Volunteer training for Coastkeeper’s water-monitoring program on tap

BY MARTIN JONES WESTLIN
Beach & Bay Press

The last statistic concerns San Diego-Coastkeeper the most. A 2011 study by the environmental watchdog said that size and activity (coupled with the county’s aging drainage infrastructure) has meant increased pollution levels in the county’s 11 watersheds that feed into the Pacific Ocean.

But another set of numbers reflects Coastkeeper’s efforts in stemming the flow of the bad stuff — and for one official, the TIPS THE SEASON IN PB

’CHRISTMAS ON CRYSTAL PIER’ CHRISTENS SEASON OF HOPE

Discover Pacific Beach ushered in the holiday season Dec. 1 with its fourth annual “Christmas on Crystal Pier” event. Above, with a backdrop of thundering waves, Santa eagerly awaits the gift wish lists of little ones. Left, a lighted Christmas tree shines over residents in the spirit of the holidays. Right, stockings are hung with care at the pier. “Christmas on Crystal Pier” was only the beginning of community events. The PB Holiday Parade arrives Dec. 15, along with a community/business mixer on Dec. 12 (see Page 5) and a “Boards, Bikes and Brows” holiday fundraiser on Dec. 8 (see Page 6).

Volunteers from San Diego Coastkeeper test a watershed for pollutants.

PHOTO COURTESY OF COASTKEEPER

EX-MBHS QUARTERBACK MAKES GOOD IN WORLD OF COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Former Buccaneer quarterback Andy Guyader, who went on to play for Cal Poly San Luis Obispo from 1992-96, is now distinguishing himself in college football as an assistant coach for the Army team. His squad will go head-to-head on Dec. 4 with Navy in a golden ticket that dates back to 1890. Page 5

LIVELY, SPIRITED HOLIDAY PARADE SET TO LIGHT UP PB’S BUSINESS DISTRICT

BY MARIN LAMAR | BEACH & BAY PRESS

Garnet Avenue will come to life with festive holiday cheer on Saturday, Dec. 15 during the community’s venerable and much-anticipated Pacific Beach Holiday Parade.

Festivities begin at 1 p.m. with a spirited procession of colorful floats, classic cars and the vibrant sounds of the Pacific Beach Middle and Mission Bay High School bands marching west down six blocks of Garnet Avenue from Haines to Cass streets. Spectators are encouraged to line the streets before the parade begins to get the best vantage point of the lively event, then stick around to enjoy the many amenities the seaside community has to offer.

We encourage people to make the Parade Starts at 1:00pm

PB’s business district

Hotline lets residents be eyes, ears on water-pollution issues

BY KENDRA HANTMANN
Beach & Bay Press

When it comes to water pollution, San Diego Coastkeeper is at the forefront of monitoring the health of San Diego’s waterways. Not surprisingly, however, the nonprofit’s resources are often stretched thin, leaving potential holes in the effort to achieve total wellness in area creeks, rivers and oceans.

That’s why the group is lightening its burden by asking San Diegans to step in and keep an eye on things. Enter the pollution reporting hotline.

The pollution reporting hotline is just that — a way for residents to reach out when they witness pollution and bring it to the attention of the appropriate authorities. And because knowing who the appropriate authority is can be tricky when it comes to reporting, say, runoff water flowing onto our beaches or a neighbor improperly side community has to offer.

We encourage people to make the Parade Starts at 1:00pm

PB’s business district

Volunteer training for Coastkeeper’s water-monitoring program on tap

BY MARTIN JONES WESTLIN
Beach & Bay Press

If you laid San Diego County’s 4,200 square miles end to end, the line would stretch from Honolulu to Chicago. Of the nation’s 3,000 counties, San Diego has the 12th largest farm economy with its 3.14 million population and is the fifth most populous, ranking in the 12th largest farm economy.

The last statistic concerns San Diego-Coastkeeper the most. A 2011 study by the environmental watchdog said that size and activity (coupled with the county’s aging drainage infrastructure) has meant increased pollution levels in the county’s 11 watersheds that feed into the Pacific Ocean.

But another set of numbers reflects Coastkeeper’s efforts in stemming the flow of the bad stuff — and for one official, the
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MBHS alum in spotlight as Army’s assistant football coach

Long-running Army-Navy gridiron classic set for Dec. 8 this year

“I remember standing on the sideline and looking up into the sixth row and seeing the president of the United States, which pretty much sums it up. It is an emotion-filled day for a lot of people.”

