The San Diego Unified School District’s Board of Education is poised to decide the fate of Barnard Elementary School — including selling the entire property, excess parts of the property or nothing at all. If the Mandarin Chinese language-immersion school is closed, it would likely grow into a Pacific Rim academy elsewhere.

"Wings of Freedom": Will the USS Midway’s plan create a new city icon or a blight on the bay?

By PATRICIA WALSH | THE BEACON

The USS Midway Museum held the first of three town hall sessions on Nov. 29 at the Port of San Diego to vet public opinions about a vision to convert the Navy Pier into a downtown facility with a parking lot on the lower level and four-acre Veterans Park on the upper level.

The $68 million project, as currently conceptualized, would include demolishing the existing four-story Navy building on Harbor Drive to create an enhanced view corridor of the bay, transforming the Navy Pier into a gently sloping park with a 500-car parking lot beneath, and putting aside 1 percent of the total construction cost for local artists to provide art for the park.

The pier’s slope would gradually rise from the Embarcadero to a 20-foot viewing point, then slope gently back down to 14 feet at the end of the pier in order to accommodate trucks, buses and other large vehicles in the parking structure beneath.

Although the entire project was to be discussed at the meeting, the conversa- tion typically returned to one component of the proposal — a dramatic architectural element dubbed the “Wings of Freedom” that would be located at the head of the pier.

As currently conceptualized, the defining structure would consist of a pair of steel and titanium sails — one 400 feet in height, the other 500 feet — that would tower above the bay at the end of the proposed Veterans Park. Beneath the structure would be a 4,000- to 5,000-seat amphitheater for concerts and special events.

Mac McLaughlin, USS Midway Museum president and CEO, said the board embraced the idea to “build an iconic symbol that comes to represent San Diego for future generations,” as proposed by real estate developer Malini Burnham, architect Hal Sadler and philanthropist Denny Sanford — the latter of whom has agreed to fund the structure, estimated at $35 million.

Greg Mueller, CEO of Tucker Sadler Architects, said the firm came up with the idea for the structure after studying iconic elements of other cities, including the Sydney Opera House, Seattle’s Space Needle and the St. Louis arch.

“We started looking at architectural structures that people easily recognize across the world,” he said. “We took some of those elements — looking at the heights, what the structure and makeup is, what the materials are — and we started using them as ideas for how to create something iconic to San Diego. Not to try to represent those things out
With the number of visitors to Ocean Beach waning during the winter months, the need for access to public restrooms has become minimal.

Stores and eateries frequently inform passersby that their restrooms are not for public use.

Still, three main locations in town generally offer relief: the main lifeguard tower facilities on Abbott Street, Starbucks Coffee on Newport Avenue and facilities in the Dog Beach parking lot with 16 portable restrooms, including two oversize, ground-level stalls for wheelchair access required by the American Disability Act (ADA).

The situation for those seeking relief, however, has suddenly become a bit more grim for those who need to go. About three weeks ago, Starbucks closed its restroom doors even to customers, much less the general public. A new “employees only” sign is now posted on its restroom doors even to customers, much less the general public. A new “employees only” sign is now posted on the doors of its restroom, even to customers, much less the general public. A new “employees only” sign is now posted on the doors.

Adding to the problem, in a different location, the portable toilets at Dog Beach were recently scaled back to seven stalls — none of which is wheelchair accessible.

Some locals have their own theory as to why public bathrooms have been so drastically eliminated. Brookie Lombardi, 44, has been a resident since 1970.

“I think it’s because of the homeless,” Lombardi said. “They [the homeless] would use the bathrooms a lot. Some seek shelter in the disabled stalls at Dog Beach when it’s cold or raining. Some people here don’t like that.”

Similar conclusions are drawn by Anthony Beck, 41, who moved to Ocean Beach about two years ago. He also has an occasional Starbucks customer.

“I like to wash my hands before I have my pastry and coffee, but I’m usually not coming from home,” he said. “When I walked in [Starbucks] last week, I had just gotten off work and was totally dirty. The [employees only] sign on the [former] customer restroom door caught me by surprise. Even after I purchased my stuff, the guy wouldn’t let me use the restroom.”

Since then, Beck said he hasn’t returned to Starbucks.

“I don’t mind people off the street washing up in there, but I’m assuming that maybe other people had a problem with it,” Beck said.

Allen Hilowitz, a spokesman for the Seattle-based Starbucks Coffee Co., explained the company’s decision.

“First of all, our No.1 concern is for the safety of our customers and employees,” Hilowitz said. “Unfortunatly, we had a lot of safety incidents at that particular franchise. They [incidents] increased considerably in 2011 and resulted in a physical attack by a transient on one of our local employees.

“We got to a point where local law enforcement had to be on the scene on a daily basis,” he said.

The decision to close the restrooms to the public, however, was made in August, according to Hilowitz. It was based on several incidents and, as a result, the Starbucks management team and security/safety team made the call.

“We also asked for and received positive advice and help from the local merchants association [Ocean Beach Main Street Association] and the local law enforcement,” said Hilowitz, “which were both highly supportive of the pending decision to close the restrooms of our Ocean Beach store in order to under-pin and prevent disturbances and to keep [transient] individuals outside the store. We wanted to offer a safer environment to our customers and employ-ees.”

Hilowitz said the number of incidents drastically declined with the closure of the store’s restrooms.

