La Jolla’s Matriarch

By MARIKO LAMB | Village News

Ellen Browning Scripps — the benefactress whose philanthropic spirit is immortalized through charitable trusts she left to La Jolla — will be honored for her 175th birthday on Oct. 18. A fixture in La Jolla from the time she moved there in 1897 until her death in 1932, Scripps founded key institutions and left a lifetime’s worth of philanthropic trusts to La Jolla’s schools, sciences, art, libraries, hospitals, research institutions, and churches of various denominations. She even patronized modern, progressive architecture in La Jolla by advancing the works of renowned architect Irving Gill and his designs at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, The Bishop’s School and the La Jolla Woman’s Club.

“She is remembered for her extraordinary generosity, her wisdom and humanity,” said Molly McClain, history professor at University of San Diego and author of a forthcoming biography of Ellen Browning Scripps. “She also should be characterized as a strong-minded, even ambitious, professional woman who ignored the

San Diego Community Newspaper Group

LA JOLLA'S PREFERRED SOURCE FOR LOCAL NEWS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2011

VILLAGE NEWS

Celebrates 175

Ellen Browning Scripps donated so much of her time and money to various institutions around San Diego, it is impossible to list them all. Here is a partial list of some of what she helped create in La Jolla:

- (1903) Scripps Institution of Oceanography
- (1909) The Bishop’s School
- (1910) North Grove and estuary of Torrey Pines State Reserve
- (1914) Birch Aquarium at Scripps
- (1915) Children’s Playground and La Jolla Recreation Center
- (1915) Birth Aquarium at Scripps
- (1918) La Jolla Sanitarium
- (1921) La Jolla Library
- (1921) La Jolla Art Association Gallery
- (1923) Torrey Pines Lodge
- (1924) Scripps Memorial Hospital and Scripps Clinic
- (1931) Children’s Pool

— Courtesy of Molly McClain

Giant sinkhole emerges, closes street

By MARIKO LAMB | Village News

An eight-foot-deep sinkhole — originally 15 to 20 feet wide — more than doubled in size since it first opened around 7:30 a.m. on Oct. 6, closing traffic in two lanes on Campus Point Drive near Campus Point Court until further notice.

A broken storm water pipe trenched the street, eroding the soil and causing the road to collapse, said San Diego Storm Water Department spokesman Bill Harris. No one was injured, however traffic was diverted around the giant chasm through a private parking lot, and the water main line serving 30 nearby businesses was shut off following the incident.

“We have since televised the line,” Harris said, estimating the potential break to be some 300 plus feet. “It’s pretty extensive.”

Harris said the pipe was fragile already, and the rain on Oct. 5 might have been the last straw for the decaying pipe, which was installed in 1979.

“This type of corrugated pipe was banned in 1992,” he said. “We’d known that this site was a

Tastes of the Season

City Council OKs deal for Toyota beach vehicles for lifeguards, ad campaign

By NEAL PUTNAM | Village News

The City Council voted 7-0 on Oct. 10 to approve a marketing partnership with Toyota that could save up to $1 million for the city to use Toyota vehicles free for two years on city beaches as the “official vehicle of San Diego lifeguards.”

San Diego Lifeguard Services Chief Rick Wurts, along with Mary Lewis, the city’s chief financial officer, made the proposal to the City Council. Lewis estimated the savings between $555,000 and $1.1 million, and calls for the free use of the Toyota vehicles without the obligation of purchase or lease during the two-year agreement.

Toyota will loan 34 vehicles, some of which will be used in television commercials to be filmed at unspecified city beaches.

“31 of the 34 (city lifeguard) vehicles are past due for replacement,” Lewis told councilmembers on Monday.

The city will have an option to purchase the vehicles after the two-year deal expires. Because the vehicles will be used at the beach where ocean conditions can pummel them, Toyota will undercoat the bottom of the vehicles to prevent rust. The city will be responsible for repairs and gasoline during the contract.

“One really want to compliment Toyota,” said Wurts. “One of the important things we need to do is reliable vehicles to get to the rescues.”

Other rescue officials echoed the sentiment.

“We’re grateful for this deal. We’re really in favor of this,” lifeguard Larry Sanders told councilmembers. “We understand that savings will be put toward our budget, which will help our training.”

District 8 City Councilman David Alvarez made the motion to authorize Mayor Jerry Sanders to sign the agreement, a move seconded by District 1 City Councilwoman Sherri Lightner.

In approving the deal, the council also authorized a commission of more than $49,100 to the marketing consultant who brought the Toyota deal to the city. Alvarez and District 5 City Councilman Carl DeMaio were critical of paying the commission, but Lewis said it had been authorized by the City Council beforehand.

No specific beach area was mentioned as to where the commercials will be made or when. The Japanese automaker will reportedly reimburse the city for the cost of staff time for recording commercials.

Toyota will be mentioned on the city’s website and direct marketing to municipal employees will be extended, according to the plan. Toyota will also sponsor city-organized “Water Safety Days” events in San Diego.

The proposal was first heard Sept. 21 by the council’s Budget & Finance Committee and forwarded on to the City Council for formal approval.

City Council OKs deal for Toyota beach vehicles for lifeguards, ad campaign

La Jolla’s favorite restaurants roll out their fall flavors, Page 9

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Michael Petrascheck, assistant professor at Scripps Research Institute, won the prestigious National Institutes of Health (NIH) Director’s New Innovator Award. Announced by NIH director Francis S. Collins at the seventh annual NIH Director’s Pioneer Award Symposium on Sept. 20, the award provides each recipient with $1.5 million in research funding over five years.

Petrascheck, a member of the department of chemical physiology the department of molecular and experimental medicine and the Doris Neuroscience Center at Scripps Research, will use the award to conduct research on aging and lifespan in C. elegans, a flatworm widely used in aging research. The project will test strategies that might be used in human therapies.

“The Innovator Award will allow me to focus more of my attention on science,” said Petrascheck. “We now have the means necessary to develop the tools that will allow us to determine how sensory perception influences aging and how sensory perception could be targeted by small molecules to treat age-related diseases.”

