The changing faces of South Mission and Pacific Beach

City releases $1M for multi-phased replacement of crumbling seawall

By KEITH ANTIGIOVANNI | BEACH & BAY PRESS

Although it has been in place for nearly 100 years in various forms, there are big changes coming this summer when the 87-year-old, 2.3-mile-long concrete seawall along the boardwalk that runs from South Mission Beach to Crystal Pier undergoes a multi-phased facelift.

The City Council voted unanimously April 9 to allocate $1 million for the project from the city’s $7.5 million deferred management plan.

Construction of the new seawall will begin in June and will be finished in phases, starting with the section in front of Belmont Park in Mission Beach, according to District 2 City Councilman Kevin Faulconer’s office.

The money to replace the wall — including sections of crumbling material that have left rebars poking through, representing safety hazards — will be available through a capital maintenance bond.

Faulconer’s office has also requested an additional $800,000 through a state grant from the Local Levee Assistance Program (LLAP). The LLAP was created by the California Department of Water Resources to assist local public agencies responsible for flood control outside the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The first step of the process in getting the LLAP funding is to submit a proposal to the state, according to Faulconer’s office. The LLAP was approved by voters in 2006 under Proposition 84.

City officials said they will launch a multi-phased facelift of the area’s crumbling seawall beginning in June. The City Council Monday allocated $1 million toward the project.

Photo by Lee Cornell I Beach & Bay Press

Olympic hopes to burn in San Diego

By MARKO LAMB | BEACH & BAY PRESS

With its temperate climate, countless outdoor activities and rather health-conscious population, it is no wonder that San Diego is the birthplace of the triathlon.

In 1974, the San Diego Track Club — spearheaded by Jack Johnstone and Don Shanahan — held the first-ever swim-bike-run competition to be dubbed a “triathlon” at Fiesta Island. Just 46 competitors participated in the modest inaugural event.

This year — nearly 40 years later — 150 of the world’s top triathletes will descend upon the Mecca of the sport for the 2012 International Triathlon Union (ITU) World Triathlon, competing to fill coveted slots on their country’s Olympic teams.

The three-day multi-sport event, which will take place through Mission Beach, Mission Bay, Pacific Beach and La Jolla from May 10-12, marks the second of eight stops around the globe in the world-class series.

Olympics hopefuls — including top American triathletes vying to qualify for the U.S. Olympic team — will take off on a 1.5-kilometer swim in Bonita Cove, transition to a 40-kilometer bike ride through Pacific Beach and La Jolla, and finish up with a 10-kilometer run in South Mission Beach.

Up to 3,000 amateurs will also have the opportunity to compete along the same route as the Olympic trials athletes in Olympic or sprint distance races on May 12.

“This is the birthplace of the sport, and for us to actually have a course that starts near Fiesta Island and the first place of the sport — is pretty magical,” said Rob Urbach, CEO of USA Triathlon, during a press announcement at the San Diego Hall of Champions. “This will be a pretty good commercial for the city of San Diego.”

USA Triathlon leaders enlisted the aid of the San Diego Sports Commission to help secure San Diego as a location for the worldwide series, bringing the Olympic trials back to its roots in Mission Bay — but with a great deal more fanfare.

“One of the things that we’ve established as one of our goals with the sports commission is to try to take a city-wide event and generate a great deal more fanfare,” Urbach said. “One of the things that we’ve established as one of our goals with the sports commission is to try to take a city-wide event and generate a great deal more fanfare.”

City releases $1M for multi-phased replacement of crumbling seawall

Photo by Lee Cornell I Beach & Bay Press

Vision of vibrant new oceanfront boardwalk beginning to sharpen

The boardwalk area west of Mission Boulevard between Pacific Beach Drive and Grand Avenue — congested by a freeway-like boulevard, blighted by underused private properties — is long overdue for a serious facelift, said Pacific Beach Planning Group (PBPG) member Chris Olson.

“During the 1980s and 1990s, we widened the oceanfront boardwalk south of PB Drive and re-created a recreation-pedestrian mall on the oceanfront north of Grand Avenue,” he said. “This section between PB Drive and Grand Avenue has been long overdue for revitalization.”

City officials said they will launch a multi-phased facelift of the area’s crumbling seawall beginning in June. The City Council Monday allocated $1 million toward the project.

Photo by Lee Cornell I Beach & Bay Press

Driver ordered to pay friend’s medical costs

A judge ordered a drunken driver to pay more than $7,500 in medical bills to a passenger who was severely injured when he struck a streetlight and two trees in the 2400 block of Ingraham Street in 2011.

Oscar Solis, Jr., 25, was ordered to pay restitution during a March 26 hearing for Mindy Smith, who was injured in the Feb. 17, 2011 incident.

