. L. A. Schiesinger leased the playhouse that bore the name of Red Lantern, and the grand opening took place March 7, 1922.

First Show

The first show opened with a blaze of glory as all northern Orange county turned out for the gala occasion. The Brea Municipal Band provided music before the doors were thrown open to a surprised public as they received their first look at the oriental decorations and to hear the pipe organ.

The bill for opening night carried headline stage attractions and Bebe Daniels starring film called in "A Game Chicken".

Old Time Stars

In the days to follow the Red Lantern presented vaudeville, a stage play or two and such film stars and pictures as Marion Davies in "Enchantment", Thomas Meighan in "Cappy Ricks", Rudolph Valentino and Nazimova in "Camille", Jack Holt in the "Call of the North", William Farnum in "Perjury", Gloria Swanson in "Under the Lash", Mae Murray in "Peacock Alley", Viola Dana in "There Are No Villains", Bert Lytell in "Trip to Paradise", Mary Miles Minter in "Her Winning Way", William S. Hart in "White Oak" and Bebe Daniels in "Nancy from Nowhere".

Among the Red Lantern attractions of 1922 were "Kussell's Music Review", a variety show which was put on as a benefit for American Legion Post 181 and a play called "The Girl and the Tramp".

Fight Pictures

In March of that year pictures of the Dempsey-Carpenter

fight were shown. In December the Galvin Players presented a series of plays in a tent theater opposite the postoffice.

That was the year that Brea won the biggest prize in the Orange Show. The Pacific Electric Railway was running excursions to Long Beach for \$1 and to Newport, Balboa and Santa Monica for \$1.25. The Motor Transit Company was operating from Pearson's Confectionery Store.

At Olinda the Cleary Athletic Club and the Amalgamated Oil Co. teams played baseball, attracting large crowds.

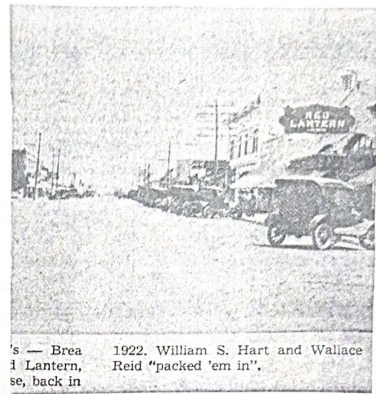
"Toot Toot Tootsie"

Breans were whistling "Toot Toot Tootsie" and "Carolina in the Morning", while their player pianos and gramophones were playing such pieces as "Nola", "Do It Again", "Teasing", "Do Dah Blues" and "Just a Little Love Song".

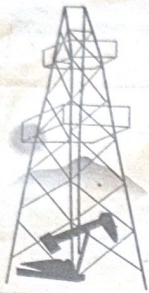
Cats whiskers radio receiving sets were being built by Breans that year and the newspapers were printing instructions.

You could buy a used Ford for as little as \$110, a delivery car for \$75.

In the national headlines were such events as the marriage of Princess Mary to Viscount Lascelles and that of Mathilda McCormick, 16-year-old granddaughter of John D. Rockefeller to Max Oser, a Swiss riding master.



— Brea 1922. William S. Hart and Wallace Reid "packed 'em in".



Inside

Automation Inside
Classifieds..... 22
Neighbors..... 10
Northern Lights 18
Opinions..... 9
Police Report..... 6
Real Estate Inside
Sports..... 14

SPECIAL EDITION

El Nino is a periodic global climate condition that causes huge pools of warm tropical water to flow east, toward South America. Some of the water curls north, warming the ocean off Mexico and Southern

California. Changes in wind direction also are associated with this phenomenon, which produces heavier-than-normal rain in the region and drought conditions elsewhere in the world.

IN THE REGISTER TODAY: Find a color graphic pointing out trouble spots throughout the county and what has or hasn't been done to fix those spots. Also, what cities are in the flood plain and what areas of the county are especially vulnerable to the effects of future storms.

BREA PROGRESS

A weekly newspaper with personality

PUBLISHED BY THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER ON THURSDAY OCTOBER 2, 1997

El Nino

El Nino may bring massive rains and massive problems this fall and winter. How can we help protect our homes and ourselves? What are the phone numbers we will need to have handy in an emergency? How is our city preparing for the feared onslaught? Find answers to these questions and more in a special report on page 3 of this issue of the *Brea Progress*.