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The NIH Director’s Award programs reinvigorate the biomedical workforce by providing unique opportunities to conduct research that is neither incremental nor conventional,” said James M. Anderson, director of the Division of Program Coordination, Planning and Strategic Initiatives, who guides the NIH common fund’s high-risk research program. “The awards are intended to catalyze giant leaps forward for any area of biomedical research, allowing investigators to go in entirely new directions.”

More information on the New Innovator Award is at http://commonfund.nih.gov/newinnovator, including information on this year’s winners.

La Jolla resident Chris Cott, the creator of the “Welcome to Mission Beach” signs, has given his neighborly creations a facelift.

Cott, a former Mission Beach resident, restored one sign on the north side of West Mission Bay Drive near the Bahia Hotel and a second sign at the intersection of Pacific Beach Drive and Mission Boulevard near the Catamaran hotel at the Pacific Beach/Mission Beach border.

“Restoring the sign is my way of saying thanks for all the good times I had in Mission Beach,” Cott said. Over the last few years, the signs have battered by the weather conditions in the beach area. A faulty sprinkler at the West Mission Bay location also sprayed an abundance of water on the sign at night.

“I was able to put a new form of ‘clear’ on the signs with UV protection,” he said.

Cott said the new clear will help protect for longer periods of time against the sun, air and water. He originally designed and built the signs in 2006 after he was given approval by the Mission Beach Town Council (MBTC) to post the signs. He also spent 24 years as a Mission Beach resident and owned the Chris Custom Airbrush business on the boardwalk during that time. He now lives in La Jolla, but fondly remembers his time in Mission Beach. His previous restoration work includes the Weyland mural at The Plunge swimming pool and the Wavehouse Gym’s exterior sign.

Cott said he tried to get help from the MBTC to get funding to restore the signs but decided to take action on his own. Cott said he also hopes the restoration of the sign will inspire others to make the beach area a better place. “I’m proud of the work that I did and enjoyed every minute of it. Hopefully I’ll see others making improvements in Mission Beach,” Cott said.
LunaFest Film Festival screens women's issues at MCA SD
The 11th annual LunaFest fundraising film festival tour is set to hit La Jolla on Oct. 14 to showcase short films by, for and about women at the Museum of Contemporary Art in La Jolla.

The unique film festival raises awareness about women's issues and highlights the talents of women filmmakers to benefit the Breast Cancer Fund, an organization advocating the elimination of environmental and preventable causes of breast cancer, and the Junior League of San Diego, an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing women’s potential and improving the community.

The festival will begin at 6 p.m. with a wine reception and silent auction followed by the showing of nine short films at 8 p.m.

The short films range in genre from animation to fictional drama, but all shed light on important topics for women including women’s health, motherhood, body issues, aging, cultural diversity and breaking barriers.

LunaFest has traveled to more than 150 cities and raised more than $456,000 for the Breast Cancer Fund and more than $785,000 for other women’s nonprofit organizations.

General admission tickets are $40, which includes a Luna gift pack, preshow wine reception and film showing. VIP tickets are $65 and include valet parking, a VIP swag bag, preshow wine reception and preferred theater seating. Students with ID are $20 and a “girlfriends 4-pack” of general admission tickets is $140.

The Museum of Contemporary Art La Jolla is located at 700 Prospect St. For more information, visit www.lunafest.org or call (760) 274-2724.

Blech Aquarium, La Jolla Historical Society and the Museum of Contemporary Art, among many more.

The offer is limited to two children per paid adult admission and does not apply for special events or field trips. To participate, download the coupon available on the San Diego Museum Council’s website, www.sandiegomuseumcouncil.org, and present it at the museum.

Former Hennessey’s CFO arrested for alleged embezzlement
Redondo Beach police detectives arrested former Hennessey’s CFO James Cram, 54, from his Rancho Palos Verdes home on Oct. 6 on 19 felony counts, including suspected grand theft, money laundering and tax evasion from Hennessey’s Tavern Inc., a pub-style restaurant with 10 locations in Southern California including La Jolla, Pacific Beach and San Diego’s Gaslamp Quarter.

Cram worked for Hennessey’s Tavern Inc. as the company’s CFO from 2006 to 2010.

After Cram left the position, an audit on the company revealed discrepancies in the books, leading owner Paul Hennessey to alert authorities.

Redondo police Sgt. Shawn Freeman said the yearlong investigation led police to believe Cram was signing checks in Paul Hennessey’s name during the course of his employment. He is suspected of embezzling nearly $1.15 million from the company and its owners during that time.

He is currently being held at the Redondo Beach Police Department on $500,000 bail.
**Local mother, blogger pens cookbook made for the whole family**

Blogger and writer **Fredrica Syren** will be signing her newly published cookbook, *Yummy in My Tummy. Healthy Cooking for the Whole Family* at the La Jolla Woman’s Club on Oct. 16 from 2 to 5 p.m.

The author was inspired to hold the event at the Woman’s club to celebrate her husband’s late grandmother, Dolores Riddle, who was a lifetime member of the club and herself an avid chef.

“Yummy in My Tummy. Healthy Cooking for the Whole Family” is a vegetarian cookbook for families and is creatively designed as a perfect tool to begin the journey toward a healthier lifestyle. Alongside the recipes are helpful hints and how-to-serve tips.

“Yummy in My Tummy is ideal for a ‘rookie’ chef,” Syren said.

The book is filled with 34 easy-to-make recipes and complimented by photos shot by local artist Julia Larsen Saperstein (www.JLSfoto.com).

Syren is the author of the family cooking blog, sunnyyogakitchen.blogspot.com.

Her interest in cooking began while growing up in Karlstad, Sweden with her mother who was a classically trained chef. From an early age, Syren was exposed to a wide array of international culinary styles. She has been teaching yoga for more than a decade and has become interested in the links between nutrition and health, as well as the correlation between healthy eating and physical performance.

—Staff and contribution

**Photographer Don Balch** was paddle boarding during the red tide recently and spotted something submerged in the rocks of La Jolla Cove.

“Diving down, I was surprised to pull up a sturdy lounge chair that was covered with encrusted sea plants on its underside,” he said. “It had probably been underwater for at least seven months, maybe getting washed away from La Jolla Shores during a storm last winter. I usually pick up a bit of trash and debris at the beach when I’m there, to help keep it clean, but this takes it to a new level!”