“Many of our loyal customers commented and welcomed the positive change,” he said.

Not everyone agrees with that assessment, however.

“ somehow, it’s not right,” said Beck. “Same with the Dog Beach [portable restrooms]. I’ve seen people sleep in the

**Getting a handle on wintertime public restroom options in OB**

By BIANCA KOCH | The Beacon

Portable restrooms at Dog Beach in Ocean Beach — normally numbering 16 during the peak summer months, including two oversize wheelchair-accessible facilities — were scaled back for the winter to seven stalls, but none of them ADA-compliant. Once the city learned of the inadvertent removal of all wheelchair-accessible stalls, a brand-new one appeared the very next day.

Photo by Bianca Koch | The Beacon

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Catrina Russell Ranks

**Amongst NRT’s Top 1000**

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Ocean Beach is proud to announce that Sales Associate Catrina Russell was recently named to the NRT Top 1000 for exceptional sales productivity throughout the third quarter of 2011. This marks her second consecutive quarter being named to the prestigious list. The NRT Top 1,000 is a select group of agents and represents the top 1,000 sales associates of approximately 45,000 within NRT, the parent company of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage.

“This recognition is not only much deserved but speaks to the level of professional service for which Catrina Russell is being recognized,” said President and Chief Operating Officer of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, San Diego County and Temecula Valley, Rick Hoffman. “I look forward to her continued success with Coldwell Banker and thank her for the unwavering commitment to real estate excellence while effectively serving and educating clients within our local communities.”

Catrina Russell consistently ranks amongst the top producing agents within Coldwell Banker and has been an award-winning agent every year since she started her career in 1998. In May of 2011, Russell ranked #1 among all Coldwell Banker agents within San Diego County and Temecula Valley for her sales production. She is also currently on track to make the exclusive International President’s Elite for 2011, which last year recognized only the top 2% of all Coldwell Banker sales associates worldwide.

Catrina specializes within the central coastal region of San Diego which includes Ocean Beach, Point Loma and the surrounding communities. Catrina Russell can be reached at (619) 226-BUYS (2897) or via email at Catrina@CatrinaRussell.com.
American “doughboy” re-enactor Tim Siegert stands at the ready.

No doubt about it. Cabrillo National Monument is more than just a light-house.

The original lighthouse was declared a landmark in 1913, and that’s what attracts many visitors today. But last weekend, visitors had a unique opportunity to learn about the historic military significance of the monument during the event billed as “Air Raid Pearl Harbor: Fort Rosencrans Goes to War.”

Organizers said the event was the only Pearl Harbor re-enactment on the West Coast, and the first-ever held at Cabrillo. Members of the California Historic Group and other re-enactors represented men and women of the U.S. Army 194th Coast Artillery and set up camp displays throughout the park, complete with tents, vehicles and even a bicycle of the period.

Observation bunkers, the army radio station and other historic structures were open to view. The event also included a hike to a bunker that contains a 60-inch diameter searchlight, which scanned the skies for enemy aircraft. The bunker, located on the monument’s Bay-side Trail, is often missed by bikers and joggers and is normally not open to the public.

Perhaps the highlight of the event was a re-enactment of the air raid itself, which took place 70 years ago this month.

—Staff report

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National Park Service volunteers at Cabrillo National Monument in Point Loma zero in on an enemy warplane as hand-cranked sirens blared during a re-enactment the Japanese attack on American forces on Dec. 7, 1941 at Pearl Harbor. Last weekend’s re-enactment of the stunning aerial assault 70 years ago was reportedly the only such re-enactment to have taken place on the West Coast.

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The first thing Gayle Irvine did when she arrived at San Diego International Airport from Vancouver, British Columbia, was stop at the ATM machine to get some spending money. Waiting at the luggage carousel, Irvine heard her name over the airport’s public-address system, asking her to report to the lost-and-found area.

“I went through the lost-property database and found a description for a similar item,” Costello said. “I thought, ‘Somebody is looking for this.’”

Irvine was reunited with her ATM card. “I didn’t even know I left it in the machine,” she said. “I went through the lost-and-found department, and the person retrieving the item must show ID. Items can also be claimed online at www.san.org. Click on ‘passenger services,’ then ‘lost & found.’”

“I thought, ‘Somebody is looking for this,’” Costello said. “I went through the lost-property database and found a description for a similar item.”

Costello called the contact and, with a little sleuth work, determined it was the owner’s expense. “They forget the cane is hanging on the back of the wheelchair.”

In fact, because people think they won’t see their stuff again, many items continue to go unclaimed. After 90 days, those goods — like the 3-foot-tall stuffed dog that’s been around for months — will be returned by Fed-Ex as well — at the owner’s expense.

“Some kind gentleman handed it in,” she said. “I didn’t even know I left it in the machine.”

Irvine’s ATM card is just one of more than 1,200 items that were turned in to the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority’s lost-and-found department in the last year. With 900,000 travelers expected on incoming flights at Lindbergh Field and 900,000 on outbound flights between Thanksgiving and New Year’s Day, the lost-and-found bins have their annual holiday bulge.

