LIFEGUARD TOWER TRIFLES

- Opponents claim that, as presently configured, the tower will negatively impact their views and property values, and.
- Opponents also claim they were not properly notified by the city during the approval process.
- San Diego Fire-Rescue says the South Mission Beach lifeguard station will address important public safety and operational needs; and
- The new tower was designed in a way that minimizes the impact to public views and the project was also reviewed and approved by the city council, which follows the standards for public notifying.

Info: Visit www.sandiego.gov/cip and www.coastal.ca.gov/

Some residents over the fence on lifeguard tower

A construction fence borders the build site for the new lifeguard station, which is being erected just to the north of the old tower in South Mission Beach. Construction started this spring, and a foundation (to the left) for the new structure is being laid out.

Photo by Thomas Melville

City says new station needed in south MB

By DAVE SCHWAB

Neighbors opposed to the citing of a new lifeguard tower in South Mission Beach continued to press their case before Mission Beach Town Council, arguing they were denied due process in vetting plans for the new facility, which is larger and located elsewhere than originally planned.

Project construction on the new lifeguard station started this spring, and a foundation is being built on the north side of the current tower.

“As the number of visitors to our beaches increase, the facilities that afford protection to beachgoers become more important,” said Rick Wurts, lifeguard chief at San Diego Fire-Rescue. Construction will stop from Memorial Day to Labor Day due to the city’s annual beach area construction moratorium. Lifeguards will be using the old tower until the new one is finished next summer.

We’re not against the lifeguards; they’re the heroes of the beach, or their lifeguard tower.

KEN GIARA
MISSION BEACH RESIDENT

Group challenges Belmont Park lease

Lawsuit claims city’s approval was illegal

By DAVE SCHWAB

The ink on a lease extension for Belmont Park is barely dry and the action is already being challenged in court.

The person challenging the City Council-approved lease is a familiar foe: attorney Cory Briggs, who has sued the city repeatedly, including a successful suit that blocked the San Diego Convention Center’s expansion by challenging its financing.

On behalf of a nonprofit group called San Diegans for Open Government, Briggs filed a lawsuit in Superior Court May 11 seeking to invalidate the Belmont lease extension.

If successful, the lawsuit could potentially shutter the high-profile seven-acre Island complex.

Pacific Beach Middle, YMCA to join forces

Goal is to improve recreational facilities

By DAVE SCHWAB

The groundwork has been laid, as part of a joint-occupancy agreement, to build a new YMCA and recreational fields and facilities at Pacific Beach Middle School.

Now it’s time to begin raising funding for the estimated $15 million project.

That’s the message Peninsula YMCA executive director Vince Glorioso delivered at Pacific Beach Town Council’s May 20 monthly meeting at Crown Point Elementary School.

Glorioso said the proposed YMCA expansion comes at a pivotal time as the beach community’s demographics are changing.

“We’ve seen an emphasis on schools in PB, with families saying, ‘We want to have quality education in schools in our community, and we want to raise our families here in PB.’” Glorioso said, adding, “More families are choosing to raise their kids in PB.”

Those reasons could make the joint-occupancy agreement between the San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD) and the YMCA’s combined fields

See TOWER, Page 5

See BELMONT, Page 5

See PBMS, Page 8
Summer Fun with Bianca – Dodging Giant Obstacles at VAVi’s Wipeout Run

By BIANCA WEINSTEIN

Over this past weekend, the Pacific Beach-based company VAVi Sports & Social brought the game show “Wipeout” to a new level. The Wipeout Run is a 5k course featuring obstacles inspired by the hit TV show. The race is held each year at the Del Mar Fairgrounds ($10 parking fee) with start times anywhere from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. For $65, you can have the “Wipeout” experience as seen on TV.

VAVi started out as an adult recreation league for sports like kickball, flag football and beach volleyball and has since grown into a company with more than 90,000 active young professionals from all over San Diego who come play off and on the field each year. The organization brings together fun, like-minded individuals with the perfect hybrid of topnotch sports leagues and premier social events.

VAVi also puts together large-scale events such as the Heroes Brew Fest, Del Mar Mud Run and the Wipeout Run, which draws participants from all of San Diego County and beyond. The Wipeout Run event travels to 22 cities across the country, San Diego being one of those stops.

The race includes 12 challenge obstacles: Dope on a Rope, Tumble Tubes, Monkey Business, Smash Wall, Foam of Fury, The Drop, Big Balls, Sky’s The Limit, Bubble Bath Swing, Sweeper, the infamous Wrecking Balls, and finally the four-story Happy Ending.