**Photographer Paul Gallagher** caught some dolphins having fun with surfers at Black’s Beach. The playful cetaceans performed tricks for onlookers, clearly enjoying the attention.

Photographer Sharon Hinckley shared a magical moment with a cooperative and photogenic monarch butterfly on Eads Street a few weeks ago.

“I felt the whole experience was a true blessing!” she said. “It seemed to last 20 minutes. It probably wasn’t that long, but it did last for a while.”

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**A mermaid’s lounge chair?**

**A king among butterflies**

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**A mermaid’s lounge chair?**
rules and conventions of Victorian society and embraced modernity and reform. As the only college-educated sibling of 10 — highly unusual for women at the time — she had to overcome the fact she was an anomaly of sorts, not adhering to the traditional standards and duties of upper-class society and always pushing the envelope for women’s rights. She believed in the equality of the human race, the equality of the sexes and the potential for human creativity,” McClain said. “She particularly liked to see women apply their intelligence and education to real world problems, writing ‘it is so good to find women doing things instead of spending their time in cooking dainties and embroidery underneath.’”

Scripps, who never married or had children, amassed much of her fortune through her own hard-earned work and efforts. The evening celebration — “a trust for the benefit of humanitarians,” she said. “Ellen Scripps was not going to help her brothers create dynasties — an ambition she saw in the aristocracy,” she said. “Ellen Scripps was going to create a legacy she left in the community. The evening celebration — the legacy she left in the community. She was always looking for a way to help her community and mitigate negative declaration in error. “This residence is a bully to the rest of the people on Paseo del Ocaso,” Herr- man said. Trustee Phil Merton said he did some investigation on the development project and he agrees it is at odds with La Jolla Shores Foundation. “It seems like some of the neighbors and even the committees may have been given misleading information, and I don’t know how we can just ignore that,” he said. Whittemore suggested forming a committee or putting the item on a future agenda to determine how the permits were approved.

Neighbors eschew commercial creep on residential street

The LJCPA urged the PDC Committee to review the Riford Center’s site design plans for permission to the LJCPA investigate how the Riford Center board is persistent in its pursuit of an unnecessary additional side entrance to the front entrance on La Jolla Boulevard, the board altered its plans to accommodate the Riford Center’s revisions.

The LJCPA urged the PDC to refer the item back to the PDC Committee for a review of the Riford Center’s revised plans.

“We strongly support the Riford senior center in its mission to serve seniors, and we welcome the new decision to comply to the ADA and construct the ramp at the front of the building,” resident Tricia Kaye said. “But we are equally appalled that the Riford Center board is persistent in its pursuit of an unnecessary additional side entrance to the front entrance on La Jolla Boulevard, the board altered its plans to accommodate the Riford Center’s revisions.

“We strongly support the Riford senior center in its mission to serve seniors, and we welcome the new decision to comply to the ADA and construct the ramp at the front of the building,” resident Tricia Kaye said. “But we are equally appalled that the Riford Center board is persistent in its pursuit of an unnecessary additional side entrance to the front entrance on La Jolla Boulevard, the board altered its plans to accommodate the Riford Center’s revisions.

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Breast cancer is the second most common cause of cancer death among women in the U.S. It’s not surprising that a diagnosis of this disease is a fear many women share. However, being informed about the risk factors, detection and treatment of breast cancer can help empower women to move beyond fear and into action.

The two main risk factors for breast cancer are being a woman and getting older. Family history, personal history of certain cancers, no pregnancies or first pregnancy later in life, starting periods before age 12 or menopause at age 55 or after, obesity, alcohol intake and use of some types of hormone therapy can also increase a woman’s risk.

While some risk factors, including age and family history, are beyond your control, others such as weight and the amount of alcohol you drink can be improved. You can learn more about your risk of breast and other cancers at www.understandingrisk.cancer.gov.

Women with breast cancer have up to a 98 percent survival rate when it is caught at an early stage. Earlier detection and advances in treatment have led to the gradual decrease in breast cancer deaths. Mammography screening remains the best available method to detect breast cancer early. Regular mammograms are crucial to identifying tumors when they are most treatable, but unfortunately, many women skip being screened. ACOG recommends that all women ages 40 and older should have a mammogram annually. If you have certain risk factors, such as being a carrier of the BRCA1 or BRCA2 gene, your doctor may suggest mammography screening at a younger age. High-risk women should discuss their prevention options with their doctors. For information on where you can find free or low-cost mammography screenings, go to cdc.gov/cancer/nbccedp.

Women ages 40 and older should also have their breasts examined by their doctor annually. Women ages 20–39 should have this done every one to three years. Additionally, all women ages 20 and older should become familiar with the normal appearance and feel of their breasts and tell their doctor if they notice any changes.

There are currently a number of effective treatment options available for breast cancer. Ultimately, a woman and her doctor will choose the treatment that is right for her, based on the location and extent of the cancer, her age and preferences, and the risks and benefits of each treatment.

As a national sponsor of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October, ACOG encourages women to focus on breast health now. For more information and resources on breast cancer, treatment options, and where you can find support, go to nbccedp.org.
Satisfy cultural cravings with an evening stroll through the village

The eighth annual La Jolla Gallery, Wine Walk and Taste will appeal to a variety of senses by showcasing some of La Jolla’s best assets — art, food and wine — in a self-guided evening stroll through the village on Oct. 20 from 5 to 9 p.m.

Guests at the event will have the opportunity to stroll under the stars and indulge in all that La Jolla has to offer, sampling cuisine ranging from fresh seafood fare and delectable desserts to authentic Mexican fare and Spanish-style tapas at more than 25 participating restaurants.

In addition to feasting on mouth-watering grub to appeal to guests’ taste buds, participants can stroll into 13 galleries throughout the village and feast their eyes on masterpieces ranging from traditional oils and acrylics to contemporary bronze-cast sculptures and every style in between.

Each gallery location will also host samples of premium wine varietals from around the world to round out guests’ sensory satisfaction.

All proceeds from the La Jolla Gallery, Wine Walk and Taste will benefit the La Jolla Village Merchant Association. Tickets are $40 in advance and $45 at the door. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.lajollabythesea.org or call (619) 233-5008.

