On any balmy summer night, hundreds of people can be found strolling the length of the Ocean Beach Pier. But for one frequent visitor, that stroll remains a struggle.

Will Barton steps cautiously along the concrete pathway, counting the benches he passes, always cognizant of how many he reached in his last visit, always pushing himself to reach the next one.

For Barton, who turned 23 last month, those pier benches are a measure of the progress he continues to make nearly three years after a deranged fugitive shot him three times and left him to die on a street near Balboa Park.

With one of the bullets still lodged in his brain, Barton, a 2010 graduate of Point Loma High School, has defied the predictions of doctors who gave him less than a 1 percent chance of survival the night he was rushed to a trauma center.

Not only has he survived, he has undergone extensive therapy and those frequent walks on the pier are just one indicator of how far he has come.

The United States Postal Service (USPS) is in negotiations with a buyer for the abandoned Midway Post Office site, once the central mail processing and distribution facility for all of San Diego County.

But USPS isn’t divulging any details.

“The USPS is in contract with a potential buyer for the Midway Drive facility located at 2535 Midway Drive,” said postal spokeswoman Eva Jackson. “We are still in the due diligence phase, and expect the deal to close within the next few months.”

“I confirmed with the USPS district manager that the property has been sold to a consolidator of some kind, and that the USPS will be emptying out the remaining equipment for the new tenant in the next cou-

Redevelopment of OB Veterans Plaza moves ahead

‘(It) will be a powerful visual and a tribute to the veterans.’

TOM PERROTTI
OBDCD PRESIDENT

Ocean Beach Community Development Corporation (OBDCD) is forging ahead with the OB Veterans Plaza redevelopment project, announcing applications are currently being accepted to add veterans’ names—living and deceased—to the wall of a new proposed Veterans Plaza. “The wonderful thing about this project is that it has the full support of all of the community groups in Ocean Beach, as well as the mayor of San Diego, Supervisor Ron Roberts, Councilwoman Lori Zapf and our state as well as our federal representatives,” said OBDCD president Tom Perrotti, who noted the new plaza’s design incorporates 2,000 etched names in black marble. “(That) will be a powerful visual and a tribute to the veterans. But also, artistically, the design has beach sections simulating Sunset Cliffs. I truly believe this

Buyer found for former Midway Post Office site

‘We are still in the due diligence phase, and expect the deal to close within the next few months.’

EVA JACKSON
USPS SPOKESPERSON

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Not only has he survived, he has undergone extensive therapy and those frequent walks on the pier are just one indicator of how far he has come.
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2305 Warrington.com • 3BR/2.5BA • $759,000
Teched up location up a private drive, come see this wonderful one-owner home Sunday from 2-4PM and enjoy free ice cream from Pow Wow Cows ice cream truck. Fabulous home for the money!
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3164 Pleasanton • 4BR/2.5BA • $569,000
Great 1 bedroom, 1 bath unit in the beautiful complex of Rancho Mission Villas. Building is only a short walk from one of the pools and clubhouses. This unit needs cosmetic TLC but has a new A/C unit in living room and a greenbelt view from the balcony plus dual-pane windows and sliding door.
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Great 1 bedroom, 1 bath unit in the beautiful complex of Rancho Mission Villas. Building is only a short walk from one of the pools and clubhouses. This unit needs cosmetic TLC but has a new A/C unit in living room and a greenbelt view from the balcony plus dual-pane windows and sliding door.
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This property features 6,114 sq.ft. with main house of approximately 3,628 square feet, and a detached 486 sq. ft. guest cottage.
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Gorgeous 3BR/2.5BA, Spanish style home in the Adams North neighborhood! Gourmet kitchen, hardwood floors, large backyard, 3 car garage. No Melllo-Roos!
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Celebrating 15 years of Point Loma Summer Concerts!
A community concert featuring home-grown bands from Point Loma & Ocean Beach.

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Rolling Stones Tribute Band!
Midway Community Planning Group (MCPG) heard a pitch from attorneys representing medical marijuana cooperatives, who expressed that industry’s willingness to work with the community to help solve local problems, like homelessness.

The advisory group in July also got a progress report on MCPG’s ongoing community plan update.

Attorney Michael Cindrich, a former district attorney prosecutor who now advocates on the medical cannabis industry with his consulting firm, Green Capital Ventures, told the group he wasn’t there to change anyone’s viewpoint on medical marijuana. Instead, he said he wanted to convey receptiveness by inviting attorneys representing marijuana cooperatives to pitch their plans to the Midway-Pacific Business Improvement District (BID) and use that as a driving force, suggested MCPG board member Kurt Sullivan.

“A lot of the preliminary work has been done,” added Nickel pointing out a recent MCPG board member, who has left the group, was trying to revive the Midway-Pacific Business Improvement District (BID) in Midway.

“Many people felt that the original proposal was too much of an increase all at once. Responding to public comment, CNM modified the proposal to reduce the amounts.

Robert F. Kennedy Jr. to give keynote address at Coastkeeper’s Seaside Soiree

On Oct. 28, Waterkeeper Alliance president Robert F. Kennedy Jr. will give a keynote address to guests at San Diego Coastkeeper’s 18th Annual Sea-side Soiree. This year’s open-air affair also marks a significant milestone for San Diego Coastkeeper, which turns 20 years old in its mission to protect and restore fishable, swimmable and drinkable waters to San Diego County.

At the Seaside Soiree, Kennedy, along with supporters, board members and staff, will celebrate the importance of San Diego’s underwater treasures and healthy beaches while sipping on Mai Tais at the Bali Hai on Shelter Island. The event raises money to support the organization’s work on water quality and many water supply issues in San Diego County’s meandering inland waters, along its beautiful coastline and in its pursuit of an economy fueled by clean water.

“San Diego Coastkeeper has grown into a movement of people across the county who are passionate about protecting our waters,” said executive director Megan Baehrens. “We have drestically improved the health of San Diego’s waters and protected the resources and activities that define the San Diego County way of life. Let’s celebrate that.”

San Diego Coastkeeper’s Seaside Soiree VIP and general admission tickets are on sale. To sponsor or underwrite the event, contact Baehrens at meganb@sdcostkeeper.org or (619) 758-7743 ext. 103. The event, which runs from 6 to 9 p.m. on Oct. 28, will include a roaming buffet and education stations.

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In July Peninsula Community Planning Board (PCPB), after lengthy discussion, tabled a motion to spend more than $800,000 in development impact fees (DIF) for creation of a pocket park at the end of Canon Street.

A continuance was granted until the group’s next meeting Sept. 17, to allow time to study other alternative uses for the DIF funds.

