WINGING IT

THE RAPTURE OF RAPTORS Audience members are riveted during a session on raptors at a previous San Diego Bird Festival. The birdfest is scheduled to take place this year at the conference center and marina at 1936 Quivira Way at Mission Bay from Feb. 27 through March 2.

SD Bird Festival: the Super Bowl of ornithology By DAVE SCHWAB

Birders of every feather will flock together to the San Diego Bird Festival from Feb. 27 to March 2 at Marina Village on Mission Bay. “This is our 18th year for the festival, which is our biggest annual event,” said Jen Hajj, festival coordinator for the San Diego Audubon Society (SDAS), which hosts the event at the conference center and marina at 1936 Quivira Way. “It’s an opportunity for people from all over the world to come to San Diego and enjoy our magnificent wildlife and our unique habitats and the wonderful diversity of birds we have here.”

Every year hundreds of birders worldwide migrate to the San Diego Bird Festival for four days of field trips, birding, exhibitions and speakers.

The San Diego Audubon Society’s four-day

FEATHERED FIELD TRIP A bird enthusiast gets a close-up view during an ornithology workshop during a previous San Diego Bird Festival. Courtesy photo by Frances Welling

A (killer) whale of a controversy divides students, SeaWorld By DAVE SCHWAB

Point Loma High School (PLHS) students continued their crusade to convince SeaWorld to stop using marine animals for entertainment, cutting another public-service announcement to invite the local theme park to provide its side of the story regarding the treatment of killer whales portrayed in the documentary “Blackfish,” a controversial documentary that aired recently on CNN.

Point Loma Cinematic Arts Program teacher Anthony Palmiotto and his students invited “Blackfish” director Gabriela Cowperthwaite to answer student questions Feb. 3 during a panel discussion in the school’s cinematic theater, which included student activist Max Guinn.

SeaWorld officials have issued a strong pushback over the captivity controversy. See their open letter on Page 4.

‘Friends’ pour hearts, souls into watershed’s restoration By DAVE SCHWAB

Renewed commitment and dedicated hard work is what it takes to clean coastal watersheds and keep them that way.

That’s the message being delivered by Friends of Rose Creek, a grass-roots environmental group overseeing the lower Rose Creek area between Interstate 5 and Mission Bay.

Named for San Diego Pioneer Louis Rose, Rose Creek is an urban stream that drains through Rose and San Clemente canyons south through Pacific Beach, emptying into Mission Bay.

One of 18 member groups of a larger umbrella organization, The Rose Creek Watershed Alliance, Friends of Rose Creek has a plan for how it would like to see lower Rose Creek evolve.

“Our vision is for lower Rose Creek to be an open-space park, providing recreational and learning opportunities and a clean, healthy, aesthetically pleasing environment for residents, visitors, businesses and native plants and animals, while serving as an accessible link for bicyclists and pedestrians to move between

Discover Pacific Beach installed its first bike corrals in Pacific Beach in early February on the north side of 1000 Garnet Avenue and on Ocean Boulevard just west of the Pacific Beach Shore Club at the foot of Grand Avenue.

According to Discover Pacific Beach executive director Sara Berns, each new bike space replaced an existing motor-vehicle parking space, but can store up to 12 to 15 bikes in one corral.

There are currently five bike corrals in San Diego, but Discover Pacific

WHEELS OF PROGRESS Five bike corrals have been installed along Garnet Avenue and Ocean Boulevard, paid for by Discover Pacific Beach. More are planned. Photo by KEITH ANTIGIOVANNI

NEW ERA BEGINS FOR SAN DIEGO

After convincingly outmuscling Democratic rival David Alvarez in the Feb. 11 special election to replace disgraced Mayor Bob Filner, Mayor-elect Kevin Faulconer is preparing to be sworn in for his new role sometime in early March. Page 2

’SF’ WINDWALKER’ OFFERED ENDING TO HUNGER STRIKE By DAVE SCHWAB

Ron Calandra, 72, an independent candidate for San Francisco mayor who has been on a liquid diet outside City Hall since Nov. 18 after he was denied a ballot line during the June primary election, told The San Francisco Examiner that he would no longer seek a political office and was planning to return to his home in the Richmond District.

Calandra, who has been diagnosed with a rare form of breast cancer, was quoted as saying, “I believe I have not been given an opportunity to serve San Francisco.”

Despite Calandra’s decision, some San Franciscans are expressing outrage at the city’s ballot system.

“People who want to run for office should be able to,” said Michael Zeldin, a liberal city politician running for district attorney. “This is an outrage.”

In the end, Calandra said he was satisfied with the progress he was making on the campaign trail.

“People have been, and continue to be, very supportive of my campaign, and I have received a lot of encouragement,” he said. “I feel very much a part of the San Francisco community.”

He also thanked his supporters for their “kindness and generosity” in helping him stay on the ballot.

Calandra said he has been in touch with the California Secretary of State’s office to begin the process of removing his name from the ballot.

Calandra’s campaign has collected more than $10,000 in contributions, and he has been joined in his efforts to change the city’s ballot system by others, including San Francisco Supervisor John Avalos, who announced last week that he plans to introduce a bill to change the city’s political system.

Avalos said he looks forward to working with Calandra and others to change the city’s political system.

“Calandra has been very vocal about the need for change,” Avalos said. “I’m happy to work with him and others to bring about the changes that he and others believe are needed.”
Faulconer outmuscles Alvarez in hard-fought mayoral runoff

By DAVE SCHWAB

Swearing-in ceremony likely to be slated for date in early March

In a hotly contested special election for mayor with lower-than-expected voter turnout, Republican City Councilman Kevin Faulconer (District 2) outpolled rival Democratic City Councilman David Alvarez (District 8) by a 6-point margin.

With 100 percent of the ballots counted in all 582 precincts, Faulconer collected 152,464 votes (53 percent) to Alvarez’s 132,761 (47 percent).

“The people of San Diego have sent a message tonight,” said Faulconer, 47, of Point Loma during his election-night speech to cheering supporters. “And it is loud and clear: You want an independent voice.