— Mariko Lamb

Breast Cancer Awareness Month brings culinary treats to La Jolla

Fleming’s “Stiletto” cocktail is made with Hendrick’s gin, Monin sugar-free syrup and lime juice. All proceeds from sales of the drink go to the Avon Breast Cancer Crusade. Right, sales from Cline Cellars’ Cashmere wine will help fund Living Beyond Breast Cancer.

Fleming’s Prime Steakhouse and Wine Bar is supporting Breast Cancer Awareness Month with two drink selections whose sales benefit breast cancer-related charities.

One hundred percent of sales of the Stiletto, a new 99-calorie blackberry cocktail, will benefit the Avon Breast Cancer Crusade, while Cline Cellars will donate $25,000 to Living Beyond Breast Cancer in conjunction with the sale of Cline Cashmere wine.

The Stiletto includes Hendrick’s gin, Monin sugar-free syrup and lime juice. The cocktail will be available through the end of October.

Cline Cashmere is a blend of Grenache, Syrah and Mourvèdre, named for its velvety structure and mouth-feel. A flavorful, smooth wine, it offers big cherry, raspberry and chocolate notes with hints of cracked black pepper and plum. Beginning Oct. 5 and continuing for a limited time, Fleming’s guests who order Cline Cashmere by the glass will receive a pink-ribbon wine glass charm as a thank you for their support.

Both The Stiletto and Cline Cashmere are featured on the Fleming’s “5 for $6 ‘til 7” bar menu, which includes a selection of five full-portion appetizers, five premium cocktails and five distinctive wines by the glass for $6 apiece from 5 to 7 p.m. in the bar. The latest “5 for 6 ‘til 7” menu also features items like a tropical martini, Mark West pinot noir, wicked Cajun barbeque shrimp, sweet chili calamari, tenderloin capaccio and the Fleming’s prime burger. Fleming’s is located at 8970 University Center Lane.

Already-rosy La Valencia Hotel is encouraging guests to Think Pink and support Breast Cancer Awareness during October, so the hotel will host a number of Pink initiatives to contribute to the fight against breast cancer, including limited-time lunch and dinner menus, a specialty cocktail and a healthy cooking class. Five percent of all proceeds will be donated to UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center’s Healing Foods Kitchen.

The “Think Pink” lunch menu includes appetizer choices of corn and fennel soup, ahi crudo or heirloom tomato and burrata. Main courses include chicken panini, pappardelle pasta or market fish. The dinner menu choices include starters of bruschetta, mixed field greens or pickled baby beets and entire choices of couscous, roasted Jidori chicken or wild Alaskan salmon with a dark chocolate lava cake for dessert. The strawberry basil lemonade, made with or without alcohol, pairs perfectly with the menu.

Lunch is $20 and dinner is $30 per person. For more information, call (858) 454-0771 or visit www.lavalencia.com.

— Kendra Hartmann

Fleming’s “Stiletto” cocktail is made with Hendrick’s gin, Monin sugar-free syrup and lime juice. All proceeds from sales of the drink go to the Avon Breast Cancer Crusade. Right, sales from Cline Cellars’ Cashmere wine will help fund Living Beyond Breast Cancer.

You may not be in it for the money (but Lord knows you’re going to need it.)

Just because you’ve chosen the path of God instead of the money trail doesn’t mean you should forsake your financial future. That’s where we come in.

We’re MMBB. For over 100 years we’ve been offering investment, retirement and insurance benefits just for those who serve the church, both ordained and lay.

To learn more about us and our financial products, visit www.mmbb.org or call 1-800-986-6222.

Real planning, real solutions. That’s our calling.

Fleming’s Prime Steakhouse and Wine Bar is supporting Breast Cancer Awareness Month with two drink selections whose sales benefit breast cancer-related charities.
SPENDING YOUR MONEY CAN BE SCARY

LET US TAKE THE fright OUT OF IT.

Visit us at bbb.org  858.495.2131
San Diego may not experience a dramatic change of seasons, colorful foliage, falling leaves, crisp air requiring the drugging out of heavy wool sweaters and jackets — but we do undergo our own kind of seasonal transitions.

One of the ways in which we ring in the cooler months is with our food, and many of La Jolla’s restaurants are taking the opportunity to introduce their autumn fare. Here are a few of the menus bringing cool-weather comfort food to La Jolla:

- **Stephen Window**, executive chef of **Roppongi Restaurant** and **Sushi Bar**, is introducing the restaurant’s Fall Fireside menu, complete with a variety of dishes and lounge bites featuring the season’s star ingredients — ideal for enjoying next to the restaurant’s outdoor firepit.

**Perfect autumn items** on the menu include the **Walla Walla sweet onion** soup with braised short rib and tempura scallions. Known for their exceptional sweetness come late summer and early fall, the onions counteract the rich meat in this seasonally inspired soup. Also reaching their peak ripeness in the fall, persimmons shine in the persimmon cranberry crisp dessert with homemade butterscotch gelato. For small bites, the menu offers the popular Indian cracker with mango chutney and cucumber raita, a burst of sweet and tangy flavors.

The menus take the place of the restaurant’s previous “Bikini Menu” on Sept. 1 and will run through Dec. 31. All items are available after 1 p.m. For more information, visit www.roppongiussa.com.

- **Roy’s Hawaiian Restaurant** is ringing in fall with a new three-course “Fall Prix Fixe” menu.

Created by five of the fusion restaurant’s chef partners, the menu showcases each of the chef’s own culinary interpretation of the season. Guests may choose from appetizer choices of crispy potato croquettes, Fuji apple salad or yuzu crab stuffed shrimp. Entrée choices include: a classic cream of mushroom soup, braised short rib and tempura scallions. Known for their exceptional sweetness come late summer and early fall, the onions counteract the rich meat in this seasonally inspired soup. Also reaching their peak ripeness in the fall, persimmons shine in the persimmon cranberry crisp dessert with homemade butterscotch gelato. For small bites, the menu offers the popular Indian cracker with mango chutney and cucumber raita, a burst of sweet and tangy flavors.