Solis is serving a one-year jail term handed down by Judge Theodore Weathers on Dec. 20. Solis pleaded guilty to drunk driving with injury, hit and run with injuries, and to giving a false report to police.
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2003 murder accomplice gets 11 years

By NEAL PUTNAM | BEACH & BAY PRESS

An Arizona man who gave a ride to the killer of a Mission Beach resident in 2003 was sentenced March 23 to 11 years in state prison.

Gerardo Soto, 31, pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter in May 2011 in connection with the slaying of Mohindu Ford, 33, who was shot to death during a robbery of cash following a marijuana transaction.

The gunman, Richard Cortel Moye, 30, was convicted of first-degree murder on March 6 after a jury deliberated only two hours.

He will be sentenced April 18 by San Diego Superior Court Judge Eugenia Eyherabide, who imposed no fine.

Moye resisted and Moye shot him several times before fleeing with some cash.

Moye and Soto were arrested in May 2010.

Moye received credits for spending 109 days in jail and may be released if a bed becomes available.

Soto pleaded guilty to conspiring to commit robbery. He dropped Moye off near Ford’s home on Dover Court and dove Moye back to Arizona.

Soto was sentenced April 18 by Superior Court Judge Peter Lindberg for the 11-year term.

The judge reinstated probation conditions on Minch for two misdemeanor cases of drunken driving in 2007 and 2008.

Moye pleaded no contest to both cases, according to court records.

San Diego: A new report has just been released which identified the 6 most common and costly mistakes that home-buyers make before buying a home.

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Woodcarver Todd Bartlett of Pacific Beach spies and collects unusually shaped driftwood and other raw wood on area beaches and -- taking advantage of their natural shapes -- turns them into new creations, like this snake.

Woodcarver Todd Bartlett admits his head has always been in the clouds. And that’s what makes the Pacific Beach artist’s work so creative.

“When I was a kid, I used to look at the clouds to see what I could find,” said the surfer and owner of Liquid Foundation Surf Shop on Mission Boulevard. “I still do.”

Only now, in addition to finding forms in the sky, he finds them in pieces of driftwood and other raw wood he collects at area beaches and parks — and anywhere people are cutting down trees.

He started carving the trunks and tangled limbs about two years ago. His living room, backyard and driveway are full of the unusual shapes. While some pieces weigh only a few ounces, others are too heavy for one person to pick up.

Bartlett said he creates everything by hand, using only two rusty hand saws, hammers, chisels and an assortment of files.

“My girlfriend says someone is going to see my files and think I’m in prison,” he said, laughing.

She recently bought him a chainsaw, but Bartlett hasn’t used it yet. For now, he’s sticking to his old tools, carving thousands of scales one by one on his fish and dragon sculptures.

While some people see only firewood from felled trees and wood that has floated in on the tides, the father of two sees something else.

“I think the pieces that are the neatest are the ones that already look like something, like this snake,” he said. He picks up one of his snake carvings and drapes it over his right shoulder.

Bartlett carves all of his creations from single pieces of wood. He said he “cuts away but never adds to it.” Most carvers, he said, “cut off all the limbs and leave a Tiki.”

He does just the opposite, watching the limbs transform into something unique.

His wooden zoo includes an iguana. “Its tongue was already sticking out when I found it,” Bartlett said.

There’s also a rattlesnake curled around a trunk and a crocodile with a fish in its mouth made of wood from Kate Sessions Park. Bartlett said he’s found that the best time to scour the beaches is after storms and big swells. He’s on the lookout now for flotsam and jetsam rumored to be making landfall soon from Japan’s 2011 earthquake.

Bartlett said he is drawn to interesting shapes. “This piece was from Swami’s beach,” he said, pointing out his hunter man and fish piece. “I think the wood is white oak. It weighs about 70 pounds.”

“There’s a coyote eating a rat that was collected from the shore at Imperial Beach, the rattlesnake from Kate Sessions Park, “where guys with orange jackets were cutting a tree down,” three octopus entwined around a fish from Black’s Beach, and the beginning of a giant coral reef from a neighbor’s felled tree.

“I’m one of those kids that starts 10 things and finishes two,” Bartlett said.

He uses polished stones for the eyes, saying, “They’re creepy at night.” He colors his creations with wood stain and even crayons.

Bartlett started carving two years ago after he and his kids packed up an interesting piece of wood at the beach. “Like surfing, you get to express yourself [with woodcarving],” he said. “It’s so much fun taking the bark off.”

He points to his front lawn, where bark and scraps of wood have replaced the grass.

Bartlett often carves in front of his surf shop. Recently, he tried to work at the beach north of Crystal Pier in Pacific Beach. But he ended up with a crowd of about 20 people who wanted to chat about his work.

“I think I got four rubs in before everyone started asking questions,” Bartlett said. “One man offered me $1,500 for a piece.”