“Two of the most common items filling the lost-and-found department’s bins, boxes and drawers are keys and belts. Costello opens a stack of drawers brimming with rows of belts rolled neatly in plastic bags and labeled. Cars keys — many with expensive automatic door openers — are expertly organized in plastic bags and hung on a pegboard. Keys that have gone unclaimed over the last year fill a cardboard box. The box is as heavy as a weightlifter’s kettle bell. A deck of flash cards for slang terms is among the unusual items found.

“The cards had words like ‘sick’ and ‘hot mess’ and explained the meaning,” Costello said. “I guess they are for parents to understand their kids.”

Canes are the least claimed item, she said. “If someone calls in, we ask as many questions as possible about the item,” Costello said. “Like color, any scratches or dents, or size. We even have a sizer to measure rings turned in. We’re not going to just give someone a diamond ring if they said they lost one.”

Canes, driver licenses, jewelry and topiary systems like taxis and shuttles, or from public buses or rental cars. For items lost onboard an aircraft, contact the airline for high blood pressure and having the diet file. He described the item in detail, got his camera back and sent a letter of appreciation.

“People call and say, ‘I know this is a lost cause,’” Costello said. “But that’s not necessarily true.”

An expensive camera had been on the shelves for more than three months and could have been headed for auction. “I thought, ‘Somebody is looking for this,’” Costello said. “I went through the lost-property database and found a description for a similar item.”

Costello called the contact, with a little sleuth work, determined it was the person’s lost camera. “The camera had three photos on it, one of a computer screen. Costello zoomed in and saw an icon for a diet file. He was reunited with the doctor for high blood pressure and having the diet file. He described the item in detail, got his camera back and sent a letter of appreciation.

Retrieving an item from the airport’s lost-and-found department requires the ability to provide a detailed description and identification. Travelers can pick the item up or give permission for someone else to pick it up. That person’s name must be on file with the lost-and-found department, and the person retrieving the item must show ID. Items can also be claimed online at www.san.org. Click on ‘passenger services,’ then ‘lost & found.’”

The Lindbergh Field lost-and-found department is located on the first floor of Terminal Two West at the San Diego International Airport. You can call, email or fax the lost-and-found department. You can also report the missing item online at www.san.org. Click on ‘passenger services’ then ‘lost & found.’

The website also has a searchable database of items on its shelves. Phone: (619) 400-2140 Fax: (619) 400-2141 Email: lindlufnd@san.org Web: www.san.org Mailing address: San Diego International Airport Lost and Found Department 58 35 N. Harbor Drive: Ste 1097 San Diego, CA 92101

The lost-and-found department does not take custody of items lost on board aircraft, in for-hire vehicles like taxis and shuttles, or from public buses or rental cars. For items lost onboard an aircraft, contact the airline.

“My ATM card is just one of more than 1,200 items that were turned in to the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority’s lost-and-found department in the last year. With 900,000 travelers expected on incoming flights at Lindbergh Field and 900,000 on outbound flights between Thanksgiving and New Year’s Day, the lost-and-found bins have their annual holiday bulge.”

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Local, 71, wins world Ironman event in her age group

Dr. KAI OLIVER-KURTIN | THE BEACON

You may well have seen her running or biking the streets or boardwalk in Ocean Beach. But you might well be stunned at what she’s accomplished.

Susan Norman, a longtime Mission Bay resident and granddaughter of four, is 71. She is also one of only two women over the age of 70 to hold both half- and full-Ironman world championship titles within the same year.

Norman took the top prizes in the 70-74 age group in September at the Las Vegas half-Ironman and again in October at the Kona, Hawaii full-Ironman World Championships.

She bikes, swims and runs six days a week in and around Mission Beach to keep her body in optimum shape for triathlons.

At age 38, Norman’s friends introduced her to running as a sport. She attended a marathon clinic to get started with proper exercises and to begin entering 10K races, which she always seemed to win. The physically demanding trend runs in her family. Her husband won the full-Ironman event for his division at age 50, and her sons and daughters-in-law have all completed triathlons, so Norman figured she was just as capable.

While training for what would have been her first half-Ironman competition in St. George, Utah, Norman suffered her first—and only—training injury in January. While biking on Kearny Villa Road, she hit a pothole and tumbled to the pavement, breaking her arm and pelvis in two places. Norman underwent months of physical, rehabilitative, sports and water therapy at the Mission Beach Club in Mission Beach, where the likes of Spike and Chopper have one very important thing in common: they are the center stage at Gaslamp Pet Parade and frequently practicing the transition from biking to running.

This extra challenge motivated Norman, who drinks between two and eight ounces of water and one-third training, “said Norman.”

Forced to miss the St. George race at age 71, Norman underwent months of training, breaking her arm and pelvis in two places. Norman underwent months of physical, rehabilitative, sports and water therapy at the Mission Beach Club in Mission Beach, where the likes of Spike and Chopper have one very important thing in common: they are the center stage at Gaslamp Pet Parade.

“Crossing the finish line was the most fabulous feeling,” said Norman. “Spectators were gathered there yelling and cheering, really making you feel special.”

In addition to the finish line, Norman competed in the prestigious full-Ironman world championship in Kona, which calls for a 2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bike ride and 26.2-mile marathon run which participants must complete in 17 hours, with a firm cutoff time of midnight. Norman finished in 16 hours, 57 minutes and 29 seconds — with less than 1 minute remaining before the clock would have stopped and all her efforts would have been discounted.

“Crossing the finish line was the most fabulous feeling,” said Norman. “Spectators were gathered there yelling and cheering, really making you feel special.”