Guyader arrived at West Point with Rich Ellerson after Ellerson was hired by Army to be the head football coach before the 2009 season.

“Moving here to the East Coast is a very different atmosphere compared to the West Coast, as well as the military aspect of it, so there was a lot of adjusting involved,” Guyader said. “But some of the best people I’ve ever met have been here at West Point.”

Guyader was the starting quarterback for the Mission Bay High Buccaneers for three years between 1989 and 1993 before attending college at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, where he played for the Mustangs from 1992 to 1996.

After he graduated with a master’s degree in civil engineering, Guyader began his coaching career at Pasadena Poly High School across the street from Cal Poly before opening Head West in 2003 there as the offensive coordinator and head teacher to the school’s CIF title in 2002.

Following Pasadena Poly High, he spent the next five years coaching staff at Cal Poly from 2004 to 2008.

“Coaching isn’t any different than teaching a class,” he said.


27 Tips to Drive up the Sale Price of your Home

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Music fans of all stripes will want to check out the Pacific Beach Library’s monthly free music series. Featuring a diverse selection of musical genres, the next event takes place Dec. 12 and features violin and cello duo Susan and Ronald Robboy. Best known for their work with the San Diego Symphony, Ronald also spent time as an assistant to legendary instrument inventor Harry Partch. Fans of classical chamber music won’t find much to appreciate at this installment of the series, but if you enjoy the sound of strings will want to take a listen at some of the area’s bestkept secrets. Catch it on Dec. 14 at The Griffin.

MUST HEAR

Anyone wanting to investigate rising talent will want to head to the 710 Beach Club on Dec. 12 for a performance from Los Angeles-based duo Blodfire. It’s been a slow rise to the top to be sure (their first disc hit shelves in 2004), but the pair has really come into its own in recent months. Blodfire’s current hit, “Where the Kids Are” has been scoring major airplay locally, so this gig at a relative newcomer venue will likely be a sell-out. Even with probable crowds, it will be well worth braving the masses to hear this indie group’s pop-tinged electronica.

Quick Hits

Drug deal goes south, turns into armed robbery

An apparent marijuana deal led to an armed robbery and fight that left one man injured in the 2100 block of Garnet Avenue around 1 a.m. on Dec. 1, according to police. Investigators said two white men in their twenties were engaging in a marijuana transaction when an argument ensued and one of the men pulled a gun to steal some of the pot.

Police said the robber attempted to tie the hands of the pot seller and another man who was inside the apartment when the argument became physical.

Two other suspects entered the apartment and the fight moved to the balcony area, where one of the apartment residents was pushed from the balcony, landing below, said police.

The suspects fled in a 1999 white Toyota 4 Runner SUV. One victim suffered abrasions and a small bump on his head.

The other apartment occupant was not injured.

The suspects were described as four Hispanic males, but police did not release any further descriptions.

Northern Division is investigating.

Man stabbed by unknown attacker; motive unclear

Investigators are looking into the stabbing of a man in the 2200 block of Grand Avenue shortly before 9 p.m. on Nov. 22.

The victim, described as a 29-year-old Hispanic man, was stabbed at least once in the chest by an unknown assailant or possibly more than one, according to police. The victim’s wife reported the incident when the man stumbled into their home.

Police said it was not clear where or why the incident might have occurred, but the case remains under investigation.

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disposing of waste. Coastkeeper acts as a liaison between vigilant residents and the city department that can address their concerns.

“We’re trying to use our connections to get reports to the right people,” said Jill Witkowski, waterkeeper for Coastkeeper.

“Also, some people want to remain anonymous, so there’s more privacy for those who maybe aren’t comfortable providing names to the city. It can also be hard for the city to follow through with anonymous complaints, so we act as the go-between in those cases.”

In some instances, Coastkeeper also provides a more thorough experience than the city has the resources for.

“Some residents want a follow-up to their inquiry to know what happened, but the city doesn’t have the capacity to do that,” Witkowski said. “We can follow through and keep people informed.”

Recently, La Jolla was the site of two cases of water pollution that, through Coastkeeper’s hotline, were brought to the attention of city officials and quickly resolved. In one case, a resident witnessed a neighbor dumping paint down a storm drain. The resident called the hotline, and Coastkeeper’s attention the build-up of sand, mud and debris that had caused the low-flow diversion drains in the community to be clogged, thus causing urban runoff to flow directly into the stormwater drains — and right on to the beach.