Some of the obstacles were fairly hard to complete without taking a fall into the water. For instance, the Big Balls required you to cross a gap by jumping onto one of four large balls, and had less than a 10 percent success rate. When I went through, one worker said that less than 10 people had made it through all day. Then there was the Wrecking Balls. In order to pass this obstacle, you had to run across a narrow bridge over a pool while two large wrecking balls swung back and forth. Move too quickly and you’ll lose your balance, move too slow and you’re sure to get taken out by the wrecking ball.

At the end of the run, you get to make your way down the world’s largest inflatable water slide to your Happy Ending. Though you walk away from the Wipeout Run drenched, you leave knowing you had the “Wipeout” experience. Make sure you bring a towel and a change of clothes, though; you’ll definitely need it afterwards!

Bianca Weinstein is the social media reporter for sdnews.com. This spring and summer, she will be exploring places on the coast and trying out fun things to do for locals and visitors. Contact her at bbp@sdnews.com.

VAVi SPORT & SOCIAL
Where: 3453 Ingraham St.
What: Founded in 2002, VAVi Sport & Social is the leading provider of adult sports leagues and large-scale social and running events within the social sports industry.
Info: (858) 273-3485, vavi.com and wipeoutrun.com

Bianca attempts to get through the Big Balls obstacle. (Right) Bianca tries the Dope on a Rope obstacle.

PHOTOS BY DEREK ARTHURS

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CLAIREMONT |  $379,000
Clean 2 br 2 ba unit / MLS#150016460
Surfrider chair discusses San Diego chapter’s role in maintaining beaches and bays

Art Gala raises $34,000 to protect area coastlines

By THOMAS MEUILLE

About two weeks ago on the deck at Paradise Point Resort, just as the sun started to set over Mission Bay, Surfrider Foundation San Diego County Chapter chair Mark West looked over his right shoulder to see the golden hour glow growing.

"See that? That’s what it’s all about,” he said, as he waved his arms toward the bay. "That’s why we’re here.”

"Here" was at the Surfrider Foundation San Diego County Chapter’s 15th annual Art Gala, which raised $34,000 to help protect the region’s coastline and directly benefit the organization’s education, outreach and advocacy directed at protecting local beaches. The event, which was held Friday, May 8, celebrated ocean advocacy while showcasing local artists and raising funds.

"It was a thrill to see so many enthusiastic activists and supporters gathered for the event,” said new San Diego Chapter manager Mandy Sackett.

While the activists and supporters bid on artwork, rubbed on orange chicken and drank Stone IPA, West was working the room making and re-establishing connections for the nonprofit.

Right before sunset, the Beach & Bay Press caught up with him to discuss Surfrider and the role it plays in maintaining the area’s coastal areas.

BBP: How would you describe the Surfrider Foundations?

Mark West: I would say that the Surfrider Foundation is all about making sure that each person can go to the beach, enjoy their day at the beach, spend their time in the ocean, spend their time in the waves, and have a great experience. This is a California treasure that so many people take for granted, but we don’t. We work to protect our oceans, waves, and beaches so everyone can use them.

BBP: Why is the Surfrider Foundation important?

MW: Our mission is to protect the ocean, waves, and beaches through a powerful activist network. What we do is we actually take all people who are passionate about our ocean, our beaches, our bays, and get together and really work toward cleaning them up, preventing pollution from getting into them.

BBP: What does Surfrider do for the bay?

MW: This bay (Mission Bay) has beaches all around it. We actually hold clean-ups right here in Mission Bay that are cleaning the beaches of litter before it gets into the bay. This is a large ecosystem that flows into our ocean, and if we can clean it here, then it cleans it out in our ocean, and we’ve worked really hard to make sure that we are eliminating pollution from this area.

BBP: Do some people think Surfrider is just about surfers?

MW: It’s funny. I don’t think people know that this is more than just surfers. I was a 24-year U.S. naval officer before I became the chair of Surfrider.

BBP: How are funds raised?

MW: We have about 5,000 active members, but in our email distribution list we have about 10,000 activists who are applying or involved in some form or another.

BBP: How does Surfrider hold clean-ups and also have a specific program about getting butts out?

MW: We do beach clean-ups. San Diego is one of the largest chapters in Surfrider. We have 70 miles of beaches, which stretch from the border all the way up to San Clemente. Believe it or not, that’s part of our group.

We take care of those 70 miles with programs such as “rise above plastics,” which is trying to reduce plastic that gets washed onto your beaches and carried to our beaches;” and programs such as “rise above butts”.

BBP: What is the annual art gala?

MW: The 15th annual art gala at Paradise Point in Mission Bay was a fantastic event.