While nearing the finish, Norman told her husband, “Spike is a little pokey, but if you don’t finish, you’re gonna have to go home and start training all over again instead of spending time with your granddaughter.”

With qualifying slots to both of next year’s Ironman world championships, Norman said she’d most likely do them again — this time aiming to beat the Ironman course record for women over the age of 70.

“You just have to think you can do it and never give up,” said Norman, who also won the San Diego Rock ’n’ Roll Marathon for her age group six years ago.

For more information about the competition, visit www.ironman.com.

Point Loma canine to be center stage at Gaslamp Pet Parade

Dr. KENDRA HARTMANN | THE BEACON

Just like in the world of humans, dogs have friends and acquaintances. And just like us, they gravitate toward those with similar interests and hobbies. That’s how Spike — who lives in Point Loma with owner Jocelyn Taylor — and Chopper came to be buds: a shared interest in doing good and helping others.

Spike and Chopper, however, are not the most likely of friends. The two canines will share the stage during the Gaslamp Holiday Pet Parade on Dec. 11.

Spike, a tiny papillon who was abused for much of his early life, is quiet and small and enjoys spending an afternoon curled up on his human mother’s lap. At the other end of the spectrum is two-year-old Boston terrier Chopper, whose idea of a good time is riding high on his remote-controlled Harley Davidson.

Yet Spike and Chopper have one very important thing in common: they are members of an elite group of San Diego canines that use their talent and good looks for charity — a club that seems to win a place in the hearts of the San Diegans.

Spike and Chopper first met almost exactly one year ago, when Mark Shaf- fer, Chopper’s human father and fellow Harley rider, noticed a post on Spike’s Facebook page that made mention of a tiny papillon who was up for adoption. With a papillon of his own, Shaf fer decided to get in touch with Spike and owner Jocelyn on the chance they could go for a joint Harley/wagon-towing adventure.

Taylor, it turned out, was more than game, and the great showdown of the 2010 Gaslamp Holiday Pet Parade for a trial run. Chopper, as usual, helped the spike ride in the wagon, both resplendent in their signature sunglasses.

That’s how Spike — who lives in Point Loma canine to be center stage at Gaslamp Pet Parade and Taylor Shaffer figured they’d give the arrangement a try. And if Spike jumped out or otherwise rejected the wagon, they’d just walk alongside each other in the parade.

Neither dog so much as hinted at resistance to the arrangement — Spike, in fact, loved his wagon so much that after the parade was over and Taylor and Shaffer were packing things up, Taylor looked around for Spike only to find him sitting back in it, waiting for another round. The pair were a smash hit — so much so, they’ve been invited to every day.

The Gaslamp Holiday Pet Parade takes place on Sunday, Dec. 11 from 1 to 5 p.m., starting from the Gaslamp Hilton Park, corner of Fourth Avenue and K Street. Viewing the parade is free, and entry to participate in the parade is $10 per pet/handler duo. Register at www.gaslamp.org/petparade.

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The story originally appeared in the December edition of San Diego Pet Maga- zine, which is affiliated with the San Diego Community Newspaper Group.
The options for public restrooms in Ocean Beach during the winter months recently became slimmer when the Starbucks coffee shop on Newport Avenue closed its restrooms even to customers.

The options for public restrooms in Ocean Beach during the winter months recently became slimmer when the Starbucks coffee shop on Newport Avenue closed its restrooms even to customers.

BARNARD CONTINUED FROM Page 1

“the brink of bankruptcy with a possible $100 million deficit, presented a plan to close 14 schools in a crowd in an effort to save $500 million per school annually. The plan included moving the Mandarin-language-emersion program to Dana Middle School and eliminating the 5-6 configuration at Dana. But the Point Loma community and its anchor foundation rejected the recommendation, even though in 2006 the cluster recruited the program as part of its strategic plan.

Phil Stover, deputy superintendent of business for the district, told the board, “The idea is coming up with something that could be expressed as a sail but doesn’t just represent sailing. It could be something that is also something that Sand Diego is known for.” He said it could be something that is interpreted in a different way by whoever is looking at it.

The individual interpretation of the structure was precisely the structure of the “Playboy bunny ear” and said the structure would be the laughing-stock of the city. Another said it was not an example of the "unconstrained network." Another said the structure is a “monstrosity” that belongs in a science fiction movie. Another said it is transparent on one side. Another said change material to a reflective glass that extend these benefits before the end of the year. One resident at the meeting said the structure “fantastic,” a potential laughing-stock of the city. Another said “this is not currently available to anyone.”

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NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS:

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BARNARD CONTINUED FROM Page 1

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OB CHRISTMAS PARADE

Holiday beach spirit  PHOTOS BY PAUL HANSEN  I  THE BEACON

Pacific Shores on Newport Avenue offered up this eye-popping float during the Dec. 3 Ocean Beach Christmas Parade.

Local Boy Scouts made a big splash at the annual holiday parade with their version of a beach bobsled.

And, of course, no Ocean Beach Christmas celebration would be complete without the iconic Woody procession decorated with holiday glitter and glam.

ATTENTION
Ocean Beach Merchants!

To the season to promote your business!

by being a part of OBMA’s Special Holiday Sections Published in The Beacon throughout the Holidays!