Hounding out drugs at school

CURTAIN RISES, CONTROVERSY ROLLS



M. Loren Hernandez/Brea Progress
Neon lights outside newly opened

YOUR OPINION? What do Brea folks like yourself think of the new Edwards Theatres complex downtown? 9

ed bright pink and purple tones and presented modified drawings to the council on Aug. 5. Council members remained dissatisfied, finding the new color scheme too vivid.

City officials hired a color consultant to work with Edwards. The colors might be toned down depending on the consultant's recommendation, Councilwoman Bev Perry said.

"I think the inside and outside (of the theatres) are beautiful," Perry said. "I know there's been a question about colors, and I know people will either like them or hate them. I'd rather have that than people who don't care."

"It's a change and people don't like change. It's very hard, but I hope that when we're done, people will like (the new downtown). The roof will be 10 years from

CLASSIC THEATER

First phase of Edwards Cinemas boasts art deco facade

By Jennifer D'Andrea
Brea Progress

Twelve new cinemas in the Downtown Promenade will open by Labor Day weekend, according to David Crabtree, a senior planner in the Development Services Department.

The theme for the 12-screen, 2,500-seat theater is art deco in an effort to "capture a throw-back to classic theaters of old," Crabtree said. "The whole idea is to create a downtown that feels like it's evolved over time, which is rather tricky to do when building it all at once."

Councilman Burnie Dunlap asked Edwards to consider at

least one screen that features foreign, art and classic films.

"They agreed that there's a market for it," Dunlap said. "These films are not being shown in north Orange County. I suggested that they do something other than the Hollywood kinds of big screen things. Edwards has been very amenable to it."

Family films are Councilmember Bev Perry's preference. She recommended family days or nights, featuring films rated 'G' or 'PG' so kids and their parents can see a movie together.

Competition from neighboring theaters does not pose a threat because of the uniqueness of the area, said Eric Nicoll, redevelopment services manager.

"We feel that this will do fine in the marketplace and Edwards

certainly does or they wouldn't be spending their money here," he said. "The Birch Street Promenade is the anchor for the downtown. There's a compatible use here between theater-goers and specialty retail shops which couldn't survive on their own without that type of a draw."

The color scheme for the building is earth tones with olive metal work and light fixtures, but "there'll be some fun things, too," Crabtree said, referring to a large neon sign for a facade.

"It will have a variety of neon colors. Our desire is to stay true to the art deco theme of the building and some of the old movie palace grandeur of the past. We're conscious of not wanting the neon to overpower the building."

The front of the building boasts a curved canopy on an otherwise

square building.

"Because it is a big box," Crabtree said, "it represents a unique challenge to make it not look like a big box. (It will have) showcase windows to give it a store-front facade look."

The theater is one of two planned for downtown. The second theater lingers in the preliminary stages of planning. It will be smaller, with 10 screens and a different look. Construction is tentatively set for this summer.

"Parking was a huge concern of the city's, particularly when the second building came into play," Crabtree said. "We did not want to make the same mistake with parking that the Irvine Spectrum had when they first opened. We studied the parking issue pretty carefully and it looks like we've provided ample parking for the Birch Street area."

Cinema's design revealed

By Jennifer D'Andrea
Brea Progress

The second Edwards Cinemas building downtown will have contemporary design — a contrast to the art deco theme planned for the first set of Edwards theaters, city planners said Tuesday.

"We're focusing on the architecture of the building at this point and on the architecture of the building in relation to other buildings on Birch Street," City Planner Jay Trevino said at a Planning Commission study session. "We're hoping for an eclectic mix of architecture on Birch Street. We're trying to avoid a downtown that feels over-planned and that's not genuine."

The first set of theaters, a 12-plex, is scheduled to open in the downtown by Labor Day weekend. Its art deco motif has been discussed in the past. The second set of theaters, consisting of 10 screens, will sit behind two buildings that will be used for retail, planner David Crabtree said.

An entrance court with a curved canopy will face Birch Street. A free-standing box office will be located between the two buildings, Crabtree said.

"The real opportunity for architecture on this building is on the sides," Trevino said, since the front of the building is covered by the retail shops.

Edwards suggested a contemporary look for the building, but features such as theme and color scheme have not yet been addressed, Trevino said.

Details for the first theater are

BREA THEATRE

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, AUG. 21 & 22

"Murder By The Clock"

With William Boyd & Lilyan Tashman
Creepy Spine-chilling Drama

Also OUR GANG Comedy--"Little Daddy"

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY AUG. 26 & 27

"ARIZONA"

Augustus Thomas' most famous stage dramatization--
Now an equally distinguished motion picture. With
Laura La Plante, John Wayne and June Clyde: A Tense,
Vivid, Actionfull Story Packed full of Thrills, Football,
Army Scenes, Dramatic Situations.