The group also unanimously backed supporting a motion to hold the Murdock family, owners of the Dolphin Motel and Small Hotel, to honor an allegedly previously made pledge to the community to remove an existing billboard on their property at 1453-55 Rosecrans St.

The billboard, owned by Clear Channel Outdoor on a month-to-month lease with the Murdocks, is one of only two remaining in the community, which used to have as many as a dozen or more. Those billboards have since been removed because they were considered visual blight.

District 2 Council staffer Conrad Wear and city parks planner Robin Shifflet filled PCPB in on recent funding that has come through for both design and construction of the pocket park project. Wear noted DIF fees are charged to developers for their projects as community compensation for the impacts of new development.

“This money must be spent within five years,” said Wear adding park and recreation facilities are on the list of eligible community projects for DIF funding. Shifflet explained the way the park development process works, that is once those DIF funds are exhausted, the park project will go to the city’s Public Works Department which will hire a consultant and conduct three public workshops to receive community input on what amenities Point Lomans would like to see in a pocket park.

。“It is roughly a two- to three-year timeline for this,” Shifflet said.

Not everyone in the community however is sold on the idea of the necessity — or even the desirability — of creating a pocket park on Canon Street. One resident speaking from the audience, questioned whether the new park would be used by anyone other than locals living nearby.

Board member Nicole Burgess disagreed, noting she lives near a pocket park, adding it is heavily used by a cross-section of community members, especially dog walkers.

PCPB board members Don Sevrens and Jon Linsey, on their own behalf and not representing the planning board, have been lobbying for more than a year to secure support and funding for the proposed Canon pocket park. They most recently secured the endorsement of nonprofit United Portuguese SES to sponsor creation of a new pocket park.

A motion was made to approve all available DIF funding in the community’s account for the Canon pocket park project. But PCPB board member David Dick persuaded his colleagues to reconsider. Dick pointed out “there hasn’t been any needs analysis done, and, on top of that, we would be throwing all available funding at this one particular project.”

Dick asked for more time to consider other alternative projects on which the DIF money could be spent in the community before committing all of it to the Canon pocket park.

The PCPB board was overwhelming in favor of postponing a vote to approve the Canon pocket park until September. Regarding the existing, disputed billboard on Rosecrans, board member Sevrens defended the elder Murdock, Holly, pointing out he is not the “villain” in this but an ex-Marine who fought in Korea who is protecting his interests from the billboard’s owner, whom Sevrens is threatening to sue to prevent the billboard from being removed from its current location.

“They (Murdocks) agreed the billboard would be removed, and it should be removed,” said PCPB board member Jarvis Ross.

The group concurred, voting unanimously to draft a letter supporting the billboard’s removal.

PCPB will be dark in August and will meet next Thursday, Sept. 17 at 6:30 p.m. at the Point Loma Library’s community room at 3701 Vonلاحظات، شنت، أو ما إختر نونير

As envisioned, the Ocean Beach Veterans Plaza redevelopment conceptual design would recognize coastal veterans with a new plaza that is “artistic/beachy” in design. Plans call for an artificial rock wall mimicking Sunset Cliffs’ stratified geology with veterans’ names etched into a series of four granite slabs set into it.

with many of the inscriptions, including a Medal of Honor recipient, being so eroded that they have become illegible.

In an effort to honor veterans that have a connection with the Peninsula community, applications from 92107 and 92106 ZIP codes representing Point Loma and OB have been given top priority for name inscriptions until Jan. 1, 2016.

To preserve the new plaza, fundraising for construction of which is ongoing, there is a $250 maintenance donation that will be taken for each new-name inscription application, which will be applied solely to future upkeep, the OBDCD said.

As envisioned, the Ocean Beach Veterans Plaza redevelopment conceptual design would recognize coastal veterans with a new plaza that is “artistic/beachy” in design.

Plains call for an artificial rock wall mimicking Sunset Cliffs’ stratified geology with veterans’ names etched into a series of four granite slabs set into it.

Adjacent to the new memorial wall would be inlaid stars representing lives lost in battle. Other artistic flourishes are to include low-lying artistic-themed meandering walls.

Regarding updating the proposed veteran plaza, Perrotti said the original design “has changed a little bit, but not much.”

Original plaza plans called for a family gathering and overlook area.

They were taken out of the design because of concerns over that area going too far into the beach and affecting the sand berm that is put up every year,” said OBDCD board member Stephen Grosh.

“Instead, the west side of the plaza will reflect the semi-circle entrance on the east side of the plaza,” OBDCD’s president Perrotti said he has personal reasons for being involved with the new project to honor veterans.

“I have five brothers who were all in the military and it’s my way of thanking them,” Perrotti said.

The OBDCD president added he believes the new veterans plaza will be “a powerful message” and “a real tribute to the whole region.”

Perrotti said the project could be completed as soon as the end of 2016, if all goes well.

City Council votes to support zero waste

The San Diego City Council’s nine members voted unanimously July 13 to support a proposed zero waste plan with the goal of diverting 75 percent of the waste generated in the city away from landfill disposal by 2020.

The city’s goal is to reach zero waste by 2040.

To get there, government officials acknowledged that the city will need to reuse, recycle and reduce the amount of waste generated within its boundaries by emphasizing education and legislation aimed at waste reduction.

The city’s Environmental Services Department has been asked to come up with new ways to reduce the amount of waste that ends up in landfills. Alternatives could include additional organic recycling, revising city recycling ordinances and increasing recycling at city facilities, as well as instituting additional education and outreach.

During council deliberations, District 2 Councilwoman Lori Zapf, who represents the beachfront south of La Jolla, said the whole point of the zero waste proposal is to “try to divert as much as we can.”

Noting blue recycling bins typically are the ones that overflow, Zapf asked if residences could have more than one blue trash bin, and if there would be any extra-added cost associated with picking up an extra bin. She was told each residence is entitled to have up to three blue recycling bins, and that they are provided by the city free of charge, though there is a $2.50 delivery fee.

“We have a lot of work to do in our district,” among the first to lobby for the proposed zero waste plan a reality.

“I never thought this plan would get here when it was first brought to our attention a couple of years ago,” said Council President Sherri Lightner of District 1, which includes La Jolla.

“I think implementation of public-space recycling could be raised with the city leading by example in incorporating waste-reduction measures in its own facilities,” Lightner said.

The city currently diverts 67 percent of its waste from landfills. To meet its 2020 goal, the city will need to divert an additional 132,000 tons of waste annually.
San Salvador takes a ride, to launch over Labor Day weekend

The Maritime Museum of San Diego on Wednesday, July 22, transferred the full-sized, fully functional replica of Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo’s Spanish ship the San Salvador via barge from Spanish Landing to Maritime Group’s boatyard in Chula Vista.