“You want a mayor that will bring San Diego together,” he continued. “Once again, thank you to the fantastic volunteers and supporters. I am truly proud of you.”

Cynthia Paes, assistant registrar for San Diego County, said election officials have 28 days to certify the results. She added voter turnout was nearly 38 percent.

We were expecting at least 45 percent,” Paes said, who added the actual turnout number was “pretty average” compared with other counties in similar circumstances statewide.

City Clerk Liz Maland said Faulconer’s swearing in is tentatively set for March 3 or March 10.

The City Council will need to appoint an interim councilmember to fill Faulconer’s seat because Faulconer is term-limited after two terms, said Maland. The appointed replacement will serve until Faulconer’s term officially expires in December, even though the City Council is technically nonpartisan political body. If a Democrat were to be appointed to fill the remainder of Faulconer’s term through December, that would give Democrats a 6-3 majority advantage, with the prospect of veto power to reject the new mayor’s agenda.

“What happens is there will be 30 business days, once the seat is vacant, to apply for a special appointment to fill out the term of [Faulconer’s] seat,” Maland said. “It’s a major process requiring the gathering of at least 50 signatures.”

Maland said the interim Council District 2 representative would likely be seated in April. The interim councilmember will not be allowed under the city’s charter to run for the full District 2 term in the June election, Maland said.

Maland said whoever wins the race for District 2 — either in the primary or a runoff election — would not be inaugurated and seated until December.

Faulconer will have the distinction of becoming the only Republican mayor in any of America’s 10 largest cities.

New Era in San Diego

Mayor-elect Kevin Faulconer is expected to be sworn in sometime early in March. Courtesy photo

MBHS breaks ground on $13M athletics facilities

By KEITH ANTIVIOVANNI

The long-awaited groundbreaking of the new $13 million Mission Bay High School (MBHS) athletic facilities took place Feb. 12 on the football field with about 50 people in attendance, including a mix of MBHS students, athletes, alumni and other Pacific Beach locals.

The guest speakers on hand were MBHS principal Fred Hilgers; San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD) Deputy Superintendent Phill Stover; Pam Dieta, president of the MBHS Alumni Association; executive director of SDUSD’s Facilities Planning and Construction, Lee Dulgeroff; MBHS senior Devante Kinder, a member of the football team; and MBHS freshman Kylie Kroger, a member of the girls’ soccer team; and included recognition to Tim Penick of T.B. Penick and Sons, Inc.

Dulgeroff said the process to renovate the MBHS athletic facilities for him began in 2009 when he toured the facility to see the condition of the existing facilities.

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Nextdoor.com links Pacific Beach neighbors on crime, quality-of-life issues

By DAVE SCHWAB

Nextdoor.com is like having a communitywide party line. An increasingly popular social networking service, Nextdoor connects neighbors who act as a community bulletin board while facilitating local exchanges of goods and services.

Residents in Pacific Beach’s Crown Point North neighborhood who’ve joined Nextdoor were asked about their experiences and gave it mostly thumbs-up.

“I’ve received forwarded items that were really helpful: car break-ins in the neighborhood, suspicious folks to look out for,” said Eve Anderson.

“It’s sort of an electronic town crier,” Malea Sandstrom said Nextdoor helped her find a job.

“The day after I joined Nextdoor.com, there was a post from a family looking for a babysitter for that coming weekend and mentioning they were looking for help during that coming weekend and mentioning it,” Sandstrom said. “I feel it’s not appropriate.”

Holly Sandstrom said she is thrilled with Nextdoor and the purpose it serves in the community.

“I’m a long-time homeowner at 1310 Beryl St., and have truly appreciated and benefited from this neighborhood site,” Harris said. “As you peruse the postings, you’ll see how neighbors use the site; returning fearful lost pets (dogs, cats, and tortoises) to their loving owners (so much easier and faster than posting flyers on trees and utility poles), preventing/stopping thefts/burglaries and catching such perpetrators by tracking/photographing/sharing door-to-door solicitors, etc.

Harris touted Nextdoor for its “less critical posts,” which she said inform residents about garage/running water sales, benefits/activities of local schools, the Pacific Beach Town Council, the PB Woman’s Club and the like.

“There is so much more, like the recent ‘Urgent’ notices of bees swarming/moving down streets,“ Harris said. “We’re met neighbors who we have lived near for decades — but never knew — and made lots

SEE NEXTDOOR >> PG. 4

Pacific Beach

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PLANTING THE SEEDS

Students from Mission Bay High School tend to the Rose Creek Native Plant Garden in 2010.

Courtesy photo

CREEK»

CONT. FROM PG. 1

“We decided to adopt the orphan stretch of Rose Creek, which is not considered parkland, from Mission Bay Park to Rose Canyon Open Space Park and the southern end of Marianne Bear Park north of Highway 52,” said Karen Zirk, who spearheaded the Friends of Rose Creek organization in 2004. “We decided to take that on since nobody else would, linking the communities of University City, Clairemont and Pacific Beach, which the creek flows through.”

Zirk said the organization’s tagline is “connecting our communities.”

How Zirk came to create the Friends of Rose Creek organization is an interesting tale. She said she “inherited” the task of starting a creek environmental support group from a colleague.

“He handed me this creek and I said, ‘I’m not sure what to do,’ ” Zirk said. “I’d taken in stray dogs before — but never a stray creek.”

The idea behind the organization, said Zirk, is to have a working group that not only safeguards and enhances Rose Creek watershed, but also strives to further the interests of recreationalists and other user groups.

“This is a major bicycling corridor and we’re concerned about bicyclists being able to ride safely and legally,” said Zirk. “We’re also involved in environmental issues like preserving native plants, and in protecting the salt-marsh estuary in the lower portion of Rose Creek, which is a very critical fish-spawning area for Mission Bay.”

Friends’ sponsors a native-plant garden near Rose Creek Cottage and recently unveiled an environmental mural painted by community members near the Mike Gotch Memorial bike and pedestrian bridge that spans Rose Creek and connects with North Mission Bay Drive and Pacific Beach Drive.