The menus take the place of the restaurant’s previous “Bikini Menu” on Sept. 1 and will run through Dec. 31. All items are available after 1 p.m. For more information, visit www.roppongiussa.com.

- **Roy’s yuzu crab-stuffed shrimp** is offered on its “Fall Prix Fixe Menu”.

Roy’s yuzu crab-stuffed shrimp is offered on its “Fall Prix Fixe Menu.” The menu features Oktoberfest-inspired dishes, while November will bring a Country Meadow Lamb pairing menu. Cost is $45 and includes wine pairings. For more information, call (858) 456-0600 or visit www.lajollashoresrestaurant.com.

**The Shores Restaurant**, also overseen by executive chef Bernard Guilliau, is offering its Sit and Savor Dinner Series every night this fall.

Diners can indulge in a themed menu designed by Guiliau and chef de cuisine Amy Diluze. During October, the menu features Oktoberfest-inspired dishes, while November will bring a Country Meadow Lamb pairing menu. Cost is $45 and includes wine pairings. For more information, call (858) 456-0600 or visit www.lajollashoresrestaurant.com.

**The La Jolla Symphony and Chorus** will preview its season at its annual gala, where it will also pay tribute to theater writer Charlene Baldridge with its first annual “Arts Angel” award.

The La Jolla Symphony and Chorus (LJSoC) will kick off its 2011–12 season on Oct. 15 with its fourth annual gala, “Fly Me to the Moon.” The gala, held at the Marriott Del Mar, will include two auctions, a hosted reception and dinner, and entertainment by the 16-piece swing band Big Band Express. The event will also feature a special benefit for the LJSoC and a featured wine from a benefit winery.

**Baldridge will be the first to receive a new annual award given by the LJSoC to recognize individuals who exhibit excellence in community arts advocacy. She will be honored as the 2011 Arts Angel.”**

Baldridge said she was not used to receiving recognition for what she does.

“A freelance writer seldom receives feedback. After 30 years of arts journalism, you begin to feel like you’ve been yelling into the wind,” she said. “Then life deals you the worst imaginable personal blow, and you’re on the canvas, waiting for the count. This surprising recognition by Steve Schick and La Jolla Symphony came at that time. I was in Santa Fe, distracting myself with five operas in five days, when (executive director of the symphony) Diane Salisbury’s email came asking if I’d accept. Would I? Oh, yes. I’m thrilled and grateful and elated.”

Baldridge said it was not only an honor to receive the award, but to be recognized by it from such a distinguished organization.

La Jolla Symphony is special in that they do the unusual and the difficult and the amazing — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and excitement — and they do it all with skill, dedication and...
THURSDAY, Oct. 13

- La Jolla Town Council meeting, 5 p.m., La Jolla Recreation Center, 615 Prospect St. (858) 454-1444, www.lajollatowncouncil.org, free

- “The Most Beautiful Museums of Europe,” 7:30 p.m., Athenaeum, 1008 Wall St., lecture by art historian James Grebl. (858) 454-5872, www.lajolla.org, $12 members, $17 nonmembers

- “Ghost Wave: The Discovery of Cortes Bank and the Biggest Wave on Earth,” 7:30 p.m., Warwick’s, 7812 Girard Ave., author Chris Dixon book discussion and signing. (858) 454-0347, www.warwicks.com, free

- “Pen to Paper” writing workshop, noon, La Jolla Library. 7555 Draper Ave., La Jolla Library and San Diego Writers, Ink’s weekly drop-in writing group. (858) 412-6351, www.lajollalibrary.org, free

FRIDAY, Oct. 14

- Lunafest film festival, 6 to 10 p.m., Museum of Contemporary Art La Jolla, 700 Prospect St., nine short film showings by women filmmakers, wine reception and silent auction to raise funds for the Breast Cancer Fund and the Junior League of San Diego. (760) 274-3915, www.lunafest.org. $40 general admission, $65 VIP

SATURDAY, Oct. 15

- Robin Henkel, 10 a.m., Bird Rock Coffee Roasters, 5627 La Jolla Blvd., award-winning blues/jazz guitarist and singer entertains guests getting their Saturday morning caffeine fix. (858) 635-1233, www.birdrockcoffeeroasters.com, free

- “Citizens Coordinate and Battle for City Planning,” 1:30 p.m., UCSD Chancellor’s Office, lecture by Judy Swink on Clare Crane’s book and work with Citizens Coordinate at the San Diego Independent Scholars’ regularly-scheduled meeting, www.scholars.org, free

SUNDAY, Oct. 16

- Weekend with the Locals, noon, Warwick’s, 7812 Girard Ave., author Cathleen McCandless discusses her book “Feng Shui That Makes Sense,” a step-by-step guide through the process of fusing feng shui principles to create a home that will please your eye, relax your body, inspire your mind and lift your spirit. (858) 454-0347, www.warwicks.com, free

- “The Certainties of Faith,” 2:30 p.m., La Jolla Library, 7555 Draper Ave., Elisabeth Kotzakiou Pace in the first of the library’s Musical Probes series, an analytical and participatory immersion in the art of music. (858) 552-1657, www.lajollalibrary.org, free

- “La Jolla Garden Club meeting, 1 p.m., La Jolla Lutheran Church, 7111 La Jolla Blvd., meeting with special guest speaker Tiger Palafox on seasonal flowers and vegetables followed by a coffee and tea hour. (858) 459-3076, jgeorge7@san.rr.com, free

- “Conscious and Unconscious Memory Systems of the Mammalian Brain,” noon, UCSD Biomedical Library, 9500 Gilman Drive, lecture by Dr. Larry R. Squire. (858) 534-3255, ematwi@ucsd.edu, free

- Date night, 5 to 9 p.m., Brockton Villa, 1235 Coast Blvd., three-course prix-fixe dinner for two and half-off selected bottles of wine. (858) 545-7933, www.brocktonvillla.com, $45

- Cooking class, 6 p.m., The Marine Room, 2000 Spindrift Drive, cooking class, three-course dinner and wine pairing with award-winning executive chefs Bernard Guillas and Ron Oiler. (858) 459-7222, www.marine-room.com, $70