This event is our largest fundraiser that we have each year, so it’s really our biggest event that we hold, and we get all the people from all over San Diego to come out and talk about Surfrider.

BBP: The funds you raise go where?

MW: Right back into the protection of oceans, waves, and beaches. Every penny that we have goes right back into it. We do have a staff of two people, which for this group is nothing, but we have to make sure that we pay for the T-shirts, that we get the beach clean-up supplies.

We have all these different things. This event really drives our entire year budget. So that’s why it’s so important for people come and help us out.

BBP: Surfrider holds clean-ups and also has a specific program about getting butts out.

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We take care of those 70 miles with programs such as “rise above plastics,” which is trying to reduce plastic that gets washed onto your beaches and carried to our beaches; and programs such as “rise above butts”.

Cigarette butt pollution is the largest polluter of our beaches in our entire world. We get rid of those, we recycle them and turn them into money.

BBP: How do you turn it (cigarette butts) into money?

MW: There’s actually a company, out of Maryland, that is recycling the butts, and they either take them and turn them into furniture or certain things, and then they actually pay per pound. It’s not a ton of money, but they’re actually turning it into profits we can market back to our mission.

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BBP: What is the annual art gala?
Green space an issue with Mission Beach condo project

Former elementary school site being redeveloped

By DAVE SCHWAB

Mission Beach Town Council in May voted overwhelmingly to urge the city to require developers of the old Mission Beach Elementary School site to reconsider their condo project’s design, calling upon it to add a true community park instead of the narrow landscaping strip proposed.

“We don’t want (condo) four-pLEXes,” Debbie Watkins, chair of Mission Beach Precise Planning Board, told the council May 13, noting the community’s plan discourages four-pLEXes. “We’d like to have them (condos) reconfigured and (have developers) come up with a different plan other than having a strip-mall park.”

Developer McKellar-McGowan is planning a 63-unit, for-sale condo complex on the 3.25-acre parcel with a ‘green strip’ along Mission Boulevard.

“We remind the city that the initial requirement was that developing the entire former school property site, consisting of three distinct parcels, would mandate a .35-acre population-based park for the Mission Beach community,” said the resolution, which also stipulates that a landmark Ficus tree onsite should be preserved and included within the new neighborhood park to be created.

“This is the largest land-use change in Mission Beach in 50 years,” argued Watkins, noting, “It’s not a done deal.” Pointing out “the City Council has the final say,” Watkins said the council’s decision can be appealed to the California Coastal Commission.

Watkins characterized the developer’s proposal to create a long, narrow linear park along Mission Boulevard as being “not usable.”

Noting 400 signatures have been collected in two months opposing the project as presently construed, Watkins urged the City Council to hold the developer’s feet to the fire in insisting on their developing more “open green space in perpetuity” onsite.

Watkins argued the layout of the McKellar-McGowan project ought to be reconfigured, ensuring the community gets the new park acreage to which it is entitled, including preserving the landmark Ficus tree.

The community planner said an environmental impact report for the project is to be released “any day.” She cautioned, however, that the environmental document is some 600 pages long and that the public will have only 30 days in which to respond to it.

Warning that putting in a new four-plex condo project in the heart of Mission Beach would be “a nightmare with the one-way streets,” Watkins noted that responding to the environmental impact report will give the beach community “our opportunity to speak out.”

In 2013, San Diego Unified School District Board voted 4-1 to accept a bid of $18.5 million for the old Mission Beach Elementary School site.

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PHOTO BY JOHN COCOZZA

Cocozza called SeaWorld and notified lifeguards about the marine mammal.
City Council’s approval of the 40-seat observation tower was illegal on grounds that it violated Proposition G, a 1987 voter-approved initiative restricting non-recreational uses at city-owned Belmont Park; the California Coastal Act; the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); and the San Diego City Charter.

The suit contends Prop. G was violated because it provides for public park and recreation uses but specifically prohibits “retail and commercial uses, except within the historically rehabilitated Plunge pool and related buildings.”

The “lease agreement authorizes a long list of ‘improvements’ that were not included in the legal development plan, such as catering facilities, amusement rides, games of skill, etc.” states Briggs’ lawsuit, which insists violation of Prop. G “derives the benefit of public access to Mission Beach Park for recreational uses.”

The suit also insists CEQA was violated because Belmont Park activities “have the potential to cause significant adverse impacts on the environment including air quality, noise and greenhouse gas emissions.”

The lawsuit concludes that “the project must be subjected to environmental review before final approval.”

Briggs’ suit also argues that the City Council’s approval of the 40-year lease extension “failed to comply with the San Diego City Charter rendering the approval null and void.”