“I’ll never ever be able to make the same thing again” because each piece of raw wood is different, he said. Everything is one of a kind.

Though he hasn’t tried to sell anything yet — he wanted to build a collection first — his dream is to find a local gallery to display his work and sell it for big bucks, eventually making it possible for him to carve full time.

“This is more relaxing than running my shop,” he said.

For now, Bartlett said, “The pieces are made by hand in the United States by a surfer boy. And that’s pretty cool.”

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• Liquid Foundation Surf Shop

3731 Mission Blvd. 
(858) 488-3260
U.S. Border Patrol agents arrested 12 suspected illegal immigrants recently when their Panga — or open-style fishing boat — hit the shore in Ocean Beach. And not long ago, federal agents converged on a boat in Pacific Beach with several other illegal immigrants aboard — one of whom was discovered dead.

The Ocean Beach incident in February was only the latest in an ever-increasing string of human- and drug-trafficking cases being dealt with by the agency over the last few years in beach communities stretching from Point Loma to San Clemente.

The Border Patrol began tracking maritime smuggling in 2008 for the Southern California coastline and officials have seen a steady increase of smugglers coming ashore. In 2008, there were 33 reports of vessels seized and 230 people taken into custody, according to Border Patrol records. There was a slight increase in 2009, when 49 vessels were seized and 400 individuals were apprehended.

In 2010, the number of reported vessel seizures and people arrested more than doubled to 110 boats and 867 illegal immigrants taken into custody, said officials. There was another slight increase in 2011 with 122 boats seized — but fewer illegal immigrants arrested.

Agent Jerry Conlin of the U.S. Border Patrol’s public relations office attributed the fewer arrests in 2011 to a shrinking number of individuals per boat and an increase in coordination between federal and local law enforcement agencies.

"Originally, [illegal immigrants] were anywhere from three to 25 people on a Panga boat and up to 2,000 pounds of marijuana [per instance], but now they are closer 10-15 people," said Conlin.

Conlin also noted the wide variety of boats or vessels seized, which range from Panga boats to cabin-style cruisers, from pleasure crafts to dive scooters and even land-based vehicles or trailers used to tow the watercraft.

Since the Border Patrol has become so familiar with the Panga-style boats coming ashore, the types of watercraft used by drug and human smugglers has begun to change in attempts to evade the Border Patrol and other authorities, according to Conlin.

"The Panga boats are the most commonly used because there are inexpensive and can be obtained easily in Mexico," he said. "We are now seeing the smugglers use more cabin-style cruisers, which can be seen in Coronado, Mission Bay, Ocean Beach, Carlsbad and San Clemente areas."

Consequently, the Boarder Patrol is urging residents of the beach communities to contact the agency at (800) 854-9834 or to call 9-1-1 if they see any type of open-style fishing vessel in the water.

"A Panga boat at night is always suspicious in U.S. waters," Conlin said. Residents should call our number even if they are not sure whether or not it’s a Panga boat."

According to officials, there are increased consequences for anyone involved with maritime smuggling. Conlin said any individual arrested in connection with maritime drug or human smuggling will be formally deported from the U.S. and will not be able to apply for immigration here for five years. Any person who was previously arrested in connection with these types of maritime crimes who tries to re-enter the United States illegally could then face prison time, he said.
Seizing on San Diego’s assets, tourism luring power

OnTheWaterfront

By JOHNNY MCDONALD | Beach & Bay Press

The beaches and Mission Bay are scenic playgrounds that are vastly important in selling the value of San Diego as an attractive vacation city.

Joe Terzi, president and CEO of the San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau (ConVis), stressed this in a recent conversation.

“Despite the rising cost of gasoline, San Diego still offers the best location for easy and less-expensive travel,” he said.

He said the lure of the beaches is important to visitors from Arizona, Nevada, Utah and other sections of California.

A survey of prospective vacationers was taken in Seattle about people’s choice for travel — and San Diego was listed No. 2, ranking only behind Hawaii.

“Now that’s not bad, being second to what most people regard as the dream travel destination for the summer,” Terzi said. “We’re easier to get to and it’s cheaper.”

I’d say San Diego has the best weather in the world. I haven’t found a place that has better weather 365 days of the year.”

In 2008, when the country in general faced a recession and rising gas prices, San Diego’s attractions didn’t take a major hit.

“We didn’t see a problem for those who came to visit for a few days,” he said. “The additional ... gas cost didn’t seem to matter.”

Terzi added, though, that an increase in airline travel costs remains a concern.

Kryst Kapich, vice president of marketing at ConVis, said they are running a major partnership with SeaWorld San Diego by “sharing media exposure between SeaWorld San Diego, Phoenix, Tucson, Las Vegas and Salt Lake City.”