Holiday Publication Dates
THURSDAYS
DECEMBER 15th  DECEMBER 21st

The Beacon will publish every week in December Prior to Christmas

For additional information or questions regarding advertising contact Mike Fahey at 858-270-3103 ext. 117 or email mikefahey@sdnews.com

Bone Appétit!
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Saturday, December 19th
Party All Day! Raffles! Specials!

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SHOP LOCAL AND IMPROVE THE ECONOMY!
How much of your shopping dollar is retained in your community?

6 cents of every dollar spent with a Big Box retailer is retained/recirculated in a community. Source: Rocky Mountain Institute

20 cents of every dollar spent with a chain store is retained/recirculated in a community. Source: Small Business Administration

60 cents of every dollar spent with a sole proprietorship is retained/recirculated in a community. Source: Small Business Administration. Reprinted from Barbara Wold, Professional Speaker’s email.

HELP SUPPORT OCEAN BEACH – SHOP LOCAL!
Managing the Hospital Discharge

In April, my 92 year old mother went into the hospital to remove a tumor from her arm, the procedure went well and she was sent home. Three days later, she was back in the hospital because she wasn’t able to handle the complicated wound care regimen.

There is a movement to improve care after discharge and to reduce readmissions for the elderly but if your family member has not revamped their discharge process, you may need to take an active role in managing the discharge.

TAKE CHARGE: If you believe the hospital is sending a patient home too soon, talk with the doctor.

CHECK THE DRUG LIST: Medication errors are a frequent cause of readmissions. Make sure your family member knows when and how to take new pills.

MAKE A DISCHARGE PLAN: Most hospitals provide a discharge plan in writing but it may not be complete and it may be difficult to understand. Make your own plan that will be a guide for the patient, the caregiver and other doctors.

CONTACT THE PRIMARY DOCTOR: Request the discharge planner or hospital MD contact the patient’s primary care physician to be followed up or you should do it yourself.

The RN Case Managers at Innovative HealthCare Consultants are available 24/7 to help with all these details and they are expert in handling any problems that may arise. Call (877) 731-1442 or see our website at www.innovativehc.com.

The Anderson Medical Center is located at 1945 Garnet Avenue. The clinic will feature the latest in technology including digital x-rays and electronic health records.

Patients will be seen on a walk-in basis. This allows easy access with the extended hours from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. during the week and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekends and holidays.

The Anderson Medical Center is equipped to handle minor emergencies such as suturing and casting. It is designed to take care of patients of all ages as their primary care physicians. Physical therapy will also be available on a scheduled basis.

Most insurance will be accepted. For more information you can call 858-224-7877 or visit our website at AndersonMedicalCenter.com.

Look for the “certified organic” label at OB People’s Organic Foods Market, at 4765 Voltaire Street. Open Daily from 8 a.m. – 9 p.m. 

Women with hair loss can have thick hair!

According to the Women’s Institute for Fine and Thinning Hair, there are 30 million women who are suffering from thin, weak and damaged hair. It can begin as early as puberty.

The “certified organic” label stands for a commitment to a system of agriculture that strives for balance with nature. When you buy certified organic food, your choice protects the health of future generations, your self, and farm workers by keeping cancer-causing pesticides and herbicides off of plates and out of farm environments.

The best selection of organic produce and grocery items in San Diego stop by Ocean Beach People’s Organic Foods Market, at 4765 Voltaire Street. Open Daily from 8 a.m. – 9 p.m.

For the best selection of organic food, your choice protects the health of future generations, your self, and farm workers by keeping cancer-causing pesticides and herbicides off of plates and out of farm environments.

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The unique patented process used at Judy's salon attaches a protein bond of real human hair to a small section of your own hair. The bonds are so discreet you can style your hair anyway you choose.

This unique application process makes it the only system that does not further damage your hair.

Most women who want this service suffer from thin, weak and damaged natural hair, but once this application process has been applied, you will be amazed at the transformation that occurs, not only in your hair, but also in your outlook!

Call for your free consultation and receive $200 off on your first full head of hair replacements. 858-456-2144 or go to www.beautybyjudy.info

Judy Judy Judy Hair Salon 7734 Herschel #P, La Jolla
Once-popular Blitz Brothers are reunited

By BART MEDINA | THE BEACON

One of San Diego’s most popular rock bands during the late 1970s and early 1980s, The Blitz Brothers have reunited. Fronted by guitarist Richard “Blitz” Livoni, with drummer Dickie Dodd and bassist Barney Roach replacing original members Danny Jamison, the trio performs at Humphrey’s Backstage Lounge on Dec. 9.

The band has a serious pedigree. Roach is a well-known writer and producer of the blues. Dodd is a former Moonraker and is an original member of the 1960s surf legends The Bel Airs, who scored a hit with “Mr. Moto” (1961). He was also the lead singer of garage icons The Standells, who recorded the classic “Dirty Water” (1966). Rounding out the lineup, Livoni, the band’s frontman, is considered one of the top music producers in San Diego. Owner of Blitz Recording Studios, he has a diverse list of credits to his name, including collaboration with rhythm and blues icon Ike Turner, jazz legend Barney Kessel and punk heroes The Zeros.

The Blitz Brothers’ original heyday was essentially 1973 to 1986, starting out in Orange County before relocating to San Diego. The band was hugely popular with headline gigs and opening acts featuring blues icon Ike Turner, jazz legend Barney Kessel and punk heroes The Zeros.