“We decided early on that we needed to have some regular events to ground us and keep us focused on what we’re doing within the watershed,” said Zirk. “So we have our monthly meetings every first Wednesday at 6 p.m. at La Jolla Rec Center, where we discuss upcoming events and planning efforts and review environmental documents.”

The organization also sponsors regular cleanups of Rose Creek. The next cleanup is scheduled Saturday, April 26 at 9 a.m. at Mission Bay High School.

One of the organization’s small core group, Billy Paul of Clairemont, is a lifelong canyon hiker who became environmentally active after discovering wildlife was being killed by motor oil released illegally into storm drains.

“I became interested in trying to save our canyons from being destroyed by people who would dump stuff in them trying to get rid of it,” he said.

He said he adopted Rose Creek because “it’s a nice little canyon that’s been ignored and considered a flood-control channel.”

Concerning best practices in watersheds, Paul said that “by not littering and throwing things away in it, you’re making it not only a really nice place for us, but for other animals … a place where you can really get away from the urban environment.”

The task of managing and helping to plan the future of the 23,427-acre, 36-square-mile Rose Creek watershed, which includes the 467-acre Marion Bear Park, falls to the Rose Creek Watershed Alliance.

In 2005, the alliance was established to help create a plan to help improve the watershed. After nearly five years of consideration and public input, the San Diego City Council accepted the “Rose Creek Watershed Opportunities Assessment” plan.

“We’re dedicated to planning the future of the Rose Creek watershed,” said alliance coordinator Kelly Makley, who said the group was created to allow public participation in creation of a master planning document for managing the watershed.

Armed with grant funding, Makley said the alliance is involved in practical projects, like replacing non-native species with those that are native, to restore the wetlands environment of Rose Creek.

“We try to raise awareness that what people are doing upstream in the watershed is flowing all the way down and impacting Mission Bay, one of the most valuable parts of San Diego’s economy, drawing more than five million visitors a year,” Makley said.

For more information, visit www.rosecreekwatershed.org.

NEXTDOOR»

CONT. FROM PG. 3

of new friends (through experiences like finding old home/then new home for an on-the-move tortoise). We look forward to our site growing and getting stronger.”

Harris conceded there is a “gray area” connected with some posts on Nextdoor, which she believes should include “not promoting one’s business or using the site for advertising.”

San Diego Community Newspaper Group freelance writer Nicole Sours Larson agreed with Harris that there are some drawbacks to Nextdoor, and some subject matter that’s inappropriate for posting.

“A few times there have been heated discussions about politics,” she said. “I feel strongly that Nextdoor is an inappropriate spot for promoting candidates, since that quickly becomes divisive, and there can be some real unpleasantness and dumping on the home- less.”

Mike Spangler, president of Spangler Event Productions Inc. credits Nextdoor with helping him successfully launch his “The Slip- py” product, which helps wetsuit owners get into them comfortably.

“The feedback and sales I received from posting on Nextdoor were great, better than my online sales,” Spangler said.

“I was hand-delivering 3-4 per day to just PB residents for a couple weeks, which gave me the opportunity to meet my neighbors, chat and tell them The Slippy story,” he added.

Spangler said Nextdoor is also a great way to promote community involvement.

“I now attend several town council planning and Discover PB meetings because someone is always posting when/where these meetings take place,” he said.

“Nextdoor has opened up many doors for me and my family, and I’m now very in tune with my community — the good and the bad.”

MIKE SPANGLER

Pacific Beach resident, business owner

News

NEXTDOOR»

CONT. FROM PG. 3

Beach hopes to add at least two more bike corrals in Pacific Beach, including one near the Tuesday Farmers Market on Bayview and, near Horizon Street.

The bike corrals were paid for by Discover PB through funds generated from the farmers market.

Phil Simon, who is running for the 52nd Congressional District seat, and Teryl Wyant, a candidate for San Diego district attorney, accepted the “Rose Creek Watershed Opportunities Assessment” plan.

In its continuing effort to raise money for various community projects like the bike corrals, Discover Pacific Beach is promoting CicloDias, its annual business-awards dinner and fundraiser held on the William Evans sternwheeler at Mission Bay on March 27.

The three business-award categories are: Newbie (best new business), Design and Improvement (business that aesthetically improves the community) and Heart of PB (business that reflects the spirit of PB). To vote,

CORRALS»

CONT. FROM PG. 1

visit DPB online at pacificbeach.org.

In keeping with the bicycle theme, DPB will sponsor the first “CicloDias” event in Pacific Beach on Saturday, March 30 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event is free to promote more bike use to show why it is good for business and allow people to be able to walk around Garnet and visit our local businesses to experience what it is like without vehicles,” Berrus said. “Ciclo- Dias” is an event that promotes bicycle use and will close main streets to motor vehicles for people to experience walking around areas that are normally filled by motor vehicles traffic.

Planned street closures on that date would be on Garnet Avenue between Mission Boulevard and Ingraham Street, on Cass Street from Garnet to Turquoise Street, and on Mission Boulevard and Ingraham Street.

Any schools or civic groups interested in participating can set up their own “hub” for the event.

Discover Pacific Beach is also seeking to fill one position on its board of directors.

To apply, call (858) 273-3303, email info@pacificbeach.org, or visit the office at 1503 Garnet Ave.
SeaWorld San Diego

An open letter from SeaWorld's animal advocates:

Inaccurate reports recently have generated questions about SeaWorld and the animals in our care. The truth is in our parks and people, and it’s time to set the record straight.

The men and women of SeaWorld are true animal advocates. We are the 1,500 scientists, researchers, veterinarians, trainers, marine biologists, aquarists, aviculturists, educators and conservationists who have dedicated our lives to the animals in our care, as well as those in the wild that are injured, ill, or orphaned. Whether it’s a sea lion, manatee, sea turtle or whale, we are on call 24/7.

