

AROUND TOWN

Downtown Investor Buys Apartment Building

The Downtown-based real estate investment and brokerage company **The Hogan Group, Inc.** has purchased a 30-unit apartment building just west of the 110 Freeway from P.I. Properties for \$1.44 million. The 14,000-square-foot, 1914 building at 1628 W. 12th St. is a rent-controlled project. Hogan Group President **Brent Hogan** said the company plans to make minor cosmetic upgrades to the building and will hold onto it as an investment at least until the housing market turns around. "That's what we do: We focus on blue-collar housing," he said. The Hogan Group owns about 12 rental properties in and around Downtown and Koreatown.

Taper to Present Randy Newman Musical

Randy Newman loves L.A., but will **Mark Taper Forum** audiences love him? Expect that question to be answered late next year, when the **Center Theatre Group** presents a world premiere of Newman's *Harps and Angels*. CTG announced the show last week, which it described as a politically tinged and humorous look at life in America. The musical will run Nov. 10-Dec. 19, 2010. It was conceived by **Jack Viertel**, creative director of Jujamcyn Theaters, and will feature songs and lyrics from the award winning singer/songwriter, including "I think It's Going to Rain Today," "You Got a Friend in Me" and "I Love L.A." The piece will be the finale of the Taper's 2010 season.

Fifth and Grand May Become 'John Fante Square'

The Bunker Hill described by the late author **John Fante** is gone, but the legendary Los Angeles writer's legacy may forever be rooted at the corner of Fifth Street and Grand Avenue. Ninth District Councilwoman **Jan Perry** last week proposed that the intersection be named John Fante Square as a tribute to the writer whose works, including *Ask the Dust*, celebrate old Downtown. Fante and his semi-autobiographical protagonists, including Arturo Bandini, spent a lot of time in the Bunker Hill of the past, not far from the site that could bear his name. The intersection is on the eastern edge of the Central Library. Fante, who was born in 1909, died in 1983. The motion, made on Tuesday, Oct. 13, now goes to the Public Works Committee.

Ralphs Selling Homegirl Salsa

The Downtown **Ralphs** supermarket and its customers are getting a little taste of **Homegirl Café** as part of a partnership with **Homeboy Industries**, the Downtown-based organization that helps at-risk youth with job training programs. City leaders, along with Homeboy Industries founder **Father Gregory Boyle**, announced recently that the supermarket at 645 W. Ninth St. is now selling two flavors of Homegirl Salsa. The salsa is made by women participating in the Homegirl Café & Catering job-training program. The agreement is part of an ongoing partnership that includes financial sup-



photo by Gary Leonard

Los Angeles Opera lured a huge crowd to its Art District costume warehouse on Saturday, Oct. 10. The company held a sale to get rid of clothes and accessories from past productions that it no longer needs.

port, job training and product donations by **Ralphs**. **Kendra Doyel**, group vice president of public relations and government affairs for **Ralphs Grocery Company**, said they hope eventually to sell the salsa at all their stores, but are starting with the Downtown location.

Man Fatally Stabbed In Skid Row Hotel

A 58-year-old man was stabbed to death inside a Skid Row hotel on Wednesday, Oct. 14, said Los Angeles Police Department officials. Two men were involved in a verbal argument at the Continental Hotel at 800 E. Seventh St. shortly before 9 p.m. The fight turned violent when one of the men pulled out two knives and stabbed the victim multiple times, said LAPD Det. **Richard Arciniega**. The victim was transported to a local hospital where he died, Arciniega said. The suspect, who is being treated for minor injuries, was arrested and taken into custody at the scene,

he said. The names of the suspect and victim were not immediately released.

Halloween Party Goes to the Dogs

Halloween isn't just for the kids, or adults. Dogs can get in on the fun too at the inaugural **Count Fluffula's Costumes and Cocktails** party on Saturday, Oct. 24. Benefiting the **Four Legged Friends Foundation**, the 7-11 p.m. event is a 21-and-over costume party for dogs and their owners at the **Gallery in the Pacific Electric Lofts**, at 610 S. Main St. The party will include a best costume contest, a best dog costume contest and best dog with their person contest. A few celebrities are scheduled to appear, including **Jamie Ray Newman** from television show "Eastwick" and wrestling diva **Ariel Shelly Martinez**. Tickets for the cocktail party are \$10 per person, and dogs get in free. For tickets email events@flff.org.