“Do we special promotions, mostly through the online travel agencies, that offer special values or price discounts,” Kapich said. “We’re reaching out to our target travelers who are researching popular flying destinations such as Hawaii and other key competitors.”

ConVis spends $6.2 million from February through June promoting the entire county.

“The beauty and diversity of the area are chief reasons why people come to San Diego,” said Kapich ...

Classic observations — We now understand what director Martha Schumacher meant when she said it may be more difficult to gain entry into the Crew Classic. The至尊的女人 TARGETING SUNDAY, APRIL 15, 2012 wine tasting competition had 106 races involving 4,000 athletes over two days. That’s hardly enough daylight to get them all in.

And the feature attractions — the women’s Whitewater Copley Cup — were foreign affairs to some degree.

The victorious Harvard men had two Englishmen, a pair of New Zealanders, an Australian and a Scot among the eight top finishers. The elite triumphant ladies filled the boat with three ladies from Poland, two from Sweden and one each from Japan, Latin and Swe- den. That left two from our side of the big pond.

Some are even more on the big roster. That’s really serious overseas recruiting.

Peter Cooper, a bridge coach, considered a living legend of the sport, watched his men rally to beat a strong Berkeley squad.

Although it is much too early, it would appear Harvard has a good chance to become the first American team to finish first.

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This conceptual rendering of the Pacific Beach Parks project is the result of public input and endless volunteer hours. Orange areas denote primary-interest areas; green is proposed for public open space; brown is viewed as possible pedestrian market promenade areas.

NEWS

BOARDSWALK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Although the area is one of the most popular beach sections in San Diego County, the site has been ignored—even blighted in areas. That is, until last year, when the local planning group determined it would meet head-on the tremendous undertaking to restore the area to a newfound glory.

“We defined the geographical scope of this project to include all public right-of-ways in the four-block area, including the boardwalk, Mission Boulevard, Stand Way (the alley) and the east-west roads, namely PB Drive, Oliver, Reed, Thomas and Grand,” Olson said. “This project is unique for PB in that we gathered a group of very experienced local professionals to volunteer their time working with the PBPG to gather all the community input and put it on paper.”

Previous community input from regular monthly meetings included concerns about heavy traffic, much-needed infrastructure repair and the lack of pedestrian, bicycle and business-friendly thoroughfares.

“Mission Boulevard feels like a free-way and it is unwinding for pedestrians and retail activity,” Olson said. “This whole beachfront area is constrained by a congested mix of pedestrians, cyclists, joggers, skaters and street performers. Roadways, sidewalk, bike paths and the seawall are in desperate need of repair or improvement. Some private properties are blighted or underutilized.”

Local professionals, who have logged hundreds of volunteer hours on the project—dubbed Pacific Beach Parks—represent a range of expertise in architecture, sustainability and development to cater to every aspect of the residents’ and merchants’ hopes for the area.

“We are in the conceptual phase, so it is too early for a timeline,” Olson said. “We have a great jumpstart with a vision statement, parking studies, property line maps, conceptual maps and inspirational depictions of PB activities we want to promote.”

Among the notable volunteers working hard with Olson behind the scenes are Hillary McCullough of McCullough Landscape Architecture, Inc.; Paul Ross of PB Consulting; Kristen Victor of Sustainability Matters; and Matthew Winter of Davis Davis Architects.

The redevelopment project, as currently conceived, includes maintenance of vehicular oceanfront drop-off locations at Grand Avenue and Pacific Beach Drive, the creation of community activity nodes like parks or plazas at Thomas, Reed and Oliver streets, a wider boardwalk with enhanced landscaping and viewing areas, and revitalized alleyways to entice pedestrian, bicycle and storefront activity.

Mission Boulevard too would become re-engineered to stimulate pedestrian use and thriving retail storefronts.

“Further studies are needed to further refine the plan into something that clearly determines how we will actually do and how it will be phased,” Olson said. “The next step is engineering and feasibility studies while we continue to attract community input and support.”

Each month, the volunteer group presents updates on the Pacific Beach Park project to the PBPG during regular meetings. At the last meeting on March 28, planning group members and the public were given a comprehensive presentation of the entire project at its current conceptual phase.

“We have received a lot of positive feedback at all of our public presentations,” Olson said. “If there is one area of question or concern, it relates to changes on Mission Boulevard. The current concept calls for angled parking and narrowing the driving lanes similar to the way they are south of PB Drive in Mission Beach. This concept is probably the most challenging and will require further study.”

Specific costs and sources of funding for the project have yet to be determined, although one estimate based on conceptual drawings was around $10 million, said Olson. Funding could come from a number of different sources, including the San Diego-Association of Governments-administered Transnet funding or the San Diego City Council’s Capital Improvements Program budget.