Here are some important facts about SeaWorld and our work:

- SeaWorld does not capture killer whales in the wild. Due to the groundbreaking success of our research in marine-mammal reproduction, we haven’t collected a killer whale from the wild in 15 years. In fact, only two of the whales in our care were collected by SeaWorld and they continue to be in our care today. In addition, our research has led to a much greater understanding of killer whales in the wild by enabling researchers important scientific insights surrounding marine-mammal reproduction.
- We do not separate killer whale moms and calves. SeaWorld recognizes the importance of mother and calf. On the rare occasion that a mother killer whale cannot care for the calf herself, we have successfully hand-raised and reintroduced the calf. Whales are only moved to maintain a healthy social structure.
- SeaWorld invests millions of dollars in the care of our killer whales. In the last three years alone, we have invested $710 million in our killer whale habitats and millions of dollars annually in support of these facilities. Our habitats are among the largest in the world today. They are state-of-the-art, multimillion-dollar environments of cooled and filtered water that allow for the highest and safest standards of care. We give our animals restaurant-quality fish, exercise, veterinary care, mental stimulation and the company of other members of their species.
- SeaWorld’s killer whales’ life spans are equivalent with those in the wild. While studies continue to define the average life span of killer whales in the wild, the most recent science suggests that our killer whales’ life spans are comparable. Indeed, five of our animals are older than 30, and one of our whales is close to 50.
- The killer whales in our care benefit those in the wild. We work with universities, governmental agencies and NGOs to increase the body of knowledge about and the understanding of killer whales — from their anatomy and reproductive biology to their auditory abilities.
- Some populations of wild killer whales have been classified as endangered or threatened, demonstrating the potential critical nature of these research opportunities. This type of controlled research and study is simply not possible in the wild, and has significant real-world benefits to the killer whales that live there.

At SeaWorld, we believe that taking care of the animals in our care requires a level of dedication and expertise not found anywhere else. Our team is comprised of the most experienced and knowledgeable professionals in the field, dedicated to the care and welfare of the animals in our care.

We hope to set the record straight and dispel misconceptions about the research we conduct and the care we provide to our animals. We are committed to providing the highest quality of life for our killer whales and other marine mammals.

We encourage you to come see our killer whales in action at SeaWorld and support our important work.

Sincerely,

Richard Oakes, President
SeaWorld San Diego
BIRDS CONT. FROM PG. 1

birdfest is the equivalent of the Super Bowl in bird watching, said Hajj.

“Senior birders around the nation say there are three bird festivals that you need to go to, and this is one of them,” she said.

San Diego, with its more than 500 bird species and its diverse array of habitats from ocean to wetlands to mountains and desert, makes San Diego the ideal place for a bird festi-

“Where’s just a lot of magic here with all the different kinds of birds and so many habitats that makes it a very rich area for seeing birds.”

She added the Audubon Society festival brings out the “really inter-
esting people, our guides, special speakers, etc. We have a lot of

events that are interesting for bird-

er and non-birders alike.”

On Friday, Feb. 28, the festival’s banquet keynote speaker at the con-

ference center and marina will be James Currie, host of “Nikon’s Bird-

Adventures” on NRB Sports Network. A birding expert and an

adventurer whose passion has

taken him to explore remote cul-

ture, Currie has been featured as a

special guest and consultant in film,

Differences and technical documents, and has

published about 90 papers

and technical documents, and has

been featured in National Geo-

graphic magazine and on television.

He will be leading two owling trips

and present a luncheon talk at the

convention center and marina.

Hajj said.

An annual highlight of the bird-

ing extravaganza is a free family fun
day sponsored by SDG&E. This will be held from noon to 4 p.m. Sun-
day, March 2.

Family fun day events include a

visit from Holt, art activities, a story-
time room for children, demonstra-
tions by Hobie kayaks, a bird-call-

ing workshop, live exhibition of

birds, field trips to local birding

areas, guided walks, games, work-

shops and a prize raffle.

On family fun day, bird enthusi-

asts can also enjoy the “Big Sit,”

with professional birders on hand
to point out birds in the nearby San

Diego Estuary and the Quivira

Basin.

All of the family day events are

free and no pre-registration is need-
ed, though some field trips and

workshops have limited availability

on a first-come, first-served basis.

The mission of the San Diego

Audubon Society is to foster the pro-
tection and appreciation of birds,

other wildlife and their habitats
through education and study, and

advocates for a cleaner, healthier

environment.

Originally founded in 1948, SDAS

has served the region for more than

60 years. Its accomplishments

include the establishment of two

wildlife sanctuaries, which it owns

and operates. This fiscal year, SDAS

will host 25 habitat mainte-
nance/restoration volunteer events,

engaging several hundred volun-
tees in restoration efforts, and gen-

erate more than 3,000 hours of vol-

unteer labor toward improving

habitat for wildlife in San Diego

County.

For more information, visit

www.sandiegoaudubon.org.

A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE One of the exciting ways to discover birds in their natural habitats is by way of kayak excursions. Courtesy photo by Karen Straus

JUST HANGING AROUND A black-and-white female warbler holds on to a snack as it clings upside-down to a tree limb. Courtesy photo by Karen Straus

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Spectacular 4br/2ba home with plenty of patio space on both floors. Ocean, bay & city light views can be seen from this recently updated custom built home designed and built by Tom Allen. Enjoy dazzling Sea World fireworks from this North Pacific Beach home. Updates include new hardwood floors, freshly painted interior and updated fireplaces in the living room and master bedroom. The office could be converted to a media room. Conveniently located just minutes from the freeway.

Offered at: $995,000

Marc Lipschitz
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The Patio Unveils New and Improved Children’s Menu
BY SAMANTHA ROBINSON  ASST. MARKETING DIRECTOR

The Patio on Lamont Street has been a little childish lately, when it comes to the food that is!

A few weeks ago, the popular neighborhood eatery rolled out its new and improved kids menu, featuring perfectly portioned classic dishes for that picky eater. The menu features chicken tenders, grilled cheese, a cheeseburger (all of which are offered up with a side of fries), small cheese pizza, and finally, pasta with either marinara or butter sauce. All of the items range in price from $5 - $8.

A coloring activity sheet for children will be available in the coming weeks. According to management, the addition of this new menu aims to accommodate local families dining at the restaurant earlier in the evening, usually from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. Parents are in luck, as happy hour runs daily from 3 - 6 p.m. and features more “adult” items like cool cocktails and worldly wines.