“Though the hotline has been in effect for quite some time, Witkowski said the number of incoming calls and emails has increased lately — heartening news for those who, no matter how badly they want to combat water pollution, simply can’t be everywhere at once.

“The more we can talk about the pollution problem, the more likely it will be we can do something about it,” she said. “We all contribute to pollution, and it’s difficult and expensive to expect the city and county to clean it up after we’ve caused the problem, instead of doing our part to confront it beforehand. I think if people look at it as a pocketbook issue, hopefully that could be an effective message and they’d be prompted to do something.”

Doing something, Witkowski said, can be as easy as talking about action.

“We need to get educated about the impacts of the choices we make, and we can all act on the little things to prevent pollution,” she said. “Taking your car to a car wash that collects the soapy water or washing your car in the grass if you can, making sure your sprinklers water the grass and not the sidewalk, these are all little things we can do. Once we’re able to do those things in our own lives, we can talk to our friends and neighbors. It’s that simple.”

TRAINEE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

people behind the stats make all the difference in the group’s effectiveness.

One Saturday a month, a core of Coastkeeper volunteers take to the county’s waterways at 40 locations that feed into nine of the 11 area watersheds, leading out on samples for presentation of data to various state and local environmental offices and the Environmental Protection Agency. It’s not as easy as it sounds, because the volunteers do more than gather water—they’re responsible for the actual sample collection, shipping up state and local governments’ limited collection resources.

Coastkeeper’s water-quality laboratory manager credits the program with making the county’s monitoring effort one of the biggest and best in the state.

“Because our volunteers produce professional-level data,” Travis Pritchard said, “they become a vital part of the Coastkeeper team and of a larger effort by many community, government and corporate stakeholders to understanding San Diego County’s water quality and how to improve it.”


Founded in 1995, Coastkeeper has been gathering its data since 2000 and has just signed its 700th volunteer.

The group’s 2011 watershed report, its first noted that 85 recruits collected samples reflecting the health of nine waterways for 2009-10 from the Tijuana River site to just south of Fallbrook. The majority of the watersheds’ health readings fell into the “fair” category. No county watershed scored in the “marginal” or “excellent” ranges.

While these data may not always snug well, the solutions do — and Pritchard said the volunteers play a vital role to that end for one very important reason.

“Water-quality professionals,” Pritchard said, “are terrible at getting their data out to the public. I know what you mean about the [colossal] thick reports from places like the [California] Coastal Commission and the EPA. [The volunteers] make the collection process faster from our end and not adding to the backlog. They understand our way of using data to tell a story ... We are extremely grateful for them.” For a look at Coastkeeper’s 2011 watershed report, visit www.sdcoastkeeper.org.

For information on how to become a water-quality monitor, email volunteer@sdcoastkeeper.org or call the group’s community engagement coordinator at (619) 758-7743, ext. 131.
‘Bikes, Boards and Brews’ holiday fundraiser is Dec. 8

By Mark Lamb | Beach & Bay Press

Three of Pacific Beach’s favorite activities will converge in the beach-front community for the inaugural “Bikes, Boards and Brews” holiday fundraiser on Saturday, Dec. 8 at the renowned Catamaran Resort Hotel and Spa, located at 1999 Mission Blvd.

The event will kick off with a community ride around Mission Bay at 11 a.m., starting from the boardwalk at Catamaran Pier. Then, from noon to 4 p.m., the festivities will continue with a vintage beach-themed party that will include beer tasting from more than a dozen local brewers, food pairings by 10 of Pacific Beach’s best restaurants, live music by locals Jackson Price and The Yes Team, and restaurants, live music by locals.

Tickets to the fundraiser, which includes 10 beer tastings, food pairings, live music and art, are $25 in advance or $30 at the door. All funds raised from the event will help fund Discover PB's programs, including Shop Local, holiday event and other programs to help enhance Pacific Beach.

Preliminary tickets are available at www.pbbeerfest.com.

Despite the community’s fondness for the annual holiday parade, the longstanding Pacific Beach tradition has experienced a couple of setbacks over the years, forcing its cancellation in 2009, revived in 2010, and cancelled again just last year because of a lack of funding.

The parade is difficult to fund because there are no income sources like vendors or concession sales, like you would have for a festival,” said Berns. “Because our parade is so long, the street closure — which is charged per block — is very expensive.”