Crews transferred the San Salvador onto a self-propelled trailer, donated for the project by Maritime Group Boat Works, then placed the ship onto a shallow draft barge Wednesday morning for transit to Maritime Group’s boatyard. The San Salvador will remain at the boatyard until her debut on Labor Day weekend at the Port of San Diego’s 2015 Festival of Sail, hosted by the Maritime Museum of San Diego.

“Recreating the San Salvador has been a labor of love for many milestones along the way, but launching the ship is a moment we’ve been waiting for since the beginning.”

Built for trade, the original San Salvador was a three-masted ship of 200 toneladas, meaning it could carry 200 barrels of wine. It was the capitana or flagship for the expedition of explorer Cabrillo in his attempt to discover the wind patterns of the North Pacific and establish a route to China. While the San Salvador did not make it to China, it was the first European ship to explore the Pacific coast of what is now the United States.

The present day San Salvador was built at Spanish Landing in San Diego between 2011 and 2015 by the Maritime Museum of San Diego and its legion of approximately 500 volunteers. The vast majority of funds spent during construction were contributed by donors. The Port of San Diego offered use of Spanish Landing Park, allowing thousands of spectators to witness the ship’s progress.

“The San Salvador is a mighty symbol of our region’s proud maritime heritage and carries with it the dreams and hopes of generations of San Diegans,” said San Diego County Supervisor Greg Cox. “My thanks to the many volunteers who worked so hard on this project.”

The ship matches the original in size, weighing 150 tons and measuring 92 feet long by 24 feet wide. The materials used to construct the San Salvador came from across the globe, including Angelique wood from Suriname, Sapelo wood from Nigeria, Southern Live Oak from the U.S. state of Georgia and Douglas Fir from the Pacific Northwest.

“You can see the dedication in every bit of the San Salvador, from the keel to the deck,” said San Diego Mayor Kevin Faulconer. “We are thankful to the Maritime Museum for their resolve in building such a fine ship and offering it to the region as an educational opportunity for not only our children, but every San Diegan and visitor interested in exploring our origin story.”

The ship will now carry out its mission as a floating classroom, and sail up the California coast, offering a unique opportunity to see history coming to life.

The Maritime Museum of San Diego on Wednesday, July 22, transferred the full-sized, fully functional replica of Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo’s Spanish ship the San Salvador via barge from Spanish Landing to Maritime Group’s boatyard in Chula Vista.

PHOTO BY JIM GRANT
Point Loma players prove prowess in Alex Spanos All-Star Classic football game

By SCOTT HOPKINS / The Beacon

Four college-bound members of last season's Point Loma High School CIF playoff football team played important roles in the 25th Annual Alex Spanos All-Star Classic football game played July 11 at Mesa College.

The summer battle is the longest-running prep all-star game in California, providing graduating seniors from North and South county schools one final opportunity to take the field in front of family and friends as they hit their prep careers farewell.

And, there are some important bragging rights at stake too.

Wearing white San Diego Chargers-style jerseys with the famed powder blue vertical stripes and lightning bolts on their pants, Gavin Grady, Cole Kidd, Dan O’Beirne and Jacob Virissimo helped the South team to a convincing 28-0 victory that once again affirmed that the county’s best football is not always played in North County.

The victory gives the South an 11-10 record in the annual all-star game where the North and South county teams battle for supremacy at the SuperGirl Jam Series title and also for rights at stake too.

The battle was won by the South as their second-string secondary was able to hold off the North’s potent offense. The South defense was led by the stingy South defense and the South moved for its final touchdown.

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Former Point Loma quarterback Gavin Grady lofts a four-yard touchdown pass during the Alex Spanos All-Star Classic. PHOTO BY SCOTT HOPKINS

Practice that brought players together from many schools with different playing styles.

Kidd, O’Beirne and Virissimo were key members of a smoothing defense that wreaked havoc on the North’s best players, often chasing quarterbacks out of the pocket and delivering stunning hits on running backs and receivers.

Kidd and Virissimo reprised their quarterback roles as defensive ends while O’Beirne saw action at linebacker and also played offensive line.

The South tallied 10 sacks against the North, seven coming in the first half.

“The game was fun,” said Virissimo as the four Pointers gathered afterwards. “Playing with and going up against people we don’t usually play with was really cool.”

Grady observed, “You think you’re going to bump heads with some of the guys you played against, but everyone came together and they’re your brothers all of a sudden.”

“The two weeks of practice we had showed how football brings people together,” said O’Beirne. “During prac- tices, we came together with people I didn’t even want to talk to.”

“It was a great experience to play with all these athletes I’ve read and talked about,” Kidd noted. “We got to bond, and the competition was great.”

Each former Pointer will have an opportunity to connect with others they haven’t met as they continue their foot- ball careers. Grady is headed to Chap- man University, Kidd to Grossmont Col- lege, O’Beirne to Wheaton College and Virissimo to Sonoma State University.

Two former professional players with Pointer ties were among those honored on the field in pre-game ceremonies.

Former defender Jimmy Wilson, class of 2004, played in the Spanos Classic before moving on to University of Monta- na. He just signed with the Chargers after four seasons with the Miami Dol- phins and served as the South’s hon- orary captain.

LaRo’Glover, class of 1992, also played as a defensive lineman in the all- star game before embarking on an honor-filled professional career.

Top ranked female pros to surf at SuperGirl Pro

More than 100 of the world’s top pro women surfers will be battling for surf supremacy at the SuperGirl Jam Series WSL Pro event in Oceanside from July 24 to 26.

Established in 2007, SuperGirl Pro, the world’s largest women’s surfing event of its kind, includes top ranked pros from the WSL Championship Tour.

The free event, sponsored by Paul Mitchell and SnikWash Performance Apparel, will feature a weekend filled with surfing, a festival village with fan apparel and gear, autograph signings and many activities.

Entertainment includes musicians, dancers, fitness classes, inspirational speakers and a food and beer garden.

Some of the world-class surfers regist- ered to compete include 2014 Super- Girl Pro winner Sage Erickson, Alana Blanchard, Lakey Peterson, Malia Manuel, Coco Ho, Courtney Conlogue, Laura Enever, Johanne Defay, Nikki Van Dijk and Tatiana Weston-Webb.
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IDW Publishing earns accolades, awards at this year’s Comic-Con

IDW Publishing, one of the nation’s largest comic book publishers, which opened new headquarters in Liberty Station recently, had 11 nominations—and won three awards—at this year’s San Diego Comic-Con International.

Winning the award for Best Limited Series was the captivating series “Little Nemo: Return To Slumberland” from Eric Shanower and Gabriel Rodriguez. This marks Rodriguez’s first Eisner Award.