Following the band’s split, Livoni began to put together a new outfit. “We started auditioning drummers,” Livoni said. “My friend, Barney, had been bugging me to do something and he would say, ‘It kind of gets you back to what got it all started. You’re sitting at a computer.’” He said he’s pleased with the response to the band’s pair of shows to date. “It’s definitely fun to get out and play again,” Livoni said. “It kind of gets you back to what got it all started. You’re looking to give people some goose bumps. For me, that hour (onstage) goes by in ten seconds. It’s so intense, it’s a blast.”

• The Blitz Brothers perform at 7 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 9 at Humphrey’s Backstage Lounge, 2241 Shelter Island Drive. $15. 21 and up. For more information, visit www.humphreysbackstage.com

Contacting him the next day, the two quickly agreed to play on each other’s projects. Livoni said he was pleased from the first rehearsal. “It fit like a glove. It just clicked,” he said.

For now, Livoni is looking to have the band perform once a month or so. He said not much has changed since the Blitz Brothers rounded the Southland’s stages. “It can’t sing as high,” he laughed. “(Other than that), it’s pretty much the same, only it’s a little more bluesy show now than what we did in the late period of the band. That was a little more rock ‘n’ roll.”

Livoni continues with other projects, including the recent release of “Strikes Again” from another of his groups, Sons of Falcon. However, he said he’s happy to have the Blitz Brothers back in action. While he doesn’t have a preference, Livoni notes there are differences between his work and his band life. “I love my job,” he said. “(But) I think it’s easier to play live than make a record. (Studio recording is) a lot more stodgy, nose-to-the-grindstone stuff. You’re sitting at a computer.”

“I just got to a point where I wanted to go back out and hit it again,” Livoni said. “My friend, Barney, had been bugging me to do something and he would bring me to the blues festivals, where I would play as the Richard Blitz Band. That went over really good. Then he would hire me to play every six months or so at a couple of different blues shows.”

The audience response was such that Livoni began to put together a new band. “We started auditioning drummers,” Livoni said. “We went through seven or eight pretty great drummers, but nothing was quite feeling right. Then I had a dream about Dickie Dodd.”

The Holidays

Point Loma Village Florist

Centerpieces, gifts and more…

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Dress Up Your Home for The Holidays

Pt. Loma doctor named team physician for hungry U.S.A. rugby sevens squad

by SCOTT HOPKINS | THE BEACON

A Point Loma physician and artist was recently selected as a team doctor for the United States team in a sport that will make its first Olympic appearance at the 2016 games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Dr. Joseph Allen, who has an office on West Point Loma Boulevard, was screened and certified by the U.S. Olympic Committee before flying to Australia for a tournament of rugby sevens, also referred to as rugby 7s.

Using only seven players compared to the usual 15, rugby 7s is played on the same size field. Games pass quickly, as there are two halves of only seven minutes each, with a one-minute halftime.

“It’s a much faster game,” Allen said. “It’s easier to play live than make a record. (Studio recording is) a lot more stodgy, nose-to-the-grindstone stuff. You’re sitting at a computer.”

“I can’t sing as high,” he laughed. “But I think it’s easier to play live than make a record. (Studio recording is) a lot more stodgy, nose-to-the-grindstone stuff. You’re sitting at a computer.”

One of the tour stops will be to Las Vegas from Feb. 10-12. Other tournaments will be held in Dubai, South Africa, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Japan, Scotland and England.

The U.S. team is in residence and training at the Olympic Training Center in Chula Vista under head coach Al Caravelli.

“This experience was a total blast,” Allen said. “Long days, but a really great experience. The Olympics in Rio is my ultimate goal.”

Allen maintains a website of his art work at www.joesworkshop.com. For more information, visit www.urb-sevens.com..

The Holiday Shopping Shopping SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP SHOP 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Pointers can’t break Cathedral’s CIF spell, fall for 5th straight time to Dons

By SCOTT HOPKINS | The Beacon

Before the Dec. 1 CIF semifinal football game at Cathedral Catholic, members of the Point Loma High School team were unusually fired up, shooting encourage- ment and slapping each other’s pads during pre-game warmups.

Three hours later, in a scene that has become all too familiar, the same players stood in stunned silence in their dressing room, having fallen short of their goal.

Some fought back tears. Others, tears streaming down their young faces, cried quietly. And many, unable to suppress their emotions, wept uncontrollably.

A couple players did not remove any of their uniforms, but sat quietly in a remote area of the locker room, heads bowed, hands shielding their eyes, where they remained until teammates came to console them.

Several minutes earlier, Cathedral’s Manchester Stadium scoreboard had displayed numbers that told the evening’s heart-wrenching story: Cathe- dral 24, Point Loma 0.

Defensively, that was primarily true.

The Pointers forced numerous punts in the early stages of the game before Dons quarterback Garrett Bogart found 6-foot-1-inch wide receiver Biren Heen behind a Pointer defender and his perfect 25-yard throw gave the hosts a 7-0 lead shortly before the end of the first quarter.

Shortly before halftime, Bogart spot- ted Andrew Pascale in the clear and a 40-yard touchdown gave Cathedral a 14-0 lead at the break.