- “Dear Cary: My Life with Cary Grant,” 7:30 p.m., Warwick’s, 7812 Girard Ave., award-winning actress and filmmaker Dyan Cannon discusses and signs her new memoir about life with the ultimate Hollywood star. (858) 454-0347, www.warwicks.com, free

THURSDAY, Oct. 20

- La Jolla Sallery Wine Walk and Taste, 5 to 9 p.m., Herschel Street, self-guided stroll of exquisite art galleries, delicious cuisine and unique wine selections throughout the village, proceeds to benefit the La Jolla Village Merchants Association. (619) 231-5008, www.lajollalillybeshes.com/about/walk-wine-taste-2011.php, $40

- “Employment Law 101,” 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., Marriott Hotel La Jolla, 4240 La Jolla Village Drive, seminar to overview California’s employment laws and provide guidance on how to promote a positive work environment hosted by Fisher and Phillips LLP for local HR professionals, and small business owners, (619) 549-4810, greenshaun@laborlawyers.com, $250 per person, $225 per person for two or more people from the same company

- “After the Fall,” 7:30 p.m., UCSD Faculty Club, 9500 Gilman Drive, economics roundtable breakfast with Carmen Reinhart to inform guests about the financial crisis for more than a decade. (858) 822-0510, www.economics.ucsd.edu/roundtable, $50

- La Jolla Town Council SunSetter, 5 p.m., Eddie V’s, 1270 Prospect St., mix and mingle with community leaders, merchants and neighbors in a guided stroll of exquisite art galleries, delicious cuisine and unique wine selections throughout the village, proceeds to benefit the La Jolla Village Merchants Association. (619) 231-5008, www.lajollalillybeshes.com/about/walk-wine-taste-2011.php, $40

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The La Jolla Playhouse is continuing its popular “Spotlight Dinner” series with three more elegant sit-down dinners complete with cocktails, hors d’oeuvres and entertainment to help raise funds for the Playhouse’s education and outreach programs. The next Spotlight Dinner will take place at the Mandell Weiss Theatre on Oct. 18 at 6:30 p.m.

Chefs Andrew Spurgin, Antonio Frisica and Brian Malarkey of Campine will cater an elegant three-course dinner on stage and celebrity mixologists Ian Ward and Lucien Conner of Snake Oil Cocktail Co. will serve up creative cocktails on the Weiss Plaza.

The event will spotlight two special guests — Christopher Ashley, the Playhouse’s artistic director, and director emeritus Des McAnuff, multiple Tony Award-winning director of the acclaimed Broadway-bound production of “Jesus Christ Superstar,” which will hit the La Jolla Playhouse’s stage in November.

The La Jolla Playhouse is located at 2910 La Jolla Village Drive. Tickets to the event are $350. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.lajollaplayhouse.org/spotlight-dinner or call (858) 550-1070 x141.

The New Anderson Medical Center

Dr. Kenneth Anderson has been practicing family and sports medicine in Pacific Beach for 22 years. Now he is opening his own clinic.

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

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

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

Most insurance will be accepted. For more information you can call 858-224-7977 or visit our website at Andersonmedicalcenter.com.

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Reflections
By Carol Olten

The greatest growth in culture and social sophistication in La Jolla’s early history took place in the 1920s when a new fashionable population with a heady interest in the arts came to town.

Isabelle Hopkins’s new resort hotel, the Casa de Manana, became a gathering place for cultural evenings and soirees ranging from musical recitals to readings by the latest fashionable playwrights like Jean Giraudoux. But the Casa, with its decorative salons and parlors, wasn’t the only trysting place for the elite set. Key to the new cultural scene as well were a series of miniature operas — “L’opera en Miniature” — presented by Edward Ewald starting in 1923 and, later, full-dressed operas staged under the supervision of a Polish countess, Laura de Turczynowicz.

These productions marked the beginning of opera in La Jolla — a sure sign of the arrival of high society. Ewald’s miniature operas were a tour de force of theatrical staging, sound and light fireworks and audience enthralment — all without the assistance of singers or actors or their doll-like counterparts. His major prop was a replica of New York’s Metropolitan Opera House stage built in miniature on a scale of four inches to six feet.

The stage — all told about three feet tall — was draped with a crimson velvet curtain. At curtain time, Ewald drew from his outstanding collection of opera recordings and prepared to crank up the sound on some of the world’s greatest impersonations, using the latest orthophonic Victrola. Guests — obliged to wear proper evening opera attire — sat in front of the stage as lights were dimmed, the overture was played and the curtain was raised.

Ewald’s aim was to interpret the operatic classics such as “Othello,” “La Bohème” and “Aida” with the greatest possible dramatic effects using his miniature, figureless settings. Aida’s royal barge came floating down the Nile with no representation on it. For “La Bohème” the tiny shops in Paris’ Latin Quarter were shown stocked with wares as the birds sang in the treetops. The setting heated by an old stove. Opera lovers sat on hard chairs enthralled by the production, wrapped in their fur coats.

The miniatures led to greater interest in opera with the formation of the first La Jolla opera company in 1924 with full-scale productions staged at different locations as the seasons progressed. Stages of both the La Jolla Woman’s Club and the old movie palace, the Granada at Girard Avenue and Wall Street, were used. Unlike the miniatures, which focused on traditional opera repertoire, the new opera company staged mostly light operettas such as Gilbert and Sullivan’s “The Pirates of Penzance” for three seasons between 1924 and 1926. Such was the beginning and the end of opera productions in La Jolla — the 1920s was a progressive and fashionable era, but the art was buried in future decades as theatrical troupes such as the Drury Lane Players and summer playhouse later La Jolla Playhouse moved to the fore on the serious entertainment scene.

Puccini’s duet “La Bohème” was heard no more. And the imaginative Mr. Ewald, with his tiny stages and majestic music, never returned.

At Pho La Jolla, you will find all your favorite, savory, comforting Vietnamese soups that are perfect for our La Jolla weather
Oldest Southern California Jewish congregation celebrates 150 years

By MARIKO LAMB | VILLAGE NEWS

Congregation Beth Israel, Southern California’s oldest and largest Jewish congregation, is celebrating its landmark 150th anniversary this year with a host of events throughout the year including opening and closing celebrations, a speaker series, Torah project and special Jewish holiday events to commemorate the congregation’s milestone.