Wednesday Nite--Ray's Grocery Nite
Free Groceries--Fun for all

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, AUG. 28 & 29

DOUBLE BILL

"SECRET CALL"

With Richard Arlen and the New Sensational Star, Peggy Shannon; and

"BLACK CAMEL"

Earl Derr Biggers--Charley Chan story with Warner Oland.

WEEK OF SEPT. 1st.

"HUCKLEBERRY FINN" & "POLITICS"

Marie Dressler, Polly Moran in a riot of fun

Brea Theatre Is Scheduling Fine Pictures

Friday and Saturday of this week the Brea Theatre will show *Murder by the Clock*. This is a very thrilling film, where a man is killed twice within a few short hours. William Boyd and Lilyan Tashman share the interest in this picture. *Little Daddy*, a comedy of *Our Gang* will also be shown on these two days.

Wednesday and Thursday Aug. 26th and 27th *Arizona* will be the feature at the local Theatre. This is a most fascinating picture, containing as it does shots of the Army and Navy football game, parts of a life at an army post and innumerable incidents providing high drama. Augustus Thomas, one of America's leading playwrights, wrote *Arizona* for the legitimate stage and it scored the most spectacular success of any of his plays. All of the tense drama of the stage show has been retained in the motion picture adaptation and many high spots, impossible to properly portray in a stage performance, have been woven into the scenario of this outstanding picture.

Friday and Saturday Aug. 28th and 29th there will be a double bill *Secret Call* with Richard Arlen and Peggy Shannon. Miss Shannon was called on to substitute for Clara Bow in a picture when Clara had to temporarily discontinue her screen work. Her success was immediate and Paramount claims that this team will build moving picture history. On these nights there will also be shown *Black Camel* and all the Earl Derr Biggers fans will have a chance to see one of the famous Charley Chan sequences which are always HOT.

During the week of Sept. 1st the Brea Theatre management has arranged two knockout pictures. One is *Huckleberry Finn* with that incomparable juvenile cast, Jackie Coogan, Mitzl Green--in her blond wig--and our own Jackie Searle. The

same week *Politics* is booked, the world's leading female laugh, Marie Dressler and Polly Moran.

FOX FULLERTON


Now Playing Ends Saturday

Matinee Wednesday 2:30 pm

"POLITICS"

A Riotous Plot of
Fun and Laughter


--with--
Marie Dressler
Polly Moran
--and--
Rosco Ates
(Stuttering Ates)



Sun., Mon., Tues. Aug. 23-24-25

JACKIE COOGAN, MITZL GREEN, JACKIE SEARLE,
JUNIOR LURIN, in

**"HUCKLEBERRY
FINN"**



Wed. - Thurs. Aug. 26-27

Matinee Wednesday, 2:30

CHARLIE CHAPLIN, in
"CITY LIGHTS"

Escape... to Brea's Curtis Theatre

The Civic Light Opera of Brea presents

Rodgers & Hammerstein's

OKLAHOMA!

October 31- November 24, 1991

Relive Rogers and Hammerstein's unforgettable songs,
the triumph of love and the birth of a new state.

Performance Dates

October 31, November 1,2,7,8,9,14,15,16,21,22,23, at 8PM
November 3,10,17,24 at 3PM

Ticket prices are \$12 for Fri. & Sat. evenings,
and \$10 for Thur. evenings & Sunday matinees

All seating is reserved

Pre-Theatre Dining Package

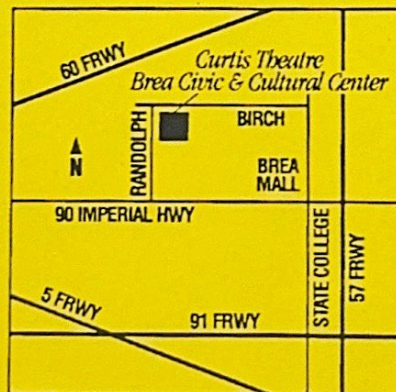
TUT'S
BAR & GRILL

Make reservations through the Curtis Theatre Box Office for our
Pre-Theatre Dining Package available at
Tut's Bar & Grill in the Brea Embassy Suites Hotel.

