

**BUSINESS**  
Great work spaces:  
What's hot now

**REAL ESTATE**  
Vancouver developers  
put stamp on city

**POLITICS**  
Our middle-class  
exodus crisis

MAY/JUNE 2016

# Our City

BUSINESS, REAL ESTATE & POLITICS

## SAN DIEGO





# MOST INFLUENTIAL INNOVATORS

David Spatafore of Liberty Public Market headlines a cast of San Diego entrepreneurs and start-ups who are reshaping the business landscape when it comes to food, gadgets and the life sciences.

By Mike Stetz

So what's new?

In San Diego, that's a pertinent question. A lot is always new. Forbes magazine once named San Diego the best city for start-ups, after all.

Little wonder. Innovation is big here. People take risks. They experiment. They hunker down for long slogs. And we're not just talking about Salk scientists. This is going on in every field, from robotics to medical devices, from nutrition bars to appliance stores.

Oh ... and craft beer. Can't forget craft beer. That would be an epic slight, considering how we're home to such creations as Belching Beaver Peanut Butter Milk Stout and Killowatt's G. Polaris Experimental IPA.

"The innovation community is growing, no question," said Michael Lawless, who leads entrepreneurship initiatives at the School of Business at University of San Diego.

Universities such as his are helping foster this innovation, he noted. However, people today are apt to create their own opportunities rather than rely on established businesses for long-term employment. That career arc is no longer as prevalent, he noted.

A host of local companies are started and run by ambitious, forward-thinking individuals. Some have grown yet continue to set the tone for innovation as they move forward.

Still other individuals work in the region's research centers, where they seek new health-care solutions, some of which are so cutting-edge they've been honored by the National Institutes of Health.

These people are driven to create unique and dynamic products and enterprises, all of which add to the fabric, flavor and economic well-being of San Diego. For all of that and more, we recognize some of San Diego's most fascinating trailblazers:

*Presented by*



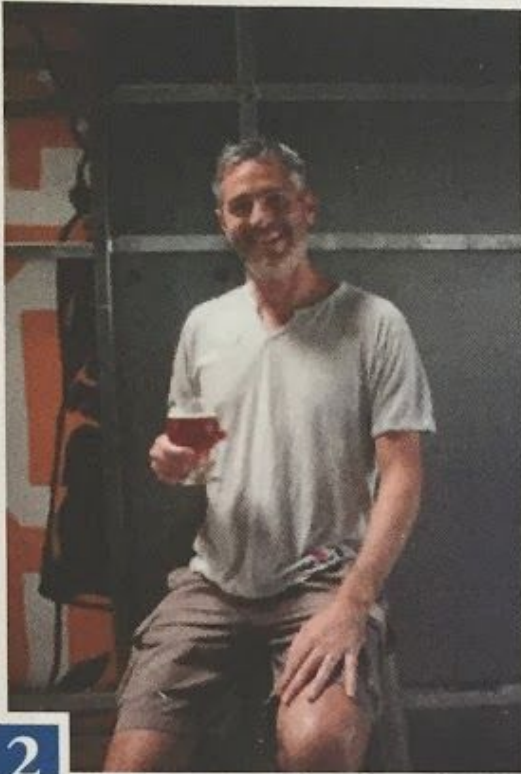
CALIFORNIA BANK  
TRUST



## 2. Duck Foot Brewing Co.

Matt DelVecchio, head quack

Craft beer makers are continually pushing the envelope. Everything from grapefruit to cucumber to pomegranate to mango has made it into the local samplings. It's a golden (ale) day.



2

Imagine, though, if you had a physical condition that didn't allow you to partake. That was Matt DelVecchio's dilemma. He has celiac disease. People who have it are very sensitive to gluten. And beer has lots of it.

He did not cry into his beer, though. He made his own, with an enzyme that removes much of the gluten from the beer. It may allow people who are sensitive to gluten to enjoy a nice cold craft beer. DelVecchio is proof it can be done. He drinks his own product.

However, DelVecchio has made it clear that he doesn't want his beer to be judged any differently than other craft beers. He thinks it happens to rock.

You can decide. He opened a tasting room in Miramar last year.