The yearlong commemorative activities kicked off with an opening celebration on Sept. 18 at the temple, located at 9001 Towne Centre Drive. The celebration included notable community leaders such as Mayor Jerry Sanders, Rep. Brian Bilbray, Rep. Susan Davis and Rep. Bob Filner as well as special guests Craig Taubman, renowned Jewish musician, and Julie Seltzer, the congregation’s scribe who will spend the coming year creating a new Torah scroll for the congregation.

The opening celebration also included the launch of an endowment campaign to ensure the congregation’s success for another 150 years and more.

“Beth Israel’s 150th anniversary presents a unique opportunity to stand on the shoulders of giants — those who had the courage to found and build our synagogue in 1861,” said Emily Jennewein, the congregation’s president. “It is our responsibility to continue their sacred work by securing the financial future of our synagogue for generations to come.”

Future events at Congregation Beth Israel’s 150th anniversary include a monthly speaker series beginning on Nov. 11, special 150th-themed holiday celebrations, a speaker series, a tour of the three temples the congregation has occupied over the 150 years and a closing celebration in May featuring Tony Award-winning legend Mandy Patinkin.

“Our congregation’s 150th anniversary is truly a momentous occasion,” said Senior Rabbi Michael Berk. “Those pioneers in 1861 set the stage for a thriving Jewish community in San Diego. They could not have imagined how many lives their efforts would eventually touch.”

For more information about Congregation Beth Israel’s 150th anniversary events, visit www.bethisrael150.org.

French Gourmet

Our award-winning restaurant offers California-influenced French cuisine in a quaint countryside environment. We are a long-time favorite of locals who appreciate the value of our menu and extensive wine list. Stop by our bakery for a sandwich or pastry to go! It’s always a delicious day at The French Gourmet! (858) 488-1725. 960 Turquoise St, La Jolla, CA. www.thefrenchgourmet.com

The Broken Yolk Café

The Broken Yolk Café offers a large selection of home cooked meals in a comfortable and casual atmosphere. There are over 20 different omelets to choose from as well as a wide variety of other breakfast favorites which include pancakes, waffles and French toast. Feel more like lunch? Try one of our juicy pound burgers or one of our large sandwiches.

Extreme Pizza

Voted Best Pizza by locals year after year. Extreme Pizza is serving up the freshest ingredients, the tastiest combinations of toppings, and the most mouth-watering store-baked crust around. Whether you stop by or have a piping hot pizza delivered to your door-step, be sure to enjoy one of our gluten free pizzas, fresh salads, or delicious wings.

Donovan’s Steak House

They may look good enough to eat, but the paintings and sculptures at Donovan’s of La Jolla are strictly off limits – so you’ll have to content yourself with the USDA prime beef, the eatery’s star attraction. If steak isn’t in the plan, van’s of La Jolla are strictly off limits – so you’ll have to content yourself with the tastiest combinations of toppings, and the most mouth-watering store-baked crust around. Whether you stop by or have a piping hot pizza delivered to your door-step, be sure to enjoy one of their gluten free pizzas, fresh salads, or delicious wings.
A very French affair, an ocean view concert and the ‘Navy mayor’ speaks

Opus: right: Jessie Chang and Kari and Ward Gill (SDS CEO), David Copley, Judith Harris, Andrew Shelton, Jane Rice, Audrey Geisel, Ole Nirup Krienen, Rachel Grosvenor and her late husband Craigar. Joyce and Grosvenor, Diane Escher, Wander Wijesekera, Lance Breitenberg, Nancy Bojanic, Hermeen Scharaga, Adm. William (“Bill”) French (left: Kevin Hughes, Irene Chan, Wayne Seavey, John Varn, Dr. Chuck Tesar, Veryl Montgomery, Julie Landsman (horn) and Reiko Aizawa (piano) flew in from New York. These superb musicians performed beautifully, playing pieces from Mozart and Brahms. Post-concert, Chef Ron McMillan and Catering Solutions served up copious hors d’oeuvres and desserts that were both tasty and visually attractive.

The San Diego Symphony (SDS) opened its 101st season on Oct. 1. Crowds flocked to a stellar concert featuring two internationally acclaimed powerhouse performers: soprano Kathleen Battle and French pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet. About 400 enthusiastic supporters also attended all or part of one of the city’s most exciting, fun-filled gala evenings, enjoyable at several levels of participation.

Rachel Grooverov and her late husband, Judson, generously supported SDS for decades; their portrait hangs in Symphony Hall. The family remains deeply involved — son Craigar and his lovely wife, Joyce, have chaired the last three Opus galas, all highly entertaining, financially successful affairs. Joyce and daughter Dakota had returned from Paris when she heard the famed Jean-Yves Thibaudet was coming to town. The coq au vin was superb and the filet mignon couldn’t possibly have been better. Auctioneer Pierre Charmason (joking that he’d been hired because of his name) sold five items. After dessert, guests journeyed via elevator to Symphony Hall for the concert. Staff and stars all performed flawlessly, earning an enthusiastic standing ovation. SDS has somehow managed to attract the finest talent while maintaining a balanced budget for 13 consecutive years.

The fun wasn’t over yet — not nearly! Post-concert, guests returned to the University Club where every minute offered further festivities. A jazz trio performed in a red-draped room — until four costumed can-can dancers took over (oh là là!). A harpist played elsewhere and in the ballroom a band played for dancing. French foods were everywhere: French fries, toast, and -dip; croque monsieur; a table burdened with cheeses, charcuterie and terrines; and more. There were crepes, Napoleon’s, éclairs, trifles and many other desserts. Guests ate, drank and danced till after 1 a.m., ate, drank and danced till after 1 a.m., and the event netted well over a half-million dollars for the symphony.

On Oct. 2, Mainly Mozart held another elegant concert and reception event for its most generous supporters. Most of these Club Amadeus events are held at beautiful private homes, this one being a La Jolla residence with a fabulous ocean view. The weather was perfect and the 101 guests (this group is growing ever more popular!) enjoyed wine and champagne both indoors and out before taking seats on the sunny patio for the performance. Isid Levin (violin) came down from Los Angeles, while Julie Landsman (horn) and Reiko Aizawa (piano) flew in from New York. These superb musicians performed beautifully, playing pieces from Mozart and Brahms. Post-concert, Chef Ron McMillan and Catering Solutions served up copious hors d’oeuvres and desserts that were both tasty and visually attractive.