Olson urged people to get involved and provide ideas or suggestions. To submit a suggestion or idea, email Chris Olson at surferly@att.net, or attend one of PBPG’s monthly meetings at the Pacific Beach Taylor Branch Library, located at 4275 Cass St., on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.
The New Anderson Medical Center

Dr. Kenneth Anderson has been practicing family and sports medicine in Pacific Beach for 22 years. Now he has opened his own clinic. The Anderson Medical Center is located at 1945 Garnet Avenue. The clinic features 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 858-224-7977 or visit our website at Andersonmedicalcenter.com.

Earth Day at OB People’s Food

This month in honor of Earth Day Ocean Beach People’s Organic Food Market offers the following suggestions on surviving global climate change.

First and foremost, we need to end coal production. Coal puts more CO2 into the atmosphere than all other causes combined! Secondly, replace all petroleum-based plastic with hemp oil plastic. Hemp is the wonder plant. It grows ultrashort distances, is virtually pest resistant and grows in almost every micro climate. Hemp can be used for food and fiber as well as oil. Next on the list is a return to the family table. We are what we eat, and how it turns out, we are how we eat as well. We would do well to grow kitchen gardens and enjoy sit-down dinners. Last on this list: Establish peace and win-win solutions as the defining principles for conflict resolution. Sure we can. Really, we have to insist on it. Peace is inevitable. Whether humans are around to enjoy it is up to us.

Stop by People’s Market this month on Saturday, April 21 and celebrate Earth Day by entering the Green Ride raffle to win a Schwinn bicycle. At People’s - San Diego’s only customer owned grocery store - we’re open daily from 8 a.m. – 9 p.m. at 4765 Voltaire Street. Please call (619) 224-1187 for more information or visit us at www.obpeoplesfoodcorp.com.
PB’s Play It Again Sports hitting it out of the park

In 1992, TJ Western joined the Play It Again Sports franchise, opening a store at 1401 Garnet Ave.

“TJ is an entrepreneur whose continued growth is driven by his passion for his business,” said Pat Quinn, director of Play It Again Sports. “It’s remarkable for one store to win both of these prestigious honors — including the Store of the Year Award. The Play It Again Sports franchise on Garnet Avenue was recently honored by the chain with two prestigious honors — including the Store of the Year Award.”

The store’s diverse inventory appeals to a diverse customer base, said Western — another reason the store has been successful. In the 20 years Play It Again Sports has been open in Pacific Beach, Western has seen the crowd change as the neighborhood changes. When the store first opened, the customer base was mostly made up of college students. Western said he’s now seeing more families and handfuls of foreign visitors, who he said come to San Diego for the beach lifestyle — something that plays right into the store’s strategy.

Not only are people from around the globe coming in, but so are people from nearby neighborhoods like La Jolla. And they’re stopping by specifically to do business with the company and benefit from the used-product value. Used products give Play It Again Sports a niche that separates it from other sporting-goods stores.

Another reason for the store’s increase in revenue over last year is the use of new strategies in reaching customers, Western said. Play It Again Sports has recently taken initiative with Internet advertising and Western said he recommends other businesses people to do the same.

“Western credits his success to a good customer service.”

“My manager, Jay Yount, has done an incredible job at building our product selections and working with our fantastic staff in delivering superior customer service.”

Used equipment and core fitness training equipment and skateboarding staff. Really, the focus is primarily action sports.”

“We also feature golf and core fitness training equipment and skateboarding staff. Really, the focus is primarily action sports.”

Bird Rock Coffee Roasters brews up new option: art

In December, Bird Rock Coffee Roasters (BRCR) owner Chuck Patton decided to throw a fundraiser for his long-time employee, Jocelyn Bree- land. Bree-land had recently been injured in a train accident in Little Italy that left her without a right arm and part of a foot, and Patton mobilized the community, bringing more than 1,200 people to the coffee shop and raising about $30,000 for Bree-land’s recovery. Part of that event involved a live auction, during which local art- work was displayed and sold. And that, Patton said, was just the beginning.

After the fundraiser, Patton started to realize how much great art was being created locally — much of it by his patrons and neighbors. And with plenty of wall space to fill including the newly vacated space where the Bird Rock History Museum had previously resided, Patton had the idea of creating a de facto art gallery. Along with acting curator Jane Wheeler, herself an artist with work on display at the coffee shop’s walls, Patton has turned one-half of the shop into a rotating gallery.

“Wow would look at new avenues of marketing and focus on customer service because that’s the most effective way to compete with the larger chains,” he said.

The main focus though, will be on continuing to diversify and grow their inventory — specifically focusing on growing the bike selections and making that a key category in sales. The store has just added stand-up paddle-boards to its roster and is looking to increase inventory in action cameras, beach toys and accessories.

For more information, call (858) 490-0222, or visit www.playitagainportsd.com.