Since opening in late 2012, The Patio on Lamont Street has remained dedicated to providing outstanding service in an environment where you can relax, enjoy and share great food and memories. The whole family is welcome!

For more information or to make a reservation, call 858-412-4648 or visit www.thepatiosd.com.

FREE APPETIZER
An order of Hummus or Tzatziki with Pita bread with purchase of two entrees at regular price.

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ADDITIONAL TOPPINGS EXTRA
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4445 Lamont Street
San Diego, CA 92109
858-412-4648
MUST HEAR

Featuring Joey Harris and Paul Kamanski — two of the area’s best-ever songwriters — it would be just about impossible to catch a set from the acoustic trio of Joey, Caren & Paul without being thoroughly entertained. Performing at the Kona Kai Resort on Shelter Island on March 1, Harris and Kamanski are joined by singer Caren Campbell, who excels at acoustic music. Joey, Caren & Paul perform 7 p.m. on Saturday, March 1 at the KONA KAI RESORT, 1551 Shelter Island Drive. 7 p.m. Free. www.resortkonakai.com.

LIVE MUSIC

By BART MENDOZA

Against all odds, Sprung Monkey — formed in 1991 — is still going full strength. Following a successful run that saw the band appear in an episode of “Buffy the Vampire Slayer,” as well as landing tunes in everything from TV’s “Smallville” to the film “Dude, Where’s My Car?,” the band split in 2002, re-emerging three years later. Currently playing behind its latest album “Dead is Dead,” the band appears at The Griffin on Feb. 21. The band doesn’t play as often as it used to, but longtime fans can rest assured Sprung Monkey’s hard-hitting sound remains intact.

Sprung Monkey plays at 9 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 21 at THE GRIFFIN, 1310 Morena Blvd. 21 and up. $15. www.thegriffinland.com.

Pairing tribute bands to two of the best-loved bands of the 1970s — Cheap Trick and Journey — the 710 Beach Club will be a virtual jukebox of hits on Friday, Feb. 21. On hand will be the cover acts, Cheapest Trick and Open Arms. While the latter has its following, there are few bands as fun and exciting as Cheap Trick live, so their doppelgangers get the nod.

It’s hard to argue with timeless songs like “Surrender,” or “Dream Police,” and Cheapest Trick delivers. The quartet not only turns in worthy renditions but goes the extra mile. Band members not only dress the part, but the two performing as guitarist Rick Nielsen and drummer Bun E. Carlos are pretty much near-perfect replicas of the originals. There will be no surprises in the set list this night, but for sing-a-long fun, this show will be hard to beat.

Cheapest Trick performs at 8 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 21 at the 710 BEACH CLUB, 710 Garnet Ave. 21 and up. $5 www.710bc.com.

STAY AT THE HISTORIC COSMOPOLITAN HOTEL IN SAN DIEGO DURING FEBRUARY AND MARCH AND RECEIVE SPECIAL WINE AND DINE OR HISTORIC TOURISM PACKAGE

Enjoy the Beauty of Old Town

Enjoy everything San Diego has to offer when you stay at the Cosmopolitan Restaurant and Hotel, a bed-and-breakfast inn in Old Town San Diego State Historic Park. The Cosmopolitan will offer special packages for hotel guests visiting during February and March. Valid with any number of nights, guests will receive a Wine and Dine or Heritage Tourism package with the purchase of two entrees at the Cosmopolitan Restaurant.

Guests who select the Heritage Tourism package will have the option to choose two tickets from two of the following destinations: Maritime Museum, Marian House, Mirage International Museum, Museum of Photographic Art, Redwood H. Fleet Science Center, San Diego Automotive Museum, San Diego Air & Space Museum, San Diego Model Railroad Museum, and the Whaley House.

Guests booking in February and March also have the option of booking without the package for $99 per night.

After a three-year, multimillion-dollar restoration to return the building to how it appeared in 1869, The Cosmopolitan Restaurant and Hotel reopened in July 2010 as a restaurant with indoor and outdoor seating, two saloons, 10 hotel rooms on the second level, and private dining rooms for special occasions. The Cosmopolitan is recognized as one of the most historically significant buildings in California.

With a history spanning over 175 years, the building was originally constructed as the home of San Diego pioneer Juan Bandini between 1827 and 1828. The building is a rarity because of its long history as well as its place as one of the few historic buildings remaining in the state that is representative of 19th century commercial building that combined Mexican adobe and American wood-framing techniques.

The Cosmopolitan Restaurant and Hotel is located on the corner of Calhoun and Mason streets in Old Town and there is ample free parking along Juan Street. After 5pm, visitors can also park for free in the CalTrans headquarter’s garage. For more information on this special offer or to book a room, call 619-297-1874 or visit www.oldtowncosmopolitan.com.
Jazz and rock guitar fans will want to catch a set from Hank Easton at the Kona Kai Resort on Feb. 22. Easton is perhaps best known as the incendiary lead guitarist in the Steely Damned, also having released three solo albums to date — most recently, “Snapshots.” Easton is a solid performer with a nice voice, as well as tasteful pop rock originals and a slew of great covers in his set, with a particularly melodic playing style that truly accents the music. Easton’s sets include many highlights, but his medley of Steely Dan solos is hard to top.

- HANK EASTON performs at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 22, at the KONA KAI RESORT, 1551 Shelter Island Drive. Free. www.resortkona-kai.com.

For jazz fans there are few tenor saxophonists in the league of the late Dexter Gordon. He passed away in 1990, having issued dozens of albums, starting with “Dexter Rides Again” in 1945 and continuing through to his biggest crossover project, the 1986 film, “Round Midnight.” Perhaps more importantly, Gordon inspired a legion of young performers in his wake. Evidence of this takes place at Dizzy’s on March 2, when the venue will host a special tribute concert to Gordon, featuring saxophonist Gerard Nolan with bassist Bob Magnusson, pianist John Opferkuch and drummer Duncan Moore. If you’re a fan of the saxophone or a lover of jazz in general, this is one of the month’s calendar highlights.

- DEXTER GORDON TRIBUTE takes place at 7 p.m. on Sunday, March 2 at DIZZY’S, 4275 Mission Bay Drive. $15. www.dizys-jazz.com.