For the fifth year in a row IDW’s landmark Artist’s Edition series was awarded the Best Archival Collection/Project—Comics-Related Book. Mullaney and Bruce Canwell, won BestTToon Art of Alex Toth” edited by Dean Mullaney and Bruce Canwell, won Best

The Eisner Awards judges also select-ed six individuals to be inducted into the Will Eisner Hall of Fame for 2015, one of which was John Byrne. 

Round out the “Genius” trilogy of in-depth looks into the life and work of John Byrne, and I look forward to him continuing his creativity with IDW. “

“The enthusiasm was palpable as the thousands of lightsabers in anticipa-tion. As dusk settled in, Abrams and Lucasfilm president Kathleen Kennedy greeted the crowd and introduced the “Star Wars” franchise’s past and future, bringing out the returning stars of the original trilogy: Harrison Ford, Carrie Fisher and Mark Hamill along with cast members of Disney’s upcoming “Star Wars: The Force Awakens.”

The generous concert was performed by the San Diego Symphony, led by the orchestra’s new assistant conductor Sameer Patel. While the familiar and thrilling music soared over San Diego Bay, the crowd roared and cheered with delight as video from past “Star Wars” films played on the big screen.

Harrison Ford has fun at the ‘Star Wars’ concert in downtown San Diego.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Surprise ‘Star Wars’ concert in downtown San Diego sends Comic-Con fans into orbit

While at the San Diego Convention Center, “Star Wars” director J.J. Abrams asked the crowd, “Who wants to see a live ‘Star Wars’ concert right now?”

The response was euphoric. More than 7,000 Comic-Con attendees left the convention center and descended upon Embarcadero Marina Park South to hear the San Diego Symphony perform a free concert of John Williams’ “Star Wars” music.

Prior to the concert, Academy Award-winner and “Star Wars” composer Williams appeared on video to welcome the crowd and say: “The music tonight will be performed by one of my favorite orchestras, the San Diego Symphony.”

The enthusiasm was palpable as the standing-room only crowd waved thousands of lightsabers in anticipa-tion.

The Peninsula Beacon is a proud sponsor of the San Diego Symphony. To hear your favorite orchestra in all its glory, call the Symphony’s Box Office at 619-234-4343 or visit www.sandiegosymphony.org.

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Point Loma Summer Concerts celebrates 15 years with LomaPalooza on July 25

It’s time for LomaPalooza, a community concert commemorating 15 years of summer concerts at Point Loma Park. After a call for applications, the concerts committee chose six home grown groups from Ocean Beach and Point Loma to play at the event on Saturday, July 25 from 3 to 8:30 p.m.

The day begins with Lusitanoos Band, who will perform traditional and contemporary Portuguese, American and Latin music. The band performs throughout San Diego and recently played at the 2015 UPSSES Festa do Spirito Santo.

Next up is The Openers, a Point Loma-based cover band performing classic rock, soul, blues, and R&B. Led by First Friday Club’s Glen Fisher on keyboard and vocals, the band includes Melissa Porter, Jon Koehler, Richard Irony, Carl Nuffer, and Prentice St. Clair. The band was formed in 2011 and has played at Humphreys Backstage Live, The Kona Kai, The Bayside Bar, and Point Break Café.

Ginger Cowgirl and the Silver Spurs, a four-piece country band with a love for early Nashville and honky-tonk music, will play an eclectic selection of vintage country tunes from the likes of Patsy Cline, Johnny Cash, Lorretta Lynn and Willie Nelson.

Ginger Cowgirl (aka Stacy Antonell) is an Ocean Beach native and Point Loma High graduate, and the Silver Spurs include two San Diego natives and an import all the way from Kansas City, Mo. They’ve been together for less than a year and play throughout San Diego and Coronado at festivals, bars and private events.

Lust For Life is a rock band based in Point Loma who started with the goal of helping to bridge the funding gap in our local school music programs. The band donates its time and proceeds to benefit organizations in need. The band has been together three years and members include Bryan Cook, Jon Koehler, Kelly Lambo, Kirk Norton, Jake Vizzioli, and Terry McIntyre. You can find Lust For Life playing at Winston’s and Humphreys Backstage Live.

The Grady Bunch is a local Point Loma/Ocean Beach band who has been performing in San Diego for more than 20 years. The band plays a combination of blues, rock, reggae and funk, and know how to keep an audience dancing. Members of the band include: Steve Grady, Gregg Ferreira, Gregg LaRocco, Josh LaRocco, Chuck Figgers and Troy Jennings.

Temple of the Dad will round out the day with good old hard rock. The group, founded by Pete Mechulas, Vince Escalera and a group of dads in 2007, raises funds through their music for San Diego school bands. Members include Lacy Younger, Rodger First, Pete Mechulas, Vince Escalera, Kevin Whelan, and Austin Bunni. You can find them at Galagher’s Irish Pub. Mothers Saloon, Humphreys Backstage Live, the Belly Up, House of Blues and Winston’s.

Expect a festival atmosphere with activities for kids, booths from local nonprofits, and food from the Peninsula Lions Club. Fans are encouraged to come for fun, great music, and meet new neighbors. For more information about the 2015 Point Loma Summer Concerts, go to www.plconcerts.org.
Liberty Public Market to reveal artisans in advance of October opening

By DAVE SCHWAB | THE BEACON

Liberty Public Market, the creation of a 22,000-square-foot artisan mecca in Liberty Station, will reveal its lineup of market artisans on-site Thursday, July 23.

Blue Bridge Hospitality, Liberty Public Market’s operating group, in partnership with Liberty Station developer The McMillen Cos., will also present the identity of the public market’s first big vendor.

The new market’s grand opening is anticipated in late October.

One of San Diego’s most ambitious hospitality projects of 2015, the 3 million undertaking will transform a historic 1920s-era warehouse-style building into an indoor-outdoor marketplace housing 10-plus specialty purveyors.

What was originally designated for a project called The Shops in the 22,000-square-foot wing of Liberty Station’s Building 1 will now become the site of Liberty Public Market. It will be a culinary bazaar spearheaded by Coronado restaurateur David Sapatofore of Blue Bridge Hospitality.

The venture was inspired by Sapatofore’s visits to Redding Terminal Market in Philadelphia and Granville Island Public Market in Vancouver, Canada.

Building 1 at 2816 Historic Decatur Road was originally built as the Naval Training Center’s commissary in 1921. Sapatofore’s vision for turning the vacant space into a public co-op of artisan food vendors won approval from the proper-

Coasterra offers waterfront dining on Harbor Island

Opening in August, Cohn Restaurant Group is gearing up for the anticipated launch of its most ambitious project to date: Coasterra, the $30 million bayfront modern Mexican restaurant, lounge, and event space on Harbor Island.