“Really, the focus is primarily action sports.”

Happy 25th Anniversary

2+2=$25
Choose Any 2 Entrees & Any 2 Beverages for $25
Including Taxes & Gratuity Not Included
Valid M-F
BEVERAGES INCLUDED:
Smothies, Coffee Drinks, Lattes, Coffee, Espresso, Beer, Wine, Kombucha, Screwdrivers, Juices, Sodas, Milk & Teas

BEVERAGES NOT INCLUDED:
Bottles of Champagne or Wine, Splits of Champagne & Doubles on any Drinks

Bird Rock Elementary School students regularly have their work displayed at Bird Rock Coffee Roasters, along with the work of other artists.
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$5 Your Choice Mexican Entree

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2 lbs of Wings for the price of a pound

**Mc Miller’s Field**

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**The French Gourmet**

The French Gourmet’s casual French restaurant is open for dinner Tuesday through Saturday and proudly features a $25 3-course Prix Fixe Menu and extensive Wine List. Open 7 days a week for Breakfast and Lunch, serving delicious crepes and outstanding Eggs Benedict, as well as traditional French and American dishes. The bakery offers the makings for an impromptu get together, such as baguette and artisan bread sandwiches and paninis, desserts, coffee and espresso drinks, freshly baked breads and breakfast pastries. A local favorite for almost 33 years, it’s always a delicious day at The French Gourmet!

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**Narraya Thai**

Suree or Nok as she is known to so many continues her tradition of serving delectable Thai cooking coupled with impeccable service with Narraya – the Palace of Thai Dining in Pacific Beach. Although, Nok has two other locations, Amarin in Hillcrest and Siam Nara in Mira Mesa, she strives to conceive, believe and achieve culinary excellence through both traditional dishes and delightful creations by embracing her customers’ feedback, exploring new ingredients and extending an invitation for everyone to enjoy the sugar, spice and everything nice that is Thai cooking. Welcome to Narraya – the Palace of Thai Dining – where the food, the wines, the traditional and contemporary seating make for an unforgettable experience!

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**P.B. Community Schools (K-12) Event**

**Supporting the Mission Bay Cluster**

- 15% of all food and alcohol purchases will come to support the Mission Bay Cluster (all 6 schools)
- Social Event of the school year! All families and community encouraged to come support our schools and meet other families!
- Learn about our distinguished International Baccalaureate Program at Kate Sessions Elementary, Pacific Beach Middle School, and Mission Bay High School. Our IB Coordinators will be on hand to answer any questions.
- Support our classes at MBHS by purchasing merchandise to raise funds for their graduations.
- Support our 8th graders at PBMS by purchasing their specially designed PBM t-shirt to raise funds for their 8th grade trip.
- Support Kate Sessions by purchasing note cards designed by their very own students and the official IB Cluster Car Magnet. Mark your calendars and save the date! This is an evening you won’t want to miss!

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**The Bakery**

The Bakery offers the makings for an impromptu get together, such as baguette and artisan bread sandwiches and paninis, desserts, coffee and espresso drinks, freshly baked breads and breakfast pastries. A local favorite for almost 33 years, it’s always a delicious day at The French Gourmet!
'80s Resurrection and a hip-hop showcase

LIVE MUSIC

by Dr. Bart Mendosa | Birch & Rose Press

The event’s title says it all: “80s Resurrection Celebration.” Taking place on April 14 at Brick by Brick, the bill will feature Valentino Frankenstein. But the focus will be headliner David J., formerly of post-punk icon Band, as Bauhaus and Love & Rockets. Most recently, David J. has been involved in soundtracks for stage plays concerning subjects as diverse as Edie Sedgwick and the Black Dahlia. However, with a career now in its fourth decade and an arsenal of hits that include such radio staples as “So Alive” and “No New ‘Beggars,’” there will be no shortage of moody, dark music on hand.

• David J. performs at 8 p.m. on Saturday, April 14 at Brick by Brick, 1130 Morena Blvd. 21 and up. $25. www.brickbybrick.com

Also on April 14, The 710 Beach Club hosts a hip-hop showcase with Concrete Project and Alaro and The Band. Taking the middle slot will be Miami-based Artoficial, an excellent, heavily groove-laden band. And for a perfect bedrock for funk for a solid sound that lays down a lent combo that leans heavily into Miami-based Artofficial, an excellent, heavily groove-laden band. 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Taking pride in Pacific Beach

Volunteers take back the neighborhood with annual Graffiti Cleanup Day

The Pacific Beach Town Council hosted its 10th annual Graffiti Cleanup Day recently, drawing scores of volunteers eager to help eliminate the blight. Above, a view of the Garnet Avenue bridge over Rose Creek as workers launch into the cleanup. Left, District 2 City Councilman Kevin Faulconer (in Hawaiian shirt), helps Mike Wille (black shirt) scrub graffiti from a local business. Among those ready to assist Faulconer and Wille is Rick Pyle (far left), co-chairman of the PB Town Council Graffiti Cleanup event. Right, members of the San Diego Urban Corps worked to paint over the graffiti-covered Garnet Avenue overpass above Rose Creek.