Rear Adm. William (“Bill”) French was the latest guest of honor in the Riford Center’s Distinguished Speaker Series. As commander of the Navy Region Southwest, he’s currently based in San Diego and is known as the “Navy mayor.” But the Pentagon recently announced he’s getting a third star (raising his rank to vice admiral), and in December he’ll relocate to Washington D.C. as leader of Navy Installations Command, covering all Navy regions. Despite his massive responsibilities, the admiral made time to give a detailed and enlightening presentation to a group of very interested listeners at the Riford. A skilled communicator and excellent speaker, he spoke of the Navy’s multi-part mission and how technology will allow just over 300 ships to accomplish what was once expected to require 600 vessels. Visual aids also helped illustrate the Navy’s surprising advances in energy savings and waste reduction, and he gave clear, understandable answers to a number of complex questions from the audience.

Guests sipped wine and enjoyed delicious taste treats from Sammy Ladocki’s Roppongi restaurant. County Supervisor Pam Slater Price will speak here on Dec. 8 with Walter Munk to follow early in 2012.
La Jolla Country Day Torrey football team tames Escondido Charter’s White Tigers

Country Day carried to non-league victory by juniors Burmeister and McMahon

The La Jolla Country Day (LJCD) Torrey football team defeated the Escondido Charter White Tigers 42-3 in a non-league game played at Escondido Charter on Oct. 7.

Country Day got on the scoreboard first on junior running back Sage Burmeister’s 19-yard touchdown run. That gave LJCD an early 7-0 first-quarter lead.

Later in the first quarter, junior kicker Hunter Kildjian opened the scoring for the White Tigers when he sent a 26-yard field goal whistling through the uprights to trim the margin to 7-3.

Unfortunately for Escondido Charter (0-5), that’s as close as they would get on this evening as Country Day (5-0) pulled away down the stretch to clinch the victory.

Burmeister added three more touchdown runs of seven, four and 40 yards and junior running back Colin McMahon managed touchdown runs of 18 and six yards to seal it for LJCD.

Other non-league scores and results:
- Bishop Broncos 47, The Bishop’s School Knights 6
- University City 28, Southwest 7
- Game statistics:
  - UC: Green (eight carries, 77 yards)
  - UC: Haynes (20 carries, 68 yards)
- Tri-City Christian def. La Jolla 25-20, 25-14, 25-15
- Bishop’s def. Poway, 24-26, 18-25, 25-23, 25-20, 18-16
- West Hills def. University City 25-17, 25-23, 25-10
- Grossmont def. University City, 25-13, 25-20

VILLAGENEWS
By ROB STONE| 619-368-7715

La Jolla High School (LJHS) varsity volleyball team picks up season’s first “Dig for the Cure” win

The La Jolla High School (LJHS) girls varsity volleyball team will host its second annual “Dig for the Cure” — a fundraising event to benefit a local San Diego breast cancer awareness foundation — in conjunction with Breast Cancer Awareness month and the team’s upcoming match against University City High School.

The LJHS “Dig for the Cure” fundraiser idea evolved from senior Ryan Farley’s humanities project assignment in her English class two years ago.

“I had began to notice more and more high school teams, as well as many college volleyball teams, hosting ‘Dig for the Cure’ matches benefitting all different breast cancer organizations,” she said. “I really wanted it to be part of our La Jolla volleyball program, so along with the help of my teammates and coaches, last year was our first ‘Dig for the Cure’ event.”

Farley said the match against University City is one of the team’s important Western League matches. Two weeks ago, the teams faced off in a close-four game match at University City High School.

“We pulled out the win, but next Wednesday’s match will most definite-ly not be an easy one,” she said.

La Jolla High School is located at 750 Nautilus St. For more information, contact LJHS program director Dave Jones at (858) 454-1081 or djones1@sandi.net.

La Jolla High School’s girls’ varsity volleyball team at the Beach Cities Tournament last month.

BY LEE CORNELL | VILLAGENEWS

MBHS water polo team looks to stand up to powerhouses in La Jolla

After suffering a tough one-goal loss during CIF postseason last year, the Mission Bay High School boys water polo team would love to score some redemption and prove that bigger isn’t always better.

MBHS fields just 17 players in its program, while nearby powerhouses like The Bishop’s School and La Jolla High regularly top out between 40 and 50.

In his fifth season at the helm, Bucs head coach Troy Merkel isn’t making any excuses for his team’s uphill battle against numer-ous or against pool availability (the Bucs share a pool with Clairemont High). In fact, Merkel said having such a small group can actually help.

“There’s an intimate relationship with a small group that can help with trust, camaraderie, giving it all and coming together as a unit,” Merkel said. “I think we under-s tand each other more than some other teams.”

MBHS is led by senior standout goalie Jacob Moreland. As the last line of defense, Moreland has excelled, often keeping his team close in games — despite being hea-vily outshot.

“He brings a spunky attitude. I think the players will say he’s almost in his own world which, as a goalie, is perfect for that posi-tion,” Merkel said of Moreland. “He’s very quick, agile and knowledgeable. His com-petitive nature makes him a beast in goal.”

Moreland said his goal for the team is to continue playing water polo in college. The other standouts on the Bucs rela-tively young squad are seniors Brendan Daly and Mikey McClelland.

Daly is cautiously optimistic this group can compete with anyone.

“This year, we have a pretty strong team. We have a lot of guys who like to get phys-ical and play tough polo,” Daly said. “We’re not going to be a pushover. I think we will be a team that can compete with anyone.”

Moreland, who serves as a captain, said he would love to score some redemption and prove that bigger isn’t always better.

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Get the picture? Now this is you in the picture taking a nice walk after dinner maybe going to the nearby Su Casa restaurant for your favorite Peach or Strawberry margarita and you are now living your own dream come true with the people you love. What a great life living in beautiful Windansea beach a free natural water-park. Aloha La Jolla come and live your dream today!

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