More than eight years in the making, the 28,000-square-foot venue promises a compelling combination of panoramic views of San Diego’s downtown skyline, carefully crafted Mexican dishes, and a tequila-focused bar program all housed in sleek, modern design. Cohn Restaurant Group partnered with Sunroad Enterprises on this one-of-a-kind project.

“We can’t wait to unveil Coasterra to the San Diego community—it’s been a project nearly a decade in the making and we’ve strived to create a truly exceptional venue unlike any in the city,” said David Cohn, founder of Cohn Restau-

rant Group. “San Diego has earned the reputation of ‘America’s Finest City’ for many reasons, and the breathtaking skyline and incredible views of our beautiful bay and downtown are at the top of the list. Pair that with a delicious dining experience and top-notch service at Coasterra, and I think we’ve built something incredibly special.”

Tapped to lead the culinary program alongside partner/chef Deborah Scott will be John Gray as the executive chef.

With more than two decades of culinary experience at some of the finest restaurants in Latin America, Gray brings a worldly perspective to San Diego’s dining scene.

At Coasterra, Gray and Scott are introducing a menu of regional Mexi-

can cuisine with a focus on unexpected flavor combinations with fresh, seasonal ingredients. Shareable starters include ordering from the tableside guacamole can cuisine with a focus on unexpected scene.

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COASTERRA
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crab, and shrimp, or the Tostada de Atun with soy, garlic and sesame oil glazed tuna, crispy tortilla, creamy coleslaw and cilantro sprouts.

Signature dishes include the Mar y Tierra, a savory blend of beef short rib, Oaxacan mole, lobster risotto, cake, and charred asparagus, as well as the Tiámel de Captain with crispy crinkins, goat cheese, pomegranate seeds, and topped with smoked pimiento cheese.

Coasterra is a destination for the beverage experience in itself with more than 70 labels of agave spirits including high-end tequila and artisanal mezcal, a robust wine emphasis on Latin America and Baja varietals, and over a dozen local and Mexican craft beer options on tap.

Coasterra’s impressive design comes from a contemporary local architect, the late Graham Downes (Graham Downes Architecture). The mid-century-influenced restaurant features seating for 100-plus people, more than half of which is outside, and comes together with a central inspiration: the views of the San Diego Harbor.

Offering a panoramic perspective of the water and skyline from every vantage point throughout the artfully designed building, the space also infuses modern furnishings, rustic statement pieces sourced from Mexico, and massive abstract murals on the interior and exterior of the restaurant by local Mexican artist Rafael Lopez.

Along with the restaurant, Coasterra is home to a unique event center ideal for weddings, business banquets and special occasions. The space will soon feature an outdoor floating event deck that accommodates 500 people standing as well as an airy banquet room, which seats more than 300.

Enjoy the Beauty of Old Town

Stagecoach Days: Celebrating the Wild West in San Diego

Stagecoach Days will be held in our park history stand Event Coordinator Gregg Giacopuzzi. “We have added many more family-friendly activities to the event this year so visitors will get a true taste of what Old Town was like in the1800s.” The Stagecoach Days schedule is as fol-

COASTERRA
through living history activities and demonstrations, stories and songs, visi-

itors will gain an appreciation for early modes of transportation and daily life. All activities are geared toward children and adults of all ages.

This year’s Stagecoach Days will be the best in our park history stand Event Coordinator Gregg Giacopuzzi. “We have added many more family-friendly activities to the event this year so visitors will get a true taste of what Old Town was like in the 1800s.” The Stagecoach Days schedule is as fol-

ows: July 25 “Days of the Vaqueros” - Vaqueros were the first cowboys in California. Highly skilled horsemen and cattle herders, they were an integral part of the early cattle trade in California. They will celebrate their natural horsemanship techniques and other aspects of California culture.

August 1 “Trade That Shaped Westward Expansion” - A trade developed in the West so the need for specialized traders and artisans. Old Town San Diego will present pivotal 19th-century trades that helped shape the community of San Diego.

August 8 “Soldiers and Citizens” - The military has been part of San Diego since its inception. Following the Mexican American War, the Mormon Battalion and the Boundary Commission all had an impact on life in San Diego.

August 15 “Tea at the Cape” - This wildly popular festival celebrates literacy and the literary works of Mark Twain and other 19th-century authors. Excerpts from famous works will be presented by cus-
tioned San Diego actors at a variety of park venues throughout the day.

Old Town San Diego State Historic Park, with the support of Boosters of Old Town and Fiesta de Reyes, is proud to offer these free activities for adults and chil-
dren of all ages. The park is located on San Diego Avenue and Trigg Street in San Diego, and is conveniently located next to the Old Town Transit Center, with Coa-
ter, Trolley, and MTS bus service. Free park-
ing is available at the CalTrans headquarters, just two blocks from the park at 4500 Taylor St.

For more information, go to www.parks.ca.gov/oldtownsandiego

MIDWAY
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munity groups to introduce them-

About six months ago, an online auction was held at www.proxibid.com/aaapublication for the contents of the former postal building. Proceeds provided online bidding for AAA Public Auction’s United States Postal Service District Hub Auction. The sale featured USPS collectibles and various types of machinery.

No matter how the abandoned Mid-

way Post Office ultimately is redevelop-

ed, local planners want it to jibe with their community plan now being updated.

Previously, Melanie Nickel, chair of the Midway Community Planning Group (MCPG), said the draft commu-
nity plan lists an office park as the “first choice” for redeveloping the former postal site. She added there’s also an existing need for office space in the area, and for companies working with SINWAR (Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command) in Point Loma.

Nickel has previously said MCPG, which makes recommendations to the city on land-use for the Midway Dis-

trict, a hodgepodge of commercial, industrial, office, limited residential and warehouse land uses, wouldn’t mind “some kind of mixed-use ... or a residential senior center,” on the abandoned postal site.

“We want to be sure that whatever goes there does not make local traffic any worse than it already is,” Nickel said.

Midway planners have also said they want to see the redevelopment of the old postal building and environs acknowledge its aviary roots, being located in the Dutch Flats Urban Vil-

lage. Dutch Flats was once the testing grounds of San Diego aviation pioneer Charles Lindbergh.

Nickel suggested the nod to the site’s historical nature could take the form of “open space or an historic plans on the property dedicated to Dutch Flats and Lindberg,” rather than the establish-

ment of “a museum or gift shop” onsite.

“We have no recommendation about whether the building remains or is torn down as part of a bigger pro-
ject,” Nickel said previously on behalf of MCPG, noting any new construc-

tion “would have to observe the 30-

foot height limit.”