Responding to Briggs’ lawsuit, Gerry Braun, director of communications for the City Attorney’s Office, said: “Although we do not share Mr. Briggs’ narrow interpretation of Proposition G that would ultimately require closing Belmont Park, we recognize that the language has never been a judicial interpretation either way. The mayor and City Council were fully advised on the legal issues before approving the lease and took steps to reduce the city’s risk while allowing Belmont Park to remain open. Our office will defend the law suit and the ability to keep Belmont Park open.”

The City Council approved Belmont Park’s lease extension April 6 following a 7-2 vote, with council president Sherri Lightner of District 1 and Councilman David Alvarez of District 8 dissenting.

In an interview with Beach & Bay Press, Lightner said: “Prop. G was passed in 1987. A lot has changed since then. Our community has grown and we’re demanding more than we had back in 2004, Giavara pointed out. The current use is very different now than when first approved by the voters or unless it’s properly vetted.”

According to Wurts, the new nearly 4,000-square-foot, three-story lifeguard tower would have a ground floor with a first-aid room and storage for rescue vehicles and equipment; a second floor with an observation deck and an administration area; and a third floor housing the main observation tower.

Wurts said: “The new tower will include repair of adjacent sidewalks and curbs, installation of an erosion control barrier, improvement of American with Disabilities Act accessibility, restriping of parking spaces, installation of new signage and installation of a sidewalk from the parking lot to the station entrance. According to Wurts, the new tower was specifically designed to minimize the impact to public views, and the project was also reviewed and approved by the San Diego City Council, which follows the standards for public noticing. After the May 13 meeting, Giavara said a lawsuit, if yet to be filed, is planned to block the project until or unless it’s properly vetted.”

Why are you (city) building the hub (tower and ancillary boat and equipment storage, men’s and women’s locker rooms) in the middle of the beach?” asked Giavara, noting neighbors are not offering a solution, just insisting that the project “go through the proper legal channels.”

Noting the project is significantly different than when first approved back in 2004, Giavara pointed out community planners back then rejected the building at 1,500 feet as being too big.” He added they also wanted the lifeguard station “to be built on the same spot as the previous one.”

READ MORE ONLINE AT sdnews.com

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**News**

**BELMONT » CONT. FROM PG. 1**

The lawsuit concludes that ‘the project must be subjected to environmental review before final approval.’

An armed robber charged with holding up 11 people on the same night in La Jolla, Ocean Beach, Mission Beach and elsewhere was sentenced Monday to seven years in state prison.

Restitution to the victims of Joseph Andres Garcia, of San Diego, will be determined in a later hearing. San Diego Superior Court Judge Timothy Walsh gave Garcia credit for a year in jail and fined him $4,533.

Before his arrest, Garcia, 20, posted this question on his Facebook page: “Who knows how to unlock an iPhone 4?” The iPhone 4 is the type stolen from a USD student on Feb. 2, 2014. That tip led to Garcia’s arrest three days later.

Garcia pleaded guilty to two robbery charges, and the other hold-up and attempted robbery charges were dismissed after Garcia agreed on April 20 to accept the seven-year sentence.

The gravel driver, Benjamin Hernandez, 24, of National City, will be sentenced May 27 after he pleaded guilty to committing two robberies. Hernandez faces a maximum six-year sentence. One of the victims remembered his car license tag, the information led to his arrest on Feb. 3, 2014.

The robberies started in Ocean Beach at 6:50 p.m. on Feb. 2, 2014, when three men on Cape May near Cable Street were approached by the robbers and a juvenile. One bandit held a tire iron. The men had their cell phones, cigarettes and a lighter stolen.

Later, a man lost his cell phone and another man lost his wallet containing $2, credit cards and ID cards on First Avenue in Hillcrest, according to the probation report. Another man was then robbed of $250 in his wallet. Another man was standing outside his apartment that evening had a gun held to his head, his phone was then stolen, and one man hit him in the back with a tire iron.

The last group robbed comprised UCSD students sitting on a bench outside a school gym. One man held a tire iron, and the students were robbed of their cell phones, student IDs, wallets and credit cards.

- Neal Putnam

**TOWER » CONT. FROM PG. 1**

I have the best equipment and so on,” said Mission Beach resident Ken Giavara, speaking May 13 for some neighbors.

Opponents claim that, as presently configured, the tower will negatively impact their views and property values.

“Our argument is with the approval process and the lack of honesty and transparency,” said Giavara.

The existing, outdated South Mission Beach lifeguard tower is a temporary 900-square-foot facility constructed in 1974. City officials say it no longer meets the needs of lifeguards or the public.