Photo by Don Balch | Beach & Bay Press

SeaWorld sets inaugural Pole to Pole 5K Fun Run

Registration has begun for SeaWorld's inaugural Pole to Pole 5K Fun Run, slated to get under way Saturday, April 28 at 7 a.m. The event, which will benefit Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute (HSWRI), will be open to the public, with proceeds from the event going to support the institute.

As part of the event's attractions, participants will stroll by sea lions, dash by dolphins or waddle past penguins as they support conservation efforts stretching from the North Pole to the South Pole.

Participants age three and up need to register online. Children under three participate free.

The cost of the Fun Run is $25 per person prior to the event and $35 per person on the day of the event. Packet pickup takes place on race day from 6 to 6:45 a.m. at the park's education gate at the east side of the parking lot.

Participants will receive a T-shirt, raffle opportunities for prizes and discounted race-day admission for up to six people.

The flat 5K course will wind through the park. At the end of the course, visitors can enjoy a variety of refreshments and festivities and check out the park's interactive Pole to Pole gift shop near the park's Penguin Encounter.

To register or learn more about the 5K Fun Run, visit www.seaworldsandiego.com or call (800) 25-SHAMU.

Local entertainer to host fundraising concert

Robert Quinnones of Pacific Beach is in the cast of the pilot stage production of "Disney's Peter Pan Jr.,” presented by San Diego Junior Theatre. The celebrated tale of a boy who never grows up and whose friends travel to an unforgettable adventure runs April 27 through May 13 at Balboa Park's Casa del Prado Theatre on Fridays at 7 p.m. and weekends at 2 p.m.

Founded in 1948, San Diego Junior Theatre is the oldest youth theater in the United States. Positively affecting students of all abilities, ages 4 through 18, it thrives through show ticket sales, class and camp enrollments and the generosity of its alumni and community members. Contributions to San Diego Junior Theatre are tax-deductible.

Tickets range from $8 to $14 and are available online at www.juniortheatre.com or by calling (619) 239-8355.

PB student cast in SD Junior Theatre show

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Questions:

My parent (or spouse) died, do I need to see an attorney?

Answer:

The answer is always yes, unless there are no assets to be transferred. If there is only a vehicle then you can use the DMV form called Affidavit for Transfer Without Probate. If there are no assets and there is a will, the will should be deposited with the court.

When a real property owner dies, there is paperwork that needs to be completed within a certain time frame. Before the home can be sold or transferred to the heirs, the person’s name that died must be removed. This is accomplished depends on the state, including whether there was a trust or if there was a surviving co-owner. This year, if the real estate or personal property is valued at under $150,000, you can do a short form probate that does not cost as much as a full probate. You can use this form for bank and brokerage accounts also.

Another concern when transferring real estate is the real estate taxes. If the proper paperwork is completed timely appropriate situations, the property taxes will stay the same. This is so important when tax bills can go up from $500 per year to $5,000 per year (or more.) This amount will pay for the attorney’s fees quickly.

Virginia Weber

Lorashaw Trust Lawyer

Virginia Weber

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Ask The Lawyer
Free Living History Activities in Old Town State Park

Old Town San Diego State Historic Park has more than 10 free museums open to the public year-round. These museums have ongoing living history activities every Wednesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. to educate the public about what life was like in San Diego in the 1800s. The park also hosts free tours daily at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. That begin at the Robinson-Rose Visitor Center.

Every Saturday of the month, the park offers a different taste of historic trades and craft guilds for visitors. The first Saturday of every month, the park hosts the Print Guild and Tintype Guild. Visitors can have a first-hand experience of how print and photography was executed in the 1800s.

Support Pacific Beach community schools (K-12): “Stay Local — Be Vocal” Tony Roma’s event to support the Mission Bay Cluster of schools will benefit Mission Bay High, PB Middle, Kate Sessions Elementary, PB Elementary, Crown Point Junior Music Academy and Bay View Tennis. The event takes place at Tony Roma’s, 4110 Mission Blvd. on March 25 from 3 to 9 p.m.

Some details: 15 percent of all food and alcohol purchases support the Mission Bay Cluster.

Learn about the distinguished international baccalaureate programs at Mission Bay High School, PB Middile and Kate Sessions Elementary. IB coordinators will be on hand to answer questions.

Support classes at MBHS by purchasing merchandise to raise funds for scholarships.