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Sapataro divulged that the market’s merchant mix was to include Miso Time Creamery; an ice cream and frozen yogurt parlor that is part of Blue Bridge Hospitality’s portfolio.

The market lineup might also fold in a couple of food-related merchandis-

ers selling cookbooks and kitchen sup-

plies. Sapataro previously said he hoped to build a test kitchen within the mar-

ket that would provide additional cook-

ing space for vendors and serve as a demo platform for local farmers. He also foresees it as a rental option for chefs who want to conduct pop-up din-

ners and other culinary events.

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Enjoy the Beauty of Old Town

Stagecoach Days: Celebrating the Wild West in San Diego

Free Event Every Saturday in July and August in Old Town

Old Town San Diego State Historic Park is celebrating travel and transportation in the era of mid-century horsepower during “Stage-

coach Days” kicking off on July 11. Come join in the old-fashioned fun from the mid-1900s from noon to 4 p.m. on seven Saturdays in July and August.

Sponsored by Fiesta de Reyes and Boosters of Old Town, the free event features different themes each Saturday such as Days of the Vaqueros, Women of the West, Soldiers and Citizens, TrainsFirst and Taste of the Past.

Attendees will enjoy afternoon filled with activities that reflect life in early San Diego and celebrate the West on the more...
Point Loma High to hold 90th Anniversary Gala, will revive the school’s hall of fame

By SCOTT HOPKINS | THE BEACON

An upcoming 90th Anniversary Gala celebration of Point Loma High School’s history will coincide with the induction of newly elected members of a revived hall of fame that plans to add new alumni annually.

The Peninsula’s only public high school opened its doors on Sept. 22, 1925 to 386 students in grades 7-12 and a staff of 30 teachers under the leadership of Principal Pete Ross. It is San Diego’s third-oldest high school.

Today’s campus, overseen by Principal Hans Becker, serves a student body of 2,000 with about 125 teachers, staff members and numerous volunteers.

The school has presented diplomas to tens of thousands of graduates, and many of them have sent children, grandchildren and even great-grandchildren to the Chatsworth Boulevard campus — perhaps one reason why so many alumni hold the school in such esteem and proudly proclaim its motto: “Once a Pointer, Always a Pointer!”

Many of those alumni along with current and former staff members and their families will gather to renew revered friendships, share laughter and honor their alma mater in a festive evening of food, music and nostalgia on Oct. 24 at the San Diego Hilton Resort & Spa, 1775 East Mission Bay Drive.

Heading the event are co-chairs Maria Virissimo-Gibson and Dinisa Valadao. They are assisted by Volunteer chair Andrea Justus and Auction co-chairs Paula Cohen and Tony Curtis.

The event’s stated goal is “to raise $50,000 to support our school initiatives and continue to provide the best education possible for our students.”

Event tickets are $85 each until the end of September. They can be purchased at pointlomahigh-school90thgala.mydagsite.com.

Also on the website, patrons can purchase tables for 10, ranging from $1,000 to $1,500. These can include escalating benefits.

Event sponsorships are also available, ranging from $250 to $5,000 that include escalating benefits.

Alumni and community members may also purchase event tickets to sponsor PLHS teachers or make donations of any monetary amount at the website.

Hall of fame

One highlight of the evening will be the induction of the newest members of Point Loma High School Alumni Hall of Fame.

The hall of fame was begun about 15 years ago and remained dormant until now. Alumni director Kim Jessop Moore identified nine persons who have been inducted to date. They include: Civic leaders, athletes and philanthropists Malin Burnham and Peter Beckham, artists Suzy Spafford and Steven Correia, baseball’s Don Larsen, sailing’s Lowell North, actress Marion Ross, film editor Joe Hutshing and banker John Rebelo.

Information on the hall of fame, including all rules and material needed for nominations, is on the alumni website at www.plhsalumni.org.

Nominations must have graduated from PLHS at least 10 years ago and have achieved prominence in their chosen field locally, nationally or internationally.

Categories include Academics, Athletics, Arts/Entertainment, Professional/Military, Philanthropy/Humanitarian and Science/Medicine.

Nomination packets must include all required materials and are due July 31.

On Aug. 10, a list of candidates will be posted at www.plhsalumni.wix.com/Fame and sent to everyone on the Alumni News e-mail list.

By Aug. 24, people may submit a statement of support for nominated candidates. The 500-word maximum endorsement will be considered in the selection process.

In mid-Sept., newly elected inductees will be notified by certified mail and the list posted online.

Moore is also preparing a timeline of the school’s 90-year history for the gala. Any significant events alumni feel should be included can be sent to her at pointers@plhsalumni.org.

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The hall of fame was begun about 15 years ago and remained dormant until now. Alumni director Kim Jessop Moore identified nine persons who have been inducted to date. They include: Civic leaders, athletes and philanthropists Malin Burnham and Peter Beckham, artists Suzy Spafford and Steven Correia, baseball’s Don Larsen, sailing’s Lowell North, actress Marion Ross, film editor Joe Hutshing and banker John Rebelo.

Information on the hall of fame, including all rules and material needed for nominations, is on the alumni website at www.plhsalumni.org.

Nominations must have graduated from PLHS at least 10 years ago and have achieved prominence in their chosen field locally, nationally or internationally.

Categories include Academics, Athletics, Arts/Entertainment, Professional/Military, Philanthropy/Humanitarian and Science/Medicine.

Nomination packets must include all required materials and are due July 31.

On Aug. 10, a list of candidates will be posted at www.plhsalumni.wix.com/Fame and sent to everyone on the Alumni News e-mail list.

By Aug. 24, people may submit a statement of support for nominated candidates. The 500-word maximum endorsement will be considered in the selection process.

In mid-Sept., newly elected inductees will be notified by certified mail and the list posted online.

Moore is also preparing a timeline of the school’s 90-year history for the gala. Any significant events alumni feel should be included can be sent to her at pointers@plhsalumni.org.

Point Loma High to hold 90th Anniversary Gala, will revive the school’s hall of fame

By SCOTT HOPKINS | THE BEACON

An upcoming 90th Anniversary Gala celebration of Point Loma High School’s history will coincide with the induction of newly elected members of a revived hall of fame that plans to add new alumni annually.

The Peninsula’s only public high school opened its doors on Sept. 22, 1925 to 386 students in grades 7-12 and a staff of 30 teachers under the leadership of Principal Pete Ross. It is San Diego’s third-oldest high school.

Today’s campus, overseen by Principal Hans Becker, serves a student body of 2,000 with about 125 teachers, staff members and numerous volunteers.