Recently, the city rolled out a new strategic plan that includes the following goals: to protect lives, properly train and equip the environment through timely and effective response in all communities, and to invest in infrastructure.

According to Wurts, the South Mission Beach lifeguard tower project will achieve those goals once the project is complete, and for many years to come. Specifically, the South Mission Beach lifeguard station will address many important public safety and operational needs.

“The station will be more centrally located on the beach, improving water observation (i.e., lifesaving opportunities) and overall beach management,” Wurts said.

“It will provide much needed space to house critical emergency equipment and vehicles. It also addresses minimum facility standards for employees, such as separate men’s and women’s locker rooms,” he added.

The new nearly 4,000-square-foot, three-story lifeguard tower would have a ground floor with a first-aid room and storage for rescue vehicles and equipment; a second floor with an observation deck and an administration area; and a third floor housing the main observation tower.

The new tower will include repair of adjacent sidewalks and curbs, installation of an erosion control barrier, improvement of American with Disabilities Act accessibility, restriping of parking spaces, installation of new signage and installation of a sidewalk from the parking lot to the station entrance.

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**READ MORE ONLINE AT sdnews.com**
Everything for experienced world travelers to backpackers is at Traveler’s Depot in PB

By DAVE SCHWAB

It’s like a mom ‘n’ pop REI.
That’s how employee Elisa Masso described Traveler’s Depot, a fixture at 1655 Garnet Ave. in Pacific Beach for 29 years. Traveler’s Depot carries just about everything imaginable for its travel-savvy clientele, from lightweight gear to fast-drying underwear.

“We try to have everything you need for your trip, whether you’re doing backpacking or leisurely travel, river cruises, a lot of things — luggage, books, maps, toiletries,” said employee Betty Elmer.

Elmer walked through a huge library section divided by world regions with travel-oriented books and maps on nearly every country, including offbeat stuff like “The Dog Lover’s Companion to the San Francisco Bay Area.”

“We try to have the best publishers, the most up-to-date books,” she said, adding, “We have books on cities as well.”

Top-quality brands carried by the travel outfitter include Delsey, High Sierra, Travelpro, Baggallini, Kipling, Lipault, Eagle Creek, Craghoppers, ExOfficio, Rick Steves, PacSafe, Travelon, Lewis N. Clark, Scottvest / SeV, Keen, Teva, Klean Kanteen and more.

The shop’s travel products include specialty travel clothing and hats, shoulder bags, security purses and totes, luggage and packs, garment bags, luggage tags and straps, TSA locks, luggage scales, plug adapters and converters, RFID wallets, passport covers, money belts and neck pouches, pillows and blankets, packing cubes and folders, compression bags, leakproof pouches, toiletry kits, security solutions and travel guides.

The front of the shop has become something of an outdoors section, featuring cutting-edge products like Hydro Flasks.

“We recommend those because they keep things hot for 12 hours and cold for 24 hours,” said Elmer.

“I use mine every single day to keep hot tea in or to keep water ice cold at the beach,” said Masso.

Masso said the store serves all ages but is increasingly seeking a younger demographic.

“We’ve had a much older clientele for years,” she said. “We’re trying to really target younger people as well, young travelers and backpackers, trying to get word out.”

Both women said one of the big hurdles, always to be cleared, is letting people know who — and where — Traveler’s Depot is.

“Every single day,” Masso said, “someone comes in and says, ‘I walk or drive by all the time, and I never knew this was here.’” Then they say, “Now, I can’t live without it.’”

“They’ll even live in PB,” said Elmer, “and they’ll say, ‘I’ve been here for 30 years, and I didn’t know you were here.’”

“Come on through,” Masso said. “Traveler’s Depot is open Mondays through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Two of San Diego’s largest tour and corporate team building companies have joined forces.

Where You Want to Be Tours and Out of the Ordinary have merged all operations, with both companies offering participatory events for corporate and leisure groups. The company’s events enhance corporate team building, problem solving and group collaboration through team building, problem solving and group collaboration through

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Pacific Beach-based tour company merges with team building firm

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Two of San Diego’s largest tour and corporate team building companies have joined forces.

Where You Want to Be Tours and Out of the Ordinary have merged all operations, with both companies offering participatory events for corporate and leisure groups. The company’s events enhance corporate team building, problem solving and group collaboration through team building, problem solving and group collaboration through

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Mission Beach student named University of San Diego valedictorian

By THOMAS MEVILLE

Vianey Coronado Angeles found out in mid-April that she had been named valedictorian for the University of San Diego School of Business Administration, which was great news until she started thinking about the graduation speech.