Support eighth-graders at PBMS by purchasing their specially designed PBMS T-shirts to raise funds for their eighth-grade trip.

Support Kate Sessions by purchasing note cards designed by students and the official IB distro cart magnet.

The next Mission Bay Cluster meeting is Wednesday, April 6 at 6 p.m. Visit Mission Bay Cluster on Facebook: http://mmbcluster.2010.blogspot.com/

The next meeting of Friends of Pacific Beach Secondary Schools (FOPBSS) is April 25 at Mission Bay High School at 6 p.m. There will be updates on the “Blues by the Bay” fundraiser, scheduled for Sunday, May 20. Auction donation items and financial donations are always accepted and encouraged. Contact mbhsfriends@yahoo.com for more information or to make a contribution to the auction.

MISSION BAY HIGH

• A free electronic recycling event at Mission Bay High School takes place Saturday, April 21 from 8 a.m. to noon. Help the class of 2012 raise money for their senior trip and graduation by donating unused and outdated electronics. For a full list of items accepted, visit www.sandi.net/missionbay.

• The new Mission Bay Pet salon and Dog Wash, located at 5010 Cass St., hosts a fundraiser for the Mission Bay High School Class of 2013 at 5 p.m. on Friday, April 20. The event takes place on Sunday, April 15 from noon to 4 p.m. Bring in your pooch to the “do it yourself” dog wash for a bath and 50 percent of the money will come back to the class. Support the class of 2013 and get your doggy clean at the same time.

PB MIDDLE SChOOL

Pacific Beach Middle School will host a PB Student Beach Cleanup on April 18, 1 to 3 p.m. at Law Street beach. Inspired by PB Middle’s 50 percent participation in the Great Pacific Garbage Patch action, participants like Sessions Elementary Walk to the Park Ecology Club, PB Middle Kiwanis Builders Club, Nicholas Campagna, Trader Joe and others are planning a large-scale beach cleanup for students of all ages. For more information, contact Kate Sessions school or the Campagna family at walktotheparkclub@att.net.

PB ELEMENTARY

Free tickets for the Pacific Beach Elementary 180th’s PTA on Friday, April 27 at The Soledad Club. Tickets are on sale at the office and auction items are still being accepted. For more information, contact Elize Tolley at (858) 488-8116.

KATE SESSIONS ELEMENTARY

Join Kate Sessions Elementary International Baccalaureate World School students as they tackle world issues through the design and presentation of their IB grade 8 exhibition. For information or to sign up to attend, contact Principal Sue DeVicariis at (858) 273-3111 or email sdevicariis@sandi.net.

CROWN POINT JUNIOR MUSIC ACADEMY

The school will host a giant rummage sale with food and raffles on Saturday, April 21 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. to support the programs at Crown Point Junior Music Academy. Stop by the OYMA office to reserve your space. For more information, call (858) 273-9830.

Barra Barra Unveils New Menu For 2012

Kids Now Eat Free Everyday

Old Town’s Barra Barra Saloon is unveiling a new menu inspired by border town barbecue and Mexican comfort food. “This new menu adds more high-quality selections of meats and fish such as Ahi tuna and flat iron steak,” said Christie Rosas, Barra Barra’s General Manager. “We are keeping many of our customer’s favorites and added a new twist on existing dishes, we wanted to use the excuse of the new year to launch items featuring a new style and flavor not commonly seen on this side of the border.”

Barra Barra is also adding a special kids-eat-free menu for those under 10. It’s available everyday during lunch and dinner with each paying adult.

Among the new menu options are two new salads — a Mexican Caesar with flat iron steak and a spiced, seared Ahi tuna with white balsamic dressing. These special dishes are not typically offered by Mexican restaurants on this side of the border.

The entrees anticipated to be the biggest hits on the menu include grilled Achiote salmon, sautéed fresh sea bass, prawns sautéed in a light butter garlic sauce and Barra Barra’s seafood paella. The chefs are also adding a “most lovers” faïta plate, which will include carnitas, chorizo, chicken and beef all in one serving. Black mushrooms a la diabla served in a thick spicy tomato diabla sauce, promises to bring a little heat to the taste buds.

The restaurant is also including a hickory-smoked chicken breast menu section to the menu, which will offer a variety of slow-roasted meats with hickory wood. Some of the entrees will be hickory-smoked chicken, guajillo barbecue brisket and flat iron steak.

Barra Saloon is a part of the Fiesta de Reyes plaza, which is located in the northeast corner of Old Town San Diego State Historic Park, at the intersection of Wallace and Calliope streets. In addition to Barra Barra Saloon, the plaza boasts the Casa de Reyes restaurant and 18 specialty stores. For information or to sign up to attend, contact Kate Sessions school or the Campagna family at walktotheparkclub@att.net.

Fiesta De Reyes
department.”

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