The school has presented diplomas to tens of thousands of graduates, and many of them have sent children, grandchildren and even great-grandchildren to the Chatsworth Boulevard campus — perhaps one reason why so many alumni hold the school in such esteem and proudly proclaim its motto: “Once a Pointer, Always a Pointer!”

Many of those alumni along with current and former staff members and their families will gather to renew revered friendships, share laughter and honor their alma mater in a festive evening of food, music and nostalgia on Oct. 24 at the San Diego Hilton Resort & Spa, 1775 East Mission Bay Drive.

Heading the event are co-chairs Maria Virissimo-Gibson and Dinisa Valadao. They are assisted by Volunteer chair Andrea Justus and Auction co-chairs Paula Cohen and Tony Curtis.

The event’s stated goal is “to raise $50,000 to support our school initiatives and continue to provide the best education possible for our students.”

Event tickets are $85 each until the end of September. They can be purchased at pointlomahigh-school90thgala.mydagsite.com.

Also on the website, patrons can purchase tables for 10, ranging from $1,000 to $1,500. These can include escalating benefits.

Event sponsorships are also available, ranging from $250 to $5,000 that include escalating benefits.

Alumni and community members may also purchase event tickets to sponsor PLHS teachers or make donations of any monetary amount at the website.

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“I walked halfway down the OB pier the other day,” Barton revealed. “I often use the pier to mark progress.”

As he nears the unpleasant anniversary of the October 2012 shooting, Barton is anything but sullen.

Instead, his quick smile and upbeat personality radiate as he reels off some of his most recent accomplishments.

“One milestone I’ve achieved very recently is that I don’t need any ankle support, meaning I can wear any shoe. Barton said. “My type of brain injury decreases motion/sensation and stability on my left side. It’s called hemiplegia, and lately I noticed my left ankle became so strong I can wear low-top shoes, which is my style.”

With this new ability, Barton was able to happily discard a brace he wore on his leg for years.

That brace “really severely hurt my outfit,” Barton said with a smile. “Now I’m able to choose what I’ll wear.”

And, several other major changes have lifted Barton’s spirits.

“I am now away from my family in an apartment (Sherrington Heights) with a caregiver,” he said. “I definitely feel far, far more independent. I’m finally in my own environment with a work space and an area to hang out with my friends, and play my music loud. I can go have lunch with my mom or my family can come see me.”

Barton recently started working, with his caregiver mainly observing, from his new home to a nearby taco shop where he relaxed and enjoyed his favorite drink (Ja-mar) before walking back to his apartment.

And, he has found a girlfriend.

While at a surprise party for his cousin, Barton met Kayleb, and the two “hit it off really well.”

“She’s helping me regain my actual self, my actual Will Barton. She’s helping re-inverse myself into the world, and she’s also an artist. We go to the beach a lot and she walks on the pier with me.”

A current focus for doctors is Barton’s right arm, which for some time “I couldn’t lift against gravity,” he recalls.

He struggles with a proposed surgery specialists feel may free his right hand from its current state, locked in an awkward position.

“I’ve undergone vast therapy efforts with my right arm,” Barton said. “Initially, I only (medical personnel) were expecting it to have no mobility whatsoever or regular blood flow and become a degenerative limb that would eventually turn black and be a candidate for amputation.”

But his arm largely recovered and “I’m able to lift it over my head.”

While Barton has been told that damaged nerves stop healing after a three-year period, he has doubts about the proposed procedure doctors say would allow him to effectively grasp objects.

“I’ve been trying to steer clear of surgery,” Barton said, “because I don’t think it’s natural. Maybe by connecting some muscle to a tendon I could have some active grasp, but I don’t have any knowledge of the outcome, so it’s fearful for me. I would love to reach out to the medical community and check the history on nerve/tendon surgery so when I make my decision, it’s one I won’t regret.”

Barton, who continues to produce paintings while holding the brush in his mouth, is excited about a new relationship with a company in Germany that pays mouth painters and markets their work around the world.

“There are 800 American members,” he said, “and I just signed a three-year contract to become a dealer. They will evaluate all my work and progression as an artist. I’m trying to give my work a modern Southern California view, a lifestyle curated by everyone.”

While Barton’s achievements and recovery continue, costs mount daily for medical treatments, therapy and caregivers. The account originally opened in 2012 by supporters (Friends of Will Barton) at Chase Bank, 1790 Rosecrans St. in Point Loma, remains open and donations are greatly appreciated.
By HELENE GERASIMCHUK | The Beacon

There are so many amazing places in San Diego to explore. Sunset Cliffs is the perfect example of cliffs, caves, and incredible views right in my backyard.

One Friday afternoon, my friend and I headed down to the cliffs to see what we could find. We started out walking along the coastline until we reached a big crowd of people cliff jumping. Although technically prohibited, people choose to jump at their own risk. Across the way at a much smaller jump, a girl was building up the courage to take her first leap into the water. Her friends encouraged her by chanting her name, which the crowd quickly picked up on, until she committed to the jump. Others were more experienced and showed off flips and twists.

The next spot we checked out was the small beach area that had beachgoers down by the water. This isn’t a common beach spot, as there are no stairs to get down to the sand in a convenient fashion. We kept walking down the trail to a rocky area that led down to the water. The large rocks and low tide provided for a fairly simple climb.

When we reached the bottom, we walked a bit along the coast and explored some large caves and cliffs carved out by the ocean. The sun shining down and warm water temperatures encouraged me to swim out to a large rock that was a short distance away. Once I climbed up to the top, I was rewarded with a grand view of the ocean. There are so many small rocks and caves to explore once you get down to the water.

The following weekend, I took my mom to the cliffs for a more conservative version of the trail walk. We passed a wedding, an engagement photo shoot, and plenty of groups enjoying the sunset views. No matter the time of day, Sunset Cliffs will be sure to satisfy your adventure needs.

Helene Gerasimchuk is a freelance writer and group fitness instructor. Contact her at healthcoachhelene@gmail.com.

More directly, “I was listening to Metallica and the song “The Shortest Straw” came on and I was immediately hooked on how the guitar sounded.” He also cites Jimmy Page, Jimi Hendrix, and Ritchie Blackmore as major influences, “I’m a rock player, but I totally dig funk, as well as R&B. Janis is another passion of mine and also play a lot of acoustic in the Spanish vein, particularly at solo dates.”

Interestingly, unlike many players, and despite decades as a performer, Ruggirello doesn’t have a favorite instrument, though he is endorsed by iconic guitar Tremolo manufacturer, Floyd Rose. “I’m still a big kid, so I like new guitars and new amps,” he said.