"I wasn't even thinking about being valedictorian," Angeles said. "I was just doing my homework and studying and trying to do my best. Plus, I hate public speaking and I knew there would be a speech."

That thought is a bit ironic for Angeles because she loves languages and speaks four of them—Spanish, French, Italian and English. The accountancy major also majored in French and minored in Italian.

"I think languages are absolutely incredible tools that you breach cultural barriers and create connections that would not normally be made if you couldn't speak the same language," said Angeles, who moved to Mission Beach from Mexico at age 10 because her father wanted her to learn English and receive a better overall education. "Ever since I was young, I wanted to learn new languages."

Her proficiency with languages will come in handy when she starts her new public accounting job this October at KPMG, which has a global reach. "I definitely want to take advantage of the fact that KPMG is a huge international firm and see where it takes me," she said.

Angeles, who has a 4.0 grade point average, will graduate on May 24 summa cum laude. At the University of San Diego, she received the Excellence in Accountancy Award and the Delta Sigma Pi Scholarship Award. Angeles graduated from the Francis Parker School in 2011.

"My high school was pretty small, and I liked that," she said. "That's what I liked about USD, small classes and being able to have one-on-one time with professors."

While attending USD, Angeles decided to stay at home and commute to college. "I went in the morning and stayed all day so I didn't miss out on college life. And I liked being able to come home to Mission Beach. I love it here. You can do a little bit of everything."

She credits her parents, Luis Coronado of San Diego and Vianey Angeles of Mexico, with instilling in her a strong work ethic and the motivation to always give your best.

"They've always been extremely supportive of me and told me to try my best. There's nothing you can regret about trying your best, whether you succeed or not. It's a good family motto."

As for her speech on Sunday? "I'm going to focus on everything we shared and how these memories will always be with us and how in the end we all succeeded, which should be celebrated because we have shown excellence and we have succeeded."

The University of San Diego is a Catholic institution that was chartered in 1949. The university enrolls approximately 8,300 undergraduates and graduate full-time equivalent students.

PBMS >> CONT. FROM PG. 1

pool and athletic fields project a bit easier to sell to the community.

SDUSD staff has been in discussion with the Peninsula Family YMCA since 2009 to develop a joint-occupancy facility on the Pacific Beach Middle School campus. In August 2011, the board adopted a resolution of intention to consider proposals to lease property for joint occupancy for development, operation and maintenance of recreation facilities and a community center at Pacific Beach Middle School.

On Dec. 13, 2011, the board received and accepted a single proposal from the YMCA, and district staff thereafter entered into discussion with the YMCA regarding the terms and conditions pursuant to which the facilities will be financed, constructed, operated and maintained.

Noting that redveloping a portion of the middle school campus for athletic and recreational facilities is "a very natural fit with the YMCA model," Glorioso said plans are to develop multi-use athletic fields with a perimeter track and a field house for restrooms and storage, as well as a "full YMCA facility and a pool."

The new YMCA facility would be built where the middle school's resource building stands. Glorioso said a 2012 marketing study done by a consultant, who interviewed 700 community members at random by phone, indicated a community need for new recreational facilities.

"The key components of interest in the study were found to be healthy lifestyles, aquatic programming, community space and senior programming," Glorioso said.

The YMCA director added the YMCA portion of the project would be the lion's share of its cost.

Pointing out that the joint-occupancy agreement is in the "very early stages," Glorioso said if all goes well that there is about a five-year time horizon for completion of the project, with both the La Jolla and Peninsula YMCA's participating.

"A fundraising campaign of this magnitude usually takes between two and three years and with construction, that brings it to about five years," Glorioso said.

Under the original proposal accepted by the school board, new joint facilities will be constructed in two phases. Phase I would involve construction of a synthetic turf field and parking lot and would remodel an existing building on the campus to be converted into a community recreational facility. Phase II would involve construction of a community recreational center to include a new building (rather than converting the existing building) and, additionally, a pool.

Under the proposed agreement, the district will lease the portion of the Pacific Beach MS site on which the recreation center will be constructed to the YMCA, and the YMCA, at its expense, will construct, operate and maintain the recreation center for the benefit of district students and the community. YMCA will also have use of the field during non-school hours.

The school district will have use of the joint facilities other than the community center during the school's hours of operation and the YMCA will have use of the joint facilities during periods when the school is not in session. The recreation center will be separated from the school campus by a physical barrier and locked gate.

The term of the initial agreement is 40 calendar years effective on the commencement date. The agreement provides for an option to extend the term an additional 25 years with terms and conditions and subject to board approval at the time the option is exercised.