The final Cathedral six-pointer came with just over 10 minutes to play. After Bogart hooked up with Ji Storvold, Bogart totaled 23.5 yards on 14 com- pletions in 26 attempts. Many times, Pointer defenders Ikeem Wright, Andre Montano, Pablo Soares, Jaivon Griffin, Zalyn Bullard, Morris Mathews, Tevin Heyward, Felipe Tucker, Matt Mager, Mohsen Gharami, Ikeem Wright, Andre Montano, Pablo Borjon, Jon Denae Bailey, Chris Schoen- herr, Mike Lombardi, Roman Howard, Michael Solia and Nick Li was.

BITS ‘N’ BITES

• The Dons have now prevented the Pointers from raising a CIF champion- ship football banner for five straight years. Twice, in 2007 and 2009, the Dons defeated the Dogs in Qualcomm in the final game. In three other seasons (2008, 2010 and 2011) Cathedral elimi- nated the Pointers during semifinal rounds.

• Going into their championship game earlier this week, the Dons have won four consecutive CIF titles. Only Ocean- side (seven) has more.

• Cathedral’s varsity roster numbers 64 players, while the Pointers list 48. The Dons also field multiple freshman teams. As a private school, Cathedral is allowed to bring students to its athletic teams from all over San Diego County. A committee formed by new CIF Commis- sioner Jerry Schnupp is looking at ways to balance this advantage. Many have urged private schools to play in larger, enrollment divisions, to play in separate divisions or even eliminate all regula- tions governing student residence and attendance.

• The other Cathedral points came as a result of their scoreboard clock opera- tor just before intermission. After the clock stopped with seven seconds remaining, the Dons attempted a pass play in which Bogart scrambled, look- ing for a target for some time before throwing the ball away in the end zone. The clock, which should have expired during the play, instead read 0.2 sec- onds. The Dons kicked a 32-yard field goal before the teams trotted to their lockers. Since it did not affect the out- come, Pointer fans chuckled at the gift.

• Hastings will welcome 27 varsity players back when spring drills begin. The Pointers’ new weight room, located west of the Pete Ross Stadium seats, should be completed in time for next sea- son’s workouts.

• The last time the Pointers were shut out was in a 35-0 pasting by — you guessed it — Cathedral in November 2004.
The La Jolla Historical Society has readied an exhibit that has never been done before — one centered specifically on the effects of World War II on north San Diego County, including Pacific Beach residents and La Jolla — casting light on local life during the 1940s.

The exhibit includes an enlightening component surrounding what was then dubbed the Naval Anti-Aircraft Training Center Pacific Beach — or Bird Rock, “depending on who you ask.”

Archivist and curator Mike Mishler and his volunteer staff diligently uncovered little-known facts about local residents during the war for a one-of-a-kind exhibit titled “Homefront La Jolla,” showcasing previously undocumented biographies, photos and war artifacts, which opened for display at the La Jolla Historical Society on Dec. 7 — the 70th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor — and continuing through Memorial Day.

Although the idea of a World War II exhibit had bounced around the historical society’s staff for several years, Mishler said he saw the 70th anniversary for Pearl Harbor and the exhibit had bounced around the historical society’s staff for several years, Mishler said he saw the 70th anniversary for Pearl Harbor and the exhibit was now .

Mishler discovered that the base had served as a naval training center site where sailors would take a six-day course on anti-aircraft artillery. “People talked about the guns going off constantly and the houses getting cracks in them,” he said. “It was only open from 1942 to 1945, but they trained about 100,000 sailors to shoot down aircraft during the course of the war.”

Many more previously unexplained facts about La Jolla during the war will be unveiled in “Homefront La Jolla,” at 780 Prospect St. For more information, call (858) 459-5315 or visit www.lajollahistory.org.

Even the newspapers — which were rare on the subject until the visit was about to close in 1945 — referred to the base as being in Bird Rock one day and in Pacific Beach the next. “I thought someone was pulling my leg,” Mishler said when he heard about the base. “When you try to find anything about it, you only get stories from people who know about it.”

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The only trick was telling the story of World War II in a way that has never been told before. “There are tons of histories on WWII and there are a few on the homefront experience — but not one for La Jolla,” he said. “We tried to find a mix of people with different perspectives. We didn’t just want to get the story of the soldiers, although that’s an important part. We wanted to know what it was like to be a woman in La Jolla in the 1940s, what it was like to be a young mother whose husband was overseas.

Volunteers for the society’s Oral History Program set off on the arduous task of identifying people who lived in La Jolla during those years. The volunteers found more than 20 people, but that was just the first step in an abundance of research that was to be conducted over the course of the year.

To help with the daunting task, Mishler enlisted the aid of local high school students to conduct interviews with people who lived in La Jolla during World War II. “It’s been fun because the students ask questions you wouldn’t normally think of. They have a very different perspective,” he said. “They asked a lot of questions about high school — what was school like, what did they do for fun, things like that.

Students also asked what people were doing when they heard about the Pearl Harbor attack, what kind of music they listened to, whether Hispanics or blacks felt marginalized in La Jolla at that time and whether or not they knew any Japanese who were taken away to internment camps.

In one particular interview, La Jolla High School student Anna Olevsky interviewed World War II veteran Don Schutte, who was taken as a prisoner of war during the Battle of the Bulge in 1944. During the interview, Schutte showed her his collection of writings and pamphlets from the war — one of which was written entirely in Russian. Although he had never been able to translate it — but Olevsky could. For the first time, Schutte was able to understand the words on the pamphlet that he had held on to for so long, making the interview well worth it for both parties.