Prices are \$27.50 for Friday & Saturday evening performances,
\$25.50 for Thursday evening performances, and \$17 for Sunday matinees.
Prices include elegant meal and live theatre performance.

3 easy ways to order:

1. Charge by phone with your Visa or Mastercard
2. Visit our Box Office Monday - Friday
11 a.m. - 2 p.m. and 1 hour prior to show times.
3. Mail us your order with a check or money order payable to the City of Brea and a self addressed stamped envelope to:
Curtis Theatre Box Office
One Civic Center Circle
Brea, CA 92621



Curtis Theatre
Box Office
and Information
(714) 990-7722



Escape...
to Brea's
Curtis Theatre

The Brea Theatre League Presents

Steel Magnolias

September 27 - October 19, 1991

Don't miss this hilarious and touching comedy concerned with a group of gossipy southern ladies in a small town beauty parlor.

Performance Dates

Sept. 27,28, October 3,4,5,9,10,11,
12,16,17,18,19, at 8PM
October 5,12 at 2PM

Ticket prices are \$12.50 for Fri. or Sat. evenings,
\$9 for Wed. or Thur. evenings, \$7.50 for matinees

All seating is reserved

Pre Theatre Dining Package available
at Tut's Bar & Grill in The Brea Embassy Suites Hotel
Prices \$14.50 to \$28, includes elegant meal and
live theatre performance, call box office for reservations.

TUT'S
BAR & GRILL

3 easy ways to order:

1. Charge by phone with your Visa or Mastercard
2. Visit our Box Office Monday - Friday 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. and 1 hour prior to show times.
3. Mail us your order with a check or money order payable to the City of Brea and a self addressed stamped envelope to:
Curtis Theatre Box Office
One Civic Center Circle
Brea, CA 92621



Curtis Theatre
Box Office
and Information
(714) 990-7722



By Barbara A. Williams
Date correspondent

BREA — Neil Caplin and Dave Engwall dragged out the old set pieces from the Brea Theatre League production of "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" and had themselves a good laugh.

They pointed to the solid construction of Lucy's psychiatric booth, and the careful engineering that would make Snoopy's heavy doghouse last a lifetime.

Such amateurism, they chorused. Doesn't everybody know that professional sets aren't built to last?

Caplin and Engwall were laughing at themselves and the set pieces they built 10 years ago in Engwall's back yard. Pressed into service as the "Charlie Brown" construction crew by Engwall's wife Mary, production manager for the show, the Brea neighbors had labored painstakingly over the simple set that launched the new Theatre League in August 1981.

Luckily, the Brea Theatre League proved as durable as its first set. And to celebrate its 10th season, the league is once again presenting the musical saga of the Peanuts gang, complete with new cast and updated, sophisticated scenery.

Caplin and Engwall are making encore appearances in set design and construction for the show. Because they're refurbishing and reusing some of original pieces, they said they haven't had to fill a warehouse with construction crews as in past years. And once again they're working side by side in a back yard — this time at Caplin's new home in Yorba Linda.

Using Caplin's visual arts expertise and Engwall's welding

teer crew are elaborating on the older pieces, adding a jungle gym and seesaw and swings, and framing it all with a musical proscenium and oversized geometric accents. They figure 80 percent of the set will be completed before they move into the theater.

Stage experience has taught the friends the importance of such percentages — and how to take advantage of theatrical shortcuts. Like substituting lightweight luan construction material for heavy plywood, eschewing wallpaper and staples for a patterned paint roller, and ignoring any detail problem that can't be seen from 40 feet away.

Learning the shortcuts has led to better and more elaborate sets, according to Caplin, who has designed numerous Brea Theatre League sets and served as a BTL board member.

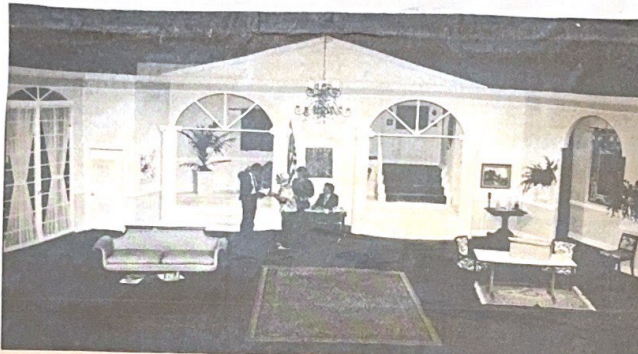
Caplin, who runs his own design company called Production House, said the problem is always trying to come up with "a million-dollar set on a \$2 budget." Despite keeping an eye on costs, Caplin said his sets have always been well-received. He considers "10 Little Indians" his best architectural statement.