Either party may terminate the agreement at any time for cause as defined in the agreement or without cause upon 12 months' written notice to the other party to be effective at the end of the fiscal year in which the agreement to terminate is made.
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Mission Bay High

The MBHS senior prom, “Midnight in Paris,” will take place from 7 to 11 p.m. Saturday, May 23, at Paradise Point Resort. The MBHS senior class is excited to celebrate their success and enjoy an elegant evening with the sights of Paris as their backdrop.

The Mission Bay Cluster meeting is 6 p.m. Thursday, June 5, in the MBHS library. Listen to the annual panel discussion with a group of MBHS seniors sharing their experiences at MBHS. The discussion will be moderated by a graduate of MBHS and will include time for questions and answers. Learn about the successes, struggles and rewards of high school from the students themselves.

Pacific Beach Middle

Congratulations to students who piloted the new IB Community Service Projects and who will be recognized with a medal of distinction at promotion. The IB Projects benefited many, including children at Rady Children’s Hospital, patients suffering from leukemia and lymphoma, cats at the San Diego Humane Society, students at Curie Elementary, visitors at the beach (beach clean-up), homeless youth, cancer patients needing wigs and shelter dogs needing foster families.

A big shout-out to the student body, who logged more than 12,400 hours of service and action this school year and to the 38 students who have earned the Presidential Award for Service this year.

CPJMA

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St. Paul’s Lutheran

Thank you to everyone who attended the St Paul’s Gala fundraiser; it was a huge success.

The new Outdoor Learning Center was dedicated on May 6. Students have started planting fruit trees, vegetables and flowers.

The youth group will hold a yard sale in the gym from 7 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 23. The public is welcome to drop off donated items the Friday evening before, from 3 to 7 p.m.

Celebration of the Arts will be held 6:30 p.m. on Friday, May 29, in the gym. This evening will include performances by all school choirs, the handbell ensemble and student ensembles.

Pacific Beach Middle School students Matthew F., Carter T., Andrew F. and Chris K. coordinated the Pacific Beach Men’s Homeless Outreach Project and prepared 60 care packages for distribution to local homeless men.

On Friday, May 1, 20 Crown Point Junior Music Academy violin students performed on stage for the ‘Once Upon a Tiempo’ concert with Classics 4 Kids at the Balboa Theatre for a mariachi-infused program.

Schools
Biking to work benefits your body and community

By DAVE SCHWAB

San Diego’s Bike to Work Day is Friday, May 29, and in Pacific Beach and Point Loma there are pit stops on the way to work for cyclists and two on the way home from work.

Originated by the League of American Bicyclists in 1956, Bike to Work Day is a part of Bike-to-Work Week, which is in turn part of National Bike Month. The annual event, held during spring across the United States and Canada, promotes the bicycle as an option for commuting to work.

Pacific Beach Library, 4275 Cass St., WAV Sport and Social Club, 1940 Garnet Ave., and Mixte Communications, at 4827 Voltaire St., will have morning pit stops from 6 to 9 a.m.

“We’ll have games, prizes and food provided by The Wine Pub,” said Mixte CEO Jamie Hampton, noting the bike train from Mixte to downtown will begin at 7:45 a.m.

Hampton said Mixte’s ride will be at a casual pace and is meant for those biking to work for the first time to get them comfortable on their bikes.

Later, a Bike from Work Day event sponsored by The Wine Pub will take place from 4 to 7 p.m. at 2907 Shelter Island Drive, from 5 to 8 p.m. Bikers will be greeted with an extended happy hour and high-fives.

“The expectations are even higher this year,” he said, noting that “more and more people want to bike more in their daily lives.”

A daily bicycling commuter himself, Hanshaw added that “We’re asking folks to take the pledge to go by bike to work on May 29, and we’re asking them to register online at gobybikesd.com to be able to win cool prizes and other good things.”

According to studies, as many as half or more of the American work force lives within five miles of their workplace, which means it can actually take less time to get to work by biking instead of driving. Cycling enthusiasts add biking can also lower stress levels and boost immune function.

Some reasons for commuting to work by bike:

• It serves a dual purpose. By commuting by bike instead of driving, cycling cuts down on traffic and air pollution, which means less money spent on gas and other costs.

• It saves money. A 2012 Forbes magazine article reported that “The average annual operating cost of a bicycle is $308, compared to $8,220 for the average car.”

• It’s part of a national day — and movement — which has evolved over time. The expectations are even higher this year,” he said, noting that “more and more people want to bike more in their daily lives.”

• It saves money. A 2012 Forbes magazine article reported that “The average annual operating cost of a bicycle is $308, compared to $8,220 for the average car.”

• It offers helpful courses for riders. The San Diego County Bicycle Coalition also offers helpful courses for riders.