Ruggirello teaches students from beginners to advanced players, but for him one part of the lesson plan is key: “I want my students to always know their intervals,” he said. “I constantly remind my students how important it is to think in intervals and associate numbers with sound. Improvising is key,” he said. “Musicians are the masters of improvising, not comedians.”

Ruggirello released a solo album this past December. Vol. 1, but much of his stage time is spent with the rock band Fusebox, who he has performed with for 24 years. While the band has stellar original material, they have also earned a rep for their quirky covers selections. “We play ‘80s songs by artists like Joe Jackson, Yaz, Van Halen, Frank Zappa, etc. Our crowd loves our covers because we play tunes that surprise you.”

For his part Ruggirello is happy to be able to help the next generation of musicians on their way, while at the same time striving to make an impact on the greater music community. The music business is tougher than ever, but he’s determined to make it his life. “I don’t care how tough it gets,” he said. “I will always be out there playing, because I love practicing music and getting better on my instrument.”
By KEITH ANTIGIOVANNI

“There is bad news for generations of Pacific Beach residents and longtime customers as Great News (1788 Garnet Ave.) will be closing its doors for good at the end of July – 38 years after it opened for business at Pacific Plaza. The cooking school officially closed on June 30.

“There were rumors that I lost my lease here but none of that is true. My landlords at Pacific Plaza have been great all of these years. I’ve decided to retire. It’s time,” Great News owner Ron Eisenberg said. Eisenberg also confirmed that he will not be moving the store to a new location nor does he know what business will be replacing Great News at its current location.

Great News officially opened on July 15, 1977. At that time Pete Wilson was serving his second term as San Diego’s mayor, the city’s population was still less than one million and Elvis Presley was still alive. This writer recalls buying an “Official 1982 National Football League Record and Fact Book” that year at Great News with former Jets QB Richard Todd featured on the cover.

Great News originally sold housewares, gifts and greeting cards. “Over the years we began to sell cookware instead of gifts or greeting cards until we opened the cooking school in 1996,” Eisenberg said. Then after five years of selling cookware, Great News expanded its business again and opened the cooking school. While it was a cooking school, Great News earned the San Diego A-List award for “Best Housewares” eight straight years starting in 2007 through last year in 2014. “When we opened in 1977 I was just a kid,” Eisenberg said. “38 years in Pacific Beach have been good for everyone.” From now until the last day the store will be open (July 31) all items will be on sale.

San Diego Home Values Edge Up Nearly 1 %

Home prices in San Diego County edged up 0.6 percent in April, part of a broader increase in housing costs around the country, according to the Standard & Poor's Case-Schiller Home Price Indices released Tuesday. The indices were created by taking the price of housing in 20 large markets across the U.S. in January 2000, assigning them a value of 100, and tracking their subsequent rise and fall.

San Diego's index stood at 209.88 in April, representing more than a doubling in value over 16 years. The increase is the third-fastest in the country, behind Los Angeles and San Francisco, and barely edging out the 209.82 mark in Washington, D.C.

The national 20-city index rose 1.1 percent in April to 177.01. For the year, the increase was 4.9 percent. San Diego area home prices are up 4.5 percent since April 2014. "Home prices continue to rise across the country, but the pace is not accelerating," said David Blitzer, managing director and chairman of the Index Committee at S&P Dow Jones Indices. “Moreover, consumer expectations are consistent with the current pace of price increases,” Blitzer said. “A recent national survey published by the New York Fed showed the average expected price increase among both owners and renters is 4.1 percent.” He said recent reports indicate that sales of new and existing homes are increasing, and construction starts were higher in May.

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Thursday, July 23
- City Lights at Humphreys Backstage Music Club, 2241 Shelter Dr. 7:30 p.m.

Friday, July 24
- Tap Takeover with Cismontane Brewing at the OB Warehouse, 4839 Newport Avenue, 5 p.m. to midnight.

Saturday, July 25
- Sunset 5K at Cabrillo National Monument, 1800 Cabrillo Memorial Dr. 6 to 9 p.m. Following race, enjoy live music by DJ Mike, a costume contest, and prize wheel.
- Lomapalooza at Point Loma Community Park, 1061-1080 Catalina Blvd. 2 to 8:10 p.m. Live music from local musicians, booths/activities, and food from Peninsula Lions Club.

Sunday, July 26
- Pearl Harbor survivor book signing aboard the USS Midway. Jack Holder, a WWII survivor will be signing his book, retelling his adventures. *Book signing also on the 25th.
- Film Forum at the Point Loma Library, 1701 Voltaire St. 6 – 8 p.m. “Women in Gold”. Free parking and free popcorn.

Monday, July 27
- Hip-Hop Monday at Gallagher’s Pub & Grill, 5064 Newport Ave. 8 p.m.
- Basic Drawing Class at the Bravo School of Art in Liberty Station, 2690 Historic Decatur Rd; Barracks 19, Studio 206. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Wednesday, July 29
- Ocean Beach Farmers Market, 4900 block of Newport. 4 to 8 p.m.

Opinion

City should install cigarette butt bins along Sunset Cliffs

This letter was sent to Councilmember Zapf’s office, and before that Councilmember Falconer’s office, trying to get some help. It was also eventually sent to the Peninsula Beacon.

Dear Councilmember Zapf and Mr. McGuirk:

I appreciated Mr. McGuirk’s response to my email of last week, and am still awaiting a response as to my concerns about how to combat the huge litter problem on Sunset Cliffs as we await the invasion of the summer hordes.

The attached photo of cigarette butts is yesterday’s take from 15 minutes of cleaning up a 50 foot stretch along the cliffs.

I don’t need to tell you that the inevitable destination of these non-biodegradable filters is the ocean.

Again, I reiterate my plea that the city install cigarette butt receptacles along the cliffs. When I raised the issue with then-Councilman Faulconer, the response I got was that smoking is illegal on the cliffs and that therefore we could have no receptacles.

Until the city is able to enforce the law with expensive humans stationed along the cliffs, I suggest we put receptacles up telling folks that the area is a No Smoking area and that they should put their butts out.

On a related note, one of the large cement garbage bins has been removed from its place on the cliffs. I don’t know why, but we need it.

And while we are at it with my wish list: how about a recycle bin or two on the cliffs?

Finally: glass is banned at the beach, but the real damage to the sea life and the ocean are plastic and cans. If and when we get our park rangers, then perhaps we could ask them to enforce a ban on those items as well. As you know, I’m an expert on trash.

Thank you, and I look forward to doing what I can to help resolve this huge problem.

Ruth Hargrove
Ocean Beach

PB ALEHOUSE OPEN

Pacific Beach AleHouse, closed since mid-February when a kitchen grease fire caused an estimated $1 million in damage, had a soft re-opening July 10.