Engwall, owner of Dave's Welding Service, has done set work for 23 of the Theatre League's 25 productions. A self-proclaimed detail man with a penchant for sturdy construction, he said the hard, physical labor of building and striking sets taught him to take advantage of theatrical shortcuts. But he said there's no easy way to get around functional elements like doors and staircases that "really have to work."

The staircase in "1940s Radio Hour" was difficult, he remem-

MAY 21, 90
D

Sets, Brea Theatre League showing signs of durability



ELABORATE SET — The Brea Theatre League is gaining a reputation for elaborate and intricate set design. (Photo courtesy of Neil Caplin)

bered by attaching levers beneath the doors, then installing a man below who operated the doors on cue.

Every problem solved can be matched by memories of construction nightmares, the two friends agreed.

Engwall recalled the Theatre League's production of "Arsenic and Old Lace" when stage crews, bogged down in the details of an ambitious set, ran out of time and ended up working until 3 in the morning.

Caplin remembered how the crew attempted to meet fire code standards for the show "Picnic" by wetting down the set's cardboard roofs with a fireproofing liquid. A series of failed attempts resulted in roofs so soggy that the fire inspector OK'd the set for the opening show because, he said, anything that wet couldn't possibly burn.

After the first show, the crew had to quickly replace the dripping roofs with painted, fireproofed plywood.

Despite the setbacks, Caplin and Engwall said they still find "magic" in the theater — staring at an empty stage from the theater seats to visualize a scene, helping the set come to life, then watching the stage darken again as the set comes down.

Both men said the camaraderie of the Brea Theatre League volunteers has added to the magic, and so has the success of the league itself.

"It was very frustrating when 40 or 50 people used to show up for a show," Engwall said. "But now we see the house filled and it makes it all worthwhile. We have season tickets now, and a



CURTIS THEATER

AMATEUR APPROACH — Brea residents, from left, Neil Caplin, Charlie Allen, Max Sherwood and Dave [unreadable] wall pitch in some amateur expertise to spruce up their original sets from the Brea Theatre League's production for a 10th anniversary staging of "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown."

(Star-Progress photo by Jack Hancock)

Founding President Joe Falco said his goal in starting the Brea Theatre League was to help fill "the North Orange County cultural vacuum" with a theater group that offered plays people had heard about, but never seen. The league has accomplished its goal, he said.

"Today, Brea has Art in Public Places and the Brea Gallery at the Civic Center, and the Brea Theatre League is fitting right in there," he said.

The Brea Theatre League production of "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" opens June 7 and runs for three weeks at the Curtis Theatre in the Brea Civic & Cultural Center. Evening performances begin at 8 p.m., with a 2 p.m. matinee added on June 16.

Ticket prices range from \$8.50 to \$10 for the evening shows, and \$7.50 for the matinee. Group discounts are available.

For tickets and further information, call (714) 524-6553.



betrays glamorous past

By Leslie Stuart Carter

The stuccoed marquee over the squat building at 134 South Brea Boulevard reads simply "Brea." It looks like an old movie theatre even though that same marquee now proclaims "Calvary Chapel" and "Where Jesus is Lord."

As knowledgeable Breans are aware, it was an old movie house—and it didn't always have its largest attendances on Sunday mornings.



The old place looks forlorn, apologetic and abandoned today as it stands there mute in its familiar spot in downtown Brea awaiting its fate at the hands of the municipal demolition squad with the dreaded wrecking ball.

Sixty-five years ago, however, the draughty relic presented a wholly different demeanor. All Brea flocked onto what was then called Pomona Avenue just to see for itself that marvel that local newspapers called "a theatre equal to the finest in the state."

For Breans—and for Americans in general, for that matter—1922 was a very good year for entertainment. Movies were action-filled and opulent: "Robin Hood," "Blood and Sand," "The Prisoner of Zenda." And people back then liked their songs heavy on the sentimental and melodic

side so Tin Pan Alley came up with some immortals: "A Kiss in the Dark," "Wonderful One" and "L'Amour."