In 1851, the schooner “America” crossed the finish line seven miles ahead of her nearest competitor. Queen Victoria asked: “Who is second?” The response: “There is no second.” America’s victory over the Royal Yacht Squadron fleet, jump-started what is known today as the America’s Cup race. Schooners were a British invention, but perfected on this side of the Atlantic by Gloucester fishermen. Appreciated for their beauty and speed under sail, they flourish today with the same enthusiasm that sent the “America” into history in 1851. Each year on San Diego Bay, the horizon fills with topsails, gollywobblers, gaff rigs and flying jibs. On March 29, San Diego Bay will play host to the 26th running of America’s Schooner Cup. And they’ll be joined on the starting line by San Diego’s own “America,” a replica of the original. View the event from Shelter Island on Saturday, March 29 at 11:30 a.m. A concert will then be held at the Silver Gate Yacht Club, located at 2091 Shelter Island Drive, on Sunday, March 30 to benefit the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society.

- America’s Schooner Cup gears up

BATTLE FOR RACING SUPREMACY
The America’s Schooner Cup race sails into action on San Diego Bay on March 29. Sailing enthusiasts can catch the race action at the Silver Gate Yacht Club on Shelter Island, among other vantage points. Courtesy photo

— Staff and contribution

REMEMBER WHEN
Devany’s Bakery was next door to Too Pooped to Plant? I took this photo in September 1983. Isabel’s Cantina has taken over Devany’s Bakery, and Cafe 976 long ago replaced Too Pooped to Plant. — John Fry may be reached at (858) 272-6655 or mail@johnfry.com.

REMEMBER WHEN
CONT. FROM PG. 8

America’s Schooner Cup sails into action on San Diego Bay on March 29. Sailing enthusiasts can catch the race action at the Silver Gate Yacht Club on Shelter Island, among other vantage points. Courtesy photo

— Staff and contribution
EDUCATION NOTEBOOK >>

MISSION BAY HIGH SCHOOL

• Mission Bay High School’s annual Talent Show will be held Friday, Feb. 21 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the MBHS auditorium. There will be cash prizes and celebrity judges, including Jen Smith, national longboard champion; Nicki Carano, jazz dance instructor and vocalist/drummer for several local bands; Dan O’Hara, owner of Solid Surf Boards and shaper for South Coast; and Jack “Mr. Frostie” Conca. These judges will cast their votes for the most original, polished and entertaining acts. Come and see the crazy talented students of Mission Bay High. Tickets are $5 each and can be purchased in advance in the school office or at the door on the night of the event. Join your neighbors and friends and be entertained by the amazing talent at the MBHS annual Talent Show!

• Friday, Feb. 28, 7:30 a.m., coffee with the principal.

• Broad Prize Scholarship: $5,000 to $20,000 for students of the San Diego Unified School District with a 2.75 grade-point average. Visit www.sdsu.edu, or email Anne Chu at chuanneci@gmail.com. This program is sponsored by Hanban Organization in China — these talented artists in China performed for a packed house at Pacific Beach Middle School counseling department will host “The Road to College, College: Making It Happen” on Thursday, Feb. 20 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the media center. If you have any questions, contact Mrs. Blankenbeckler or Mrs. McDearmon.

PACIFIC BEACH MIDDLE SCHOOL

• It is never too early to plan for college, even at the middle-school level. Come join other parents and students who will learn about admissions for universities and colleges and how to prepare now for the college process. We will also review the new high school graduation requirements. The Pacific Beach Middle School counseling department will host “The Road to College, College: Making It Happen” on Thursday, Feb. 20 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the media center.

• A trip to China for MBHS students takes place from July 15 to Aug. 1. Spend up to two weeks in China living, studying and exploring a culture different from your own. Activities will include learning Chinese in a Mandarin classroom, exposure into Chinese lifestyle and touring renowned local tourist attractions. The 2014 Chinese Bridge Summer Camp Program will take you on a journey to Beijing and other parts of China you’ll never forget. Participants must be American citizens, grades 8-12, and have less than three years of Mandarin Chinese language knowledge. Responsibilities include paying for international airfare, purchasing international travel insurance and paying the Chinese visa application fee. For more information, visit confucius.sdsu.edu, or email Anne Chu at chuanneci@gmail.com. This program is sponsored by Hanban (Headquarters of Confucius Institute), 2014 Chinese Bridge Summer Camp Program.

PACIFIC BEACH HIGH SCHOOL

• It is never too early to plan for college, even at the middle-school level. Come join other parents and students who will learn about admissions for universities and colleges and how to prepare now for the college process. We will also review the new high school graduation requirements. The Pacific Beach Middle School counseling department will host “The Road to College, College: Making It Happen” on Thursday, Feb. 20 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the media center. If you have any questions, contact Mrs. Blankenbeckler or Mrs. McDearmon.

• Top musicians and artists from China performed for a packed house at Pacific Beach Middle International Baccalaureate on Feb. 13. In the U.S. for the Huain Cup Chinese International Instrument Competition — and through the sponsorship and coordination from Hanban Organization in China — these talented artists in all aspects of the musical fields arrived in San Diego after their competition for the only show in the U.S. “I can’t tell you how honored and excited we at Pacific Beach Middle International Baccalaureate feel about this special engagement brought to us by the Confucius Institute at San Diego State University, our San Diego Unified School District partner in education,” said Ernie Remillard, principal at the award-winning middle school. “We are so proud to offer cultural events to our staff and students as we continue to grow our new Mandarin Chinese course.” Welcoming and recognizing the visiting artists, as well as dignitaries and officials from China, were San Diego County Supervisor Ron Roberts and San Diego Unified School District board member Scott Barnett, who presented the guests with proclamations from the city and district.

PACIFIC BEACH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

• Thank you to Baked Bear for hosting our Family Fun Night on Feb. 12. A great time was had by all. The next Family Fun Night is on Feb. 27 at Big Kahuna’s. Enjoy another fun community dining-out event while raising money for PBE.

