



REDCO Board Member Rik Mazzetti (foreground) and 3R Brewmaster Zolt Devore at the tribe's on-reservation brewery. Photo by Kevin Pawlman

Tribe Runs State's Only On-Reservation Brewery

TRIBAL BUSINESS: Diversifying Toward Self-Sufficiency

By KAREN PEARLMAN

California, which is home to more than 700,000 American Indians, accommodates the most tribal-operated casinos in the U.S., with 76 gaming facilities

currently owned by 73 of 109 federally recognized tribes in the state.

First Nation casinos date back to the 1970s when Native American tribes established bingo operations to help raise money to fund needed tribal operations.

Half a century later, there are now more than 450 Indian casinos across 29 states, with California-based operations generating fully 25% of total U.S. tribal gaming revenue.

◆ *Rincon page 58*

New Technology for a 'Perfect Smile'

MEDTECH: Advanced Alloy and AI Power Braces 'Independent Movers'

By JEFF CLEMETSON

Over the years, innovations in orthodontics have been relatively few and far between. Clear plastic aligners, such as Invisalign, have been on the market for almost 25 years. Before that, braces, first developed in 1819, were the only technology used to straighten teeth.

Now, Carlsbad-based Brius Technologies has created a new category of

teeth straightening – the "Independent Mover" – a trademarked term for the company's Brava system which uses advanced alloys developed for the space program and AI



Ted Schwarz
CEO
Brius Technologies

software to guide each tooth to a desired position independently.

Memory Movers

"In traditional braces or aligners, all the teeth are together, either attached by one wire or by one tray of plastic so that when one tooth moves it impacts the teeth around it and the efficiency with those teeth move," said Brius CEO Ted Schwarz.

◆ *Brus page 68*

Illumina Invests in \$36M Venture Fund

LIFE SCIENCE: Seeding Genomic Startups

By GEORGE LURIE

San Diego-based Illumina, Inc. will contribute to a new £30 million (\$36 million) venture fund created to help seed the next generation of genomic startups. Illumina Ventures' investment in the Time Boost Capital I LP Fund, which is managed by U.K.-based Time Partners, will benefit startups coming out of Illumina Accelerator Cambridge.

Illumina Accelerator, the world's first business accelerator focused solely on creating an innovative ecosystem for the genomics industry, is actually co-located with Illumina's R&D facilities in the Bay

◆ *Illumina page 68*

Biocom Taps Global Exec

LIFE SCIENCE: Motta to Lead SD Office

By JEFF CLEMETSON

Biocom California's San Diego office has a new leader.

On July 7, Biocom announced that it has appointed Miguel Motta to serve as vice president of strategic operations and as the first head of the organization's San Diego regional office.



Miguel Motta
VP of Strategic Operations & San Diego Regional Head
Biocom California

◆ *Biocom page 57*

P.11 LEADERSHIP: CEO of the Year Award Winners, WD-40 Co.'s Garry Ridge Receives Lifetime Achievement Award

P.48 LEADERSHIP: Meet the Asian Pacific Islander Leaders of Influence Top 50 Honorees for 2022

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Neighborhood Healthcare CEO Pursues Nonprofit's Mission

HEALTHCARE: Adapted to COVID and Different Care Models, Expanded Geographic Boundaries

■ BY BRAD GRAVES

CEO and practicing family physician Rakesh Patel, M.D., has been with Neighborhood Healthcare for more than 19 years. He ensures his nonprofit community health organization has the resources and culture it needs to provide quality, compassionate, whole-person care to patients throughout San Diego and Riverside Counties — regardless of those patients' circumstances.

Dr. Patel, who also has an MBA, oversees a staff of more than 900.

He has acted as the face for Neighborhood Healthcare's fundraising efforts. The organization has raised more than \$1 million over the past five years to support unfunded patient care.

The CEO was behind Neighborhood Healthcare's push to broaden its patient care impact, reaching a record 78,000 patients, via 391,000 medical, dental and behavioral health visits. He has expanded services to the outlying communities of Riverside, Temecula and Valley Center.

A New Approach for New Times

Dr. Patel and Neighborhood Healthcare's focus on providing access to care remained paramount before and during the pandemic. Soon after the COVID-19 outbreak, the organization launched video telehealth and phone services. Neighborhood Healthcare transitioned thousands of patients to virtual visits while providing critical medical, dental and mental health care. The organization's

innovative providers and staff overcame digital challenges to offer quality care to patients by video, phone and in-person. Neighborhood Healthcare provided services to communities and families that would otherwise not receive necessary care.

Not stopping there, Dr. Patel's leadership and Neighborhood Healthcare's innovative healthcare professionals brought critical care to high-risk patients confined to their homes



through Mobile Care Teams in San Diego and Riverside counties. These skilled practitioners went to 2,083 patients' homes over five months to administer lab and COVID tests. The organization also expanded a myriad of other services, from pediatrics to senior care.

Many of these changes will likely continue when the pandemic subsides, as patient demand for these new offerings grows.

He also:

- Orchestrated the organization's strategy to launch

Neighborhood Healthcare's first Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) center to offer tailored medical care to seniors from a medical team specializing in aging and chronic conditions.

- Authorized the reappointment of key operational budgets that enabled Neighborhood Healthcare to connect with patients and care outside of its 16 San Diego County facilities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Crafted and shared industry best practices with 800 other community health centers throughout San Diego and California through his volunteer work with the Integrated Health Partners and Health Center Partners.

A board-certified family physician and Certified Physician Executive, Dr. Patel received his M.D. from the Medical College of Wisconsin and completed his residency at Scripps Family Practice in Chula Vista. He received his MBA from the Isenberg School of Management at UMass Amherst.

Dr. Patel became chair of the board of directors for Integrated Health Partners, San Diego County's leading clinically integrated primary care network, earlier this year. He also serves on the board for Health Center Partners, the primary voice and health care policy advocate for community health centers in Southern California, and the San Diego County Medical Society board. Dr. Patel also sits on the Quality Safety Committee at Sharp Grossmont and Peer Review Committee at Sharp Health Plan. ■

IN HIS OWN WORDS:

"I accept this award on behalf of the more than 900 dedicated team members of Neighborhood Healthcare who provide quality, compassionate, whole-person care to 78,000 patients through 391,214 medical, dental, and behavioral health in-person, telehealth, and mobile clinic visits annually, regardless of their circumstance. This past year tested them all, and they rose to the challenges in countless situations. Our Neighborhood Healthcare team makes me so proud to work alongside them every day!"



Congratulations Michael Chagala

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