• Safety First - When biking on roadways, ride with the flow of traffic, stay alert and wear brightly colored clothing and reflective gear at night to make you more visible.

May 29 is San Diego’s Bike to Work Day, and if you are considering pedaling to work, here are some tips for a safe commute:

1.) The Night Bike - Make sure your bike “fits” in relation to your height. If it’s an older bike, a local repair shop can tune it and do a safety check for you.

2.) A Good Helmet - A helmet that fits properly will protect you in case of a fall. A helmet is required for everyone under 18 years old and recommended for everyone else. It must meet certain legal standards.

3.) Pick a Way to Go - Pick a route in advance with the help of the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) Regional Bike Map or Google Maps. SANDAG’s iCommute program also provides information about how to sign up for a bike locker and take your bike on transit.

4.) Rules of the Road - It’s important to learn and follow the rules of the road. The San Diego County Bicycle Coalition also offers helpful courses for riders.

5.) Safety First - When biking on roadways, ride with the flow of traffic, stay alert and wear brightly colored clothing and reflective gear at night to make you more visible.

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5 ways to stay safe when biking

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Community
Rolling Stones weekend at Beaumont's

By BART MENDOZA

It’s not every day that the legendary Rolling Stones come to San Diego, so as might be expected, there is excitement in the air as their May 24 date at Petco Park approaches. For Stones fans, the best bet in local clubs will be three days of Jagger/Richards tunes happening this weekend at Beaumont’s.

On Sunday, May 24, at 9 p.m., the venue will feature December’s Chil- dren, with guitarist David Fleminger, while Monday, May 25, will showcase the Jones Revival, with an appearance by Rhythm Authority on the morning of Tuesday, May 26, at 11:30 a.m.

With tickets for the Petco show priced into the hundreds of dollars, this weekend of music at Beaumont’s may be the best option for fans on a budget to hear songs such as “Satisfaction,” “Jumping Jack Flash” and “Start Me Up” as “Satisfaction,” “Jumping Jack Flash” and “Start Me Up.” Beaumont’s may be the best option for this weekend of music at Beaumont’s.

On Sunday, May 24, Dizzy’s will host a special performance honoring Marillo on his 82nd birthday. A mainstay of San Diego’s music community since 1974, Marillo has recorded numerous worthy discs and played countless concerts, but it’s as a teacher/mentor that he has perhaps made the biggest impact. It’s estimated more than 500 students have been helped along in their musical careers, with countless more influenced by his sound and his work ethic. San Diego is fortunate to have such a man among its residents. If you are a jazz fan of any stripe, this opportunity to take in a set – and to thank one of our community’s pillars – should not be missed.

Metal rockers Cage return full force with a show at Brick by Brick on Saturday, May 23. The band is performing in advance of its upcoming album. “Ancient Evil,” so fans can expect a preview of the new tunes. But the bulk of the tracks will likely be favorites from their 28-year run (so far). Members have come and gone in those decades, but Cage remains dedicated to its craft, turning out music that’s hard and heavy. The names in Cage may change, the years may pass, but for lucky fans, the song remains the same.

Blues fans should make a point of catching a set from blues singer Missy Anderson on Thursday, May 28, as she performs at Tio Leo’s. Backed by guitarist Reine Anderson and a topflight band, Anderson has more than a touch of soul to her voice, bringing to mind a grittier Tina Turner.

This is particularly notable when she does the occasional recast cover, such as an excellent version of the Beatles’ “Come Together.” Anderson will be backed by a full band, highlighted by Anderson’s stellar guitar work and wonderful Hammond organ licks of Leo Donnecki. Perfect for swinging dancing or just as a sound-track to Tio Leo’s tasty dining options, Missy Anderson’s blues music is ironically the perfect anti-dote to the blues – a guaranteed good time.

Brandon Stone

MUST HEAR

Rolling Stones weekend, May 24-26 at Beaumont’s, 5662 La Jolla Blvd, 21 and up. beaumontseats.com.

Private Domain: Friday, May 22, at the Kona Kai Resort, 1551 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 7 p.m.

Viva Santana: Saturday, May 23, at Humphrey’s Backstage Live, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 8 p.m. $12.

Joe Marillo: Sunday, May 24, at Dizzy’s, 4275 Mission Bay Drive. 8 p.m. $15.

Cage: Thursday, May 28, at Brick by Brick, 1130 Buenos Ave. 8 p.m. 21 and up. $10.

Missy Anderson: Thursday, May 28, at Tio Leo’s, 5302 Napa St. 9 p.m. 21 and up. Cover TBD.
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