• The Taste of North PB is coming up on Wednesday, March 12, and tickets can be purchased now in the front office. Invite family and friends to dine on delicious food from local restaurants, view artwork from local students and listen to the sounds of our own Pacific Beach student musicians.

• Save the date for our biggest fundraiser of the year — PBE’s Auction Gala on April 25 at the Soledad Club from 5 to 10 p.m. More details to follow.
Turf field and all-weather track; track replaced with new synthetic.

The renovation of the football field and all-weather track is an important improvement, as voted on by the community after Proposition Z in 2012. However, the project took a significant hit when the real-estate market crashed. But the project took on new life when voters passed Proposition Z in 2012.

The final go-ahead for the project took place when the California Coastal Commission officially approved the project on Jan. 10. The project includes a complete renovation of the football field and running track.

Other features include:
- the existing football field and track replaced with new synthetic turf field and all-weather track;
- new handicap-accessible bleachers (1,600-seat capacity on the home side, 800 seating capacity on the visiting side);
- a new press box with an elevator to comply with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility;
- new athletic facilities (3.648 square feet, handicap-accessible track and bleachers, concession stand for home and visitors; storage area for athletic equipment);
- new football stadium lighting and sound system;
- new scoreboard and goal posts;
- new home and visitor entrance gates;
- the existing softball field relocated and reconstructed with new synthetic turf field and field lights;
- new ADA-accessible dugouts, bleachers, concession stand and announcer’s booth.

Due to the renovations, MBHS will join the ranks of “Friday Night Lights” to host football games at night for the first time in its 60-year history. Diets also announced that for the first time since 1953, the Homecoming football game will be played under the lights. “The new stadium, track and softball field will be an asset not only to the school but to the community itself,” Tandy added.

The demolition of the old facilities was completed by the spring of 2015.

Pacific Beach Middle School and Mission Bay High School will host the first-ever Beach Bash 5K Walk and 1-Mile Run on April 26. More than 18 restaurants, displays of artwork by local students and can be purchased at Pacific Beach Elementary Honor Orchestra. They will perform with the SDUSD Elementary Honor Orchestra on Friday, March 21, Luna and Lily are the youngest students to perform and all three students will represent CPJMA for the second consecutive year. Great work, Luna, Lily and Joshua!
Four alternatives emerge to pave way for linked, multi-city hiking/biking trail

By DAVE SCHMAB

Four alternative routes for the proposed Coastal Rail Trail (CRT) bike-and-hike pathway project were unveiled Friday at a workshop at Nobel Recreation Center.

The Coastal Rail Trail (CRT) is a regional project that will establish a multi-use trail, including bike paths, to better connect the coastal cities of Oceanside, Del Mar, Carlsbad, Encinitas, Solana Beach and San Diego.

The city project consists of 10 miles of multi-use trails extending from Carmel Valley Road at the northern point to Gilman Drive on the southern end. This segment of the trail will provide important connections between regional employment centers in Sorrento Valley, Miramar Mesa and the communities to the north and south, and Coaster train stations and future trolley stations in the project area.

For months, the city has worked with the Coastal Rail Trail Working Group and the public to seek input on evaluation criteria and route segments for the Coastal Rail Trail project. This input, combined with technical analysis, resulted in the development of a number of potential alternatives for consideration.

Ab Palasyed, a senior civil engineer for the lead organization on the San Diego portion of the CRT, said the field of route alternatives is now whittled down to four alternatives 2, 5, 7 and 4. These will ultimately move forward into the CEQA/NEPA environmental review process.

The next step is to seek City Council’s OK this summer to proceed with environmental review. Construction could start in 2017.

“We (city) don’t make the selection,” said Palasyed. “What we’re supposed to do is identify the ones (routes) that are higher than the others and recommend those be taken through the environmental process.”

Palasyed said the environmental review will determine “the preferred alternative with the least impact of amounts.”

The next step in the CRT project is to seek City Council authorization this summer to proceed with environmental review of the four final alternative routes selected. This review is likely to take a year or longer, said Palasyed. In early 2016, the CRT project is expected to receive certification of environmental impact report/environmental impact statement with approval of final route alternative.

Construction on that preferred route is then expected to proceed and reach completion with federal funding resources having been secured.
Shore Point Real Estate Homes

Thomas Beach Homes
2 Sold, Only 1 Left!
Four bedrooms, Three baths with 2300 sqft.
$1,050,000 - 1,075,000

New luxury living at the beach. Appointed with smart home technology, solar electricity, stainless steel appliances, granite, travertine, hardwood floors and a large rooftop deck with bay and ocean views. Just six blocks to the beach and is walking distance to the grocery store, shops, bars, restaurants and everything that Pacific Beach has to offer. Little expense was spared on the building of these homes and will likely set a new standard of living and lifestyle at the beach.

1342, 1346, 1350 Thomas Ave.

Condo in Crown Point
This 1300 sqft 3 Br 2 Ba is close to the Bay. Located on a quiet residential street with a garage. Lots of natural light, granite counters, custom cabinetry and 2 balconies

4011 Promontory Street
$615K

WindanSea Condo
This La Jolla 1 Br 1 Ba 713 sqft condo is 2 blocks to WindanSea Beach. 3rd floor unit with custom cabinetry, granite counters and new carpets.

6455 La Jolla Blvd #351
$360K

Commercial Condo
3 private offices, reception desk and private bathroom. 1139 sqft with lots of storage not counted in sqft. Covered parking spot with plenty guest parking.

2207 Garnet Ave. #I
$250K or lease available

Pacific Beach Townhome
This 2 Br 2.5 Ba 1240 sqft townhome was remodeled in 2014. Only minutes from the beach. Located perfectly in a residential neighborhood of Pacific Beach.

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$529K

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3322 Zola Street, Point Loma | 2 Br/ 2 BA | 1,085 SF | $649,000
Charming Cottage, close to Liberty Station. Bay window, wood floors, formal dining room, breakfast / office area. Cozy fireplace in Living Room. Large deck, newer spa with surround sound, fully fenced.
Jerri Walters 858-354-1900 jwaltersexalifornia@gmail.com CalBRE #01412019

HISTORIC LA JOLLA COVE COTTAGE
$1,685,000
• 2 Bedroom / 2 Bath with Room to Expand
• $250,000+ in restoration completed in 2009
• 5,750 square foot lot
• Mills Act = $3,094 annual taxes

NEW LISTING

"NEW LISTING"

3559 Riviera Dr.
4 BD/4.5 BA
$2,650,000
This bayfront home will be greatly enjoyed by the new owners, especially as they watch the sunset over the ocean and bay at the same time.