In addition to profiling the experience of veterans like Schutte, the exhibit will feature documents, histories and artfacts that illustrate the lives of La Jolla residents and workers, the Japanese who were sent to internment camps and La Jolla’s contribution to the war effort. One such homefront contribution that will be showcased is a display of shell casings from a well-known — but little-documented — military base locally.

Locals often talk about Camp Callan, Camp Matthews and the bunkers at Mount Soledad, but they rarely speak about the base that was loosely dubbed the Naval Anti-Aircraft Training Center Pacific Beach.

Don Schutte, at left, and his family pose for a photo before World War II. Schutte said he carried the photo in his wallet during his time in the Army and as a prisoner of war during the Battle of the Bulge in 1944. Schutte’s father was the head of the ASD in La Jolla.

Photo courtesy of the La Jolla Historical Society
WANT TO SELL A HOME? It’s NOW UP TO YOU to make a move in order to sell your house in this market! Call us today at 760-939-0945 or Email: volunteer@sd-san-diego.com
**Bethlehem or Bust,**
**dents**
door. For more information, call (858) 4400, (619) 846-6269, or visit www.obtowncouncil.org.

Tickets are $10 and are available at the Lisbonian S.E.S Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal. For more information, visit www.upses.com.

**SUNDAY, Dec. 18**
The Ocean Beach Town Council’s annual holiday concert begins at 7 p.m. at the Point Loma United Methodist Church, located at 1984 Sunset Cliffs Blvd. For more information, call (619) 531-1539, or visit www.obtowncouncil.org.

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**WEDNESDAY, Dec. 14**
Point Loma Garden Club holds its annual Holiday Tea and Bazaar at 10 a.m. Available will be specialty holiday food and gift items for sale. Vendors can find the perfect table centerpieces, wreaths and swags for the home and special gifts for hosts and friends while enjoying refreshments. Proceeds benefit Point Loma Garden Club student scholarships. The event is free and take place at the Point Loma United Methodist Church, located at 1984 Sunset Cliffs Blvd. For more information, call (619) 515-4400, (619) 846-6269, or visit www.obtowncouncil.org.

Dec. 13, 15 and 16
The Ocean Beach Town Council brings home for the holidays with its annual community Food and Toy Drive for local disadvantaged families. Volunteers are needed to help with wrapping and sorting of donated items (be on the lookout for the Christmas donation cans around Ocean Beach) during the three-day period from 5 to 7:30 p.m. at the Point Loma United Methodist Church, located at 1984 Sunset Cliffs Blvd. For more information, call (619) 515-4400, (619) 846-6269, or visit www.obtowncouncil.org.

**FRIDAY, Dec. 9**
**Looking ahead**
**»**
**THURSDAY · DECEMBER 8, 2011**
**IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD**

*The upcoming events in the Peninsula area,* Dec. 9-Dec. 24

**STURDAY, Dec. 17**
Dog Beach Dog Wash will host a food and toy drive for pets in need. The dog wash is accepting new, unopened toys and food for San Diego’s shelter pets. The dropoff runs daily from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the dog wash, located at 4931 Voltaire St. For more information, call (619) 525-1700.

**SUNDAY, Dec. 24**
Second Chance Bread of Life ministry, in partnership with Ocean Beach Town Council, will host a free Christmas Eve pancake and chili breakfast at 8 a.m. at the Copal Church, 1475 Catalina Blvd. For more information, call (619) 223-6394, ext. 13, or email musicconcerts@gmail.com.

**SATURDAYS, Dec. 10, 17 and 24**
The Ocean Beach Town Council hosts weekly OB Craft Fairs at Veterans Plaza for all your holiday shopping. For more information, call (619) 515-4400, (619) 846-6269, or visit www.obtowncouncil.org.

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December 16, 17, 18
“A Christmas Tabernacle” lights up Liberty Station in Point Loma with two stages of entertainment, featuring “The Nutcracker.” It’s a Wonderful Life” and local bands. The event also includes horse-and-carriage rides, photos with Santa, live reindeer, caroling, inflatable, a model-train display, a shopping village with new, unopened toys and food for San Diego’s shelter pets. The dropoff runs daily from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the dog wash, located at 4931 Voltaire St. For more information, call (619) 525-1700.

**SATURDAY, Dec. 17**
Volunteers will deliver goods from the Ocean Beach Town Council’s annual community Food and Toy Drive to seniors and families from 9 a.m. to noon. For more information, call (619) 515-4400, (619) 846-6269, or visit www.obtowncouncil.org.

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**SUNDAYS**
The Basis Christian Fellowship of Ocean Beach will begin services at the new location in the Episcopal Church Center, 2083 Sunset Cliffs Blvd. every Sunday at 9 a.m. with Pastor Terry: The Christmas Eve service will be Dec. 24 from 5 to 6 p.m. at the church. For more information, visit www.edsd.org/ ecc.

**SUNDAY, Jan. 22**
Annual meeting of the United Portuguese S.E.S., Inc. The event will be held at the United Portuguese Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal at 7 p.m. All members and prospective members are welcome. For more information, call (619) 223-5883, or visit www.cupasoes.com.