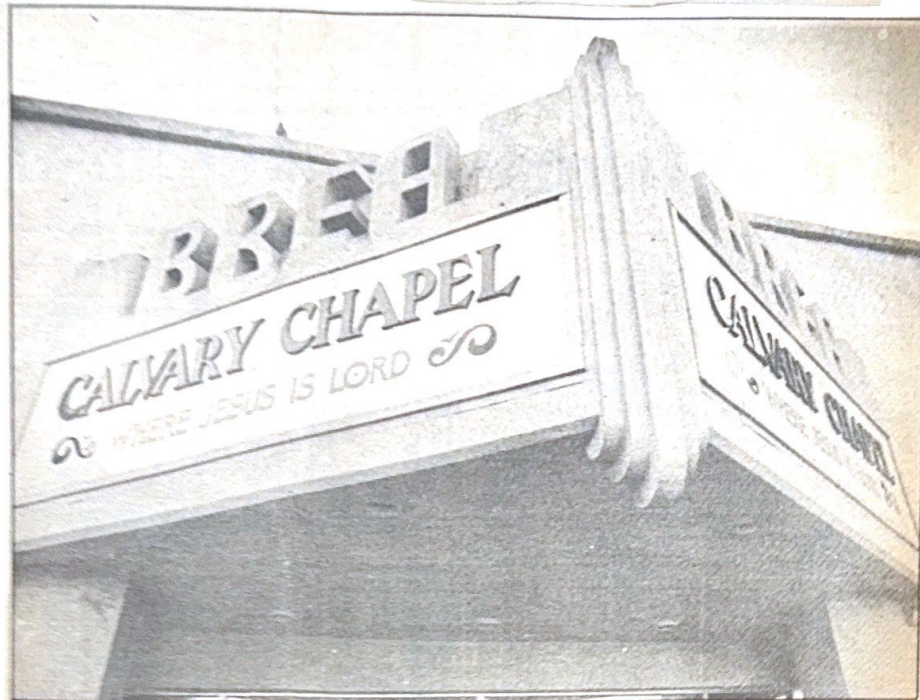
The "Red Lantern," pride of Brea and the first theatre in town, opened its doors on March 7, 1922. That exotic-sounding name, later to diminish to the more prosaic "Brea Theatre," had to do with the building's interior, an abundance of red Chinese lanterns. And they didn't throw open the place with a mere "grand opening" banner, either.

Floodlights swept the murky sky as the Brea Municipal Band oomphed away at a milling crowd of predominantly "shicks and their flappers," as a local paper reported.

The soda shop next door did a roaring trade in malts and sarsaparilla as the revved-up throng in the abiding joy of that night to remember.

Music wasn't confined to the Red Lantern's sidewalk because, during the intermission, those who weren't at the snack bar splurging their nickels and dimes on popcorn and Baby Ruths, marveled at the costly Robert Morgan pipe organ out there in front of the stage in all its glory. Perhaps the organist managed to sneak in a chorus or two of "L'Amours Toujours L'Amour." Folks loved a good, old-fashioned sing-song in those days with their pictures and there was no excuse for not joining in; the words were right up there on the screen.

The first feature film at the Red Lantern on that



HEAVEN CAN WAIT— In earlier years the old Brea Theatre's busiest times weren't Sunday mornings. The former cinema now houses a Calvary Chapel,

but may soon be a victim of the wrecking ball as redevelopment progresses.

—News Photo by Mike Kitada

March night so long ago really should have been something to remember, too. But they put on something called "A Game Chicken" starring gorgeous Bebe Daniels. Actually, that first night audience didn't care. They weren't there for the movie, anyway. Just wanted to be a part of the thrill of it all. At 10 cents a seat they could afford it.

The Brea Investment Co. must have been overjoyed at the success of its venture in providing homey old Brea with a theatre to rival any that Fullerton or Anaheim could match for sheer sumptuousness. The company's founders, Felix Yiarite, Bill Culp and Abe Yost, shared a bit of show biz history, too, because as the years rolled by and their brainchild presented stage acts with the movies, little Frances Gumm trod the boards of the

Red Lantern. A star wasn't born that night on the old R.L.'s stage, though, and that name "Gumm" didn't stick. But Francie's new one, Judy Garland, sure did.

Sad to relate that the little theatre will soon be a pile of rubble. But keep your fingers crossed because, who knows, over the rainbow there might just be a reprieve for the Red Lantern.

Then all we'd need would be another soda shop next door. I'll have a sarsaparilla. How about you?

Brea Beat is a regular feature for the Highlander. Leslie Stuart Carter is a 21-year resident of Brea and a native of London, England. He has written freelance articles for a variety of newspaper and magazines. We encourage comments from our readers on the column and welcome suggestions to future columns.