WHO IS NEXT?

JUST SOLD!

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$2,395,000 5655 Taft Ave.
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Hamptons-style home with ocean views, oversized lot, gourmet kitchen, soaring ceilings, hardwood floors. Walk to shopping and Bird Rock Elementary.
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mikeyv@live.com
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$799,000 - PENDING

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I WILL SELL YOUR PACIFIC BEACH/LA JOLLA HOME FAST & FOR TOP PRICE

$1,050,000 - 1,075,000

The BEACH SELLER

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Charming Cottage, close to Liberty Station. Bay window, wood floors, formal dining room, breakfast / office area. Cozy fireplace in Living Room. Large deck, newer spa with surround sound, fully fenced.
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NEW LISTING

"NEW LISTING"
## OPEN HOUSES

### LA JOLLA
- **1334 Caminito Arriata**  4BR/3BA  $1,235,000  
  Sat & Sun 11-4pm  
  By Appointment
- **7096 Caminito Valverde**  5BR/6.5BA  $2,495,000  
  Sat & Sun 11-4pm
- **1167 Oliver Ave**  5BR/6.5BA  $4,995,000  
  Sun 1-4pm

### POINT LOMA / OCEAN BEACH
- **3845 Bayside Lane**  2BR/2.5BA  $1,480,000  
  Sun 1-4pm
- **7932 Prospect Place**  2BR/2.5BA  $2,925,000  
  Sat 12-4pm
- **1334 Caminito Arriata**  4BR/3BA  $1,235,000  
  Sat & Sun 11-4pm

### EAST VILLAGE
- **1150 J St. #304**  1BR/1BA  $399,000  
  Sun 1-4pm

### SPRING VALLEY
- **3916 Midway Dr.**  3BR/3BA  $425,000-$445,000  
  By Appointment

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**GIVE US YOUR INPUT!**

Do you have a good idea for a real-estate trend story, profile piece or feature fodder? If so, we’d like to hear from you! Send those ideas to us at bbp@sndnews.com.

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**Looking For Your Next Home Sweet Home?**

Step into elegance when you enter this designer 4BR/4BA beach home. Enjoy an outdoor top deck with a fireplace and sail bay views. Interior boasts marble baths, real wood flooring, and creative floor plan. Hang out in this charming home apart from the rest!

---

**SOLD**

Kelli & Brien Metcalf  
858.780.6255

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**Tandy named 2014 honorary mayor by PB Town Council**

The Pacific Beach Town Council has announced Jennifer Tandy as the honorary mayor of Pacific Beach for 2014. The honorary mayor is a person who has performed outstanding service to the community of Pacific Beach.

Tandy is active in many projects involving Pacific Beach schools. She helped to bring and implement plans for a Pacific Beach YMCA. The new Y will be located on part of the Pacific Beach Middle School campus and will be jointly used by its students.

Tandy is also committed to seeing that the stadium at Mission Bay High School receives its much-needed and long-promised upgrades.

She advocates for local schools through her hard work with parent–teacher organizations for Pacific Beach Elementary and the Friends of PB Secondary Schools.

Pacific Beach Town Council members said they are looking forward to working closely with Tandy and the schools this year. The Town Council’s first outreach was a search for a new webmaster for its website and social media.

The new webmaster from Mission Bay High is Colin Tandy.
Modern North PB Home

Home boasts a 3/2 main house with a 1/1 granny flat, ocean views oversized master bedroom with ocean views and a private deck, wood flooring, vaulted ceilings in the living room, gourmet kitchen, custom tiled bathrooms, and large redwood decks in front and back yards. On best street in North PB!
1461 Wilbur Ave

Stylish Sail Bay Home

6 Year New. Upgraded & Spacious 4Br/4Ba. Beautiful hardwood floors throughout, charming master suite with marble and travertine bath, impressive crown molding and decorative railings, and 300sf roof deck with sweeping bay views. 2,150 sq ft of elegance!
1667 Oliver Ave

Spacious Thomas Condo

Top floor corner 2Br/2Ba condo w/views of Pacific Ocean & La Jolla Hills. Walk across the street to shops, restaurants, or the beach. Master suite offers vanity area & private bath with spacious closet throughout. Fall in love with the huge kitchen and natural light from windows on 3 sides! Comes with 2 garage parking spots
881 Thomas Ave #22

Coming Soon To PB!

2 Brand NEW 2,300sf 4Br/3.5Ba Single Family Homes. Completion by end of April ’14. These gorgeous homes offer both the serenity and excitement of the Beach Lifestyle. Versatile home features Penthouses room with wet bar opens to large roof deck with ocean and/or bay views. Priced To Move You, get them before they are gone!

3633-3635 Bayside Walk.

RARE ITEM!! Home or duplex on BAY FRONT!! Long term vacation rental history with many future bookings in place. Large front unit has 3 floors w/bay front views. Huge master w/large dressing area & Bath; exclusive use large patio and 5 decks. Rear unit has 2 bedrooms & townhome w/separate master & 2 decks for outdoor use. Fully furnished. Simple change could make this into 4 BR home in one of best locations.

5224 Cardeno Dr.

North Pacific Beach, just a few blocks out of La Jolla on a 7,760sq. ft. corner lot, this modern beach house works as a 4Br/3.5Ba or as a 3Br/2.5Ba w/complete attached granny flat that has its own living room, bathroom & balcony above the 3 car garage with an ocean view! All connects and separate! Recently remodeled, this beautiful home has a custom kitchen, bathrooms, floors, wood beam ceilings, private enclosed

*Source: MMR Strategy Group study of unaided awareness among buyers, sellers, and those planning to buy or sell, asked, when they think of real estate brands, which ones come to mind?*