This year, however, a dedicated group of community members made it their mission to bring the parade back — hopefully, for good.

“Discover PB decided to move forward with the parade because of the huge effort made by the community to raise the funds,” Berns said. “People that live and work in this community really made it happen and wanted to see the parade return.”

Through fundraising efforts spearheaded by the Beach Bar Talki and generous support from the Pacific Beach Community Foundation, the community’s goal to save the parade this year has been achieved.

“They started with a goal last year to save the parade and worked tirelessly to get it done,” said Berns. “They raised the majority of the funding needed for the parade by hosting events attended by the community to bring this parade back.”

To ensure the community’s beloved holiday event continues long into the future, businesses and community members are encouraged to contribute to the Pacific Beach Holiday Parade fund throughout the year. For more information about how to donate, contact Berns at (858) 273-1301, or email sara@pacificbeach.org.

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HELPING THOSE WHO HELP US

Members of the Pacific Beach Town Council (PBTC) recently presented a $500 donation to Capt. Brian Ahearn (right) to bolster the much-needed improvements to the police department’s community storefront in Pacific Beach. Shown are, from left, John Wilding, J.C. Wilding & Co. Contractors Inc; Joe Wilding (handing check), outgoing PBTC president; Susan Lowary, PBTC Communications Committee chairwoman; Alan Harris, incoming PBTC president; Michelle Fuka, Bird Rock Community Council board member; and Ahearn, who is with Northern Division. Officials say the storefront is sorely in need of a deep cleaning, new paint, and repairs to walls, floors and the bathroom. More funding is obviously needed for these and a desired trash compactor and water purifier, but officials agree this is a good start.

Photo by Don Balch | Beach & Bay Press
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Typhoon Saloon and Fred’s: double the game-day excitement under one roof

By MARIKO LAMB | BEACH & BAY PRESS

One is a festive restaurant serving up some of the freshest Mexican fare this side of the border. The other is a casual nightclub featuring a cavernous interior with plenty of dancin’ room. Despite their differences, Fred’s Mexican Café and Typhoon Saloon act as a second home for a horde of devoted football enthusiasts on NFL game day.

A healthy mix of orange-and-blue-clad Denver Broncos fans fill up Fred’s Mexican Café — the portion of the establishment that faces the street corner — while a crowd of red-and-gold-laden patrons cheer on the San Francisco 49ers in the spacious Typhoon Saloon, located in the back and western portion of the same building.

“There are so many people that aren’t from San Diego that live here,” said Ryan Dickert, general manager of Fred’s and Typhoon Saloon. “We definitely support our teams. If you’re a fan of either team, this is your home.”

What used to be a small 49ers contingent a few years ago has grown into a dedicated gathering of committed fans who line up outside Typhoon’s doors before game time every Sunday, Dickert said.

“We started with the 49ers midway through the season back in 2008,” he said. “We had a small 49er crew of locals and a few employees that still kept coming in even though their team wasn’t doing so well. We started putting the sound on for their games and it just evolved into the beast that it is now.”

Likewise, Fred’s is constantly packed with loyal Broncos followers on game day, a tradition that started just last season during the quarterback Tim Tebow craze and continues now with the acquisition of seasoned pro quarterback Peyton Manning. Despite the contemporary fun base, Fred’s affiliation with the Broncos dates back many years.

“One of our employees that worked here with us for a summer, Byron Chamberlain, actually played for the Broncos and has two Super Bowl rings as part of that team,” said Dickert. “He helped get it started. We put out a couple posts and found several Broncos groups as well, and it started from there.”

With both the Niners and the Broncos in the picture for playoffs this season, Fred’s and Typhoon Saloon are packed to the brim every Sunday with fans enjoying the game alongside an ice cold brew or the restaurant-bars’ game day “tailgate special,” which includes a choice of barbequed meat and traditional tailgate sides like potato salad, macaroni and cheese or baked beans.

And with nearly 40 TVs at Typhoon and 20 more at Fred’s, those who want to simultaneously keep up with all the games at once have found their hotspot for game day.

“We have a multitude of TVs on both sides, so we’re showing all the games in addition to the teams we support, so you can definitely follow your fantasy football teams,” said Dickert. “We’re about the next best thing to being at the stadium. We’re just got great food, a great staff and with Typhoon being as big as it is, you’ll never have a problem finding a seat.”

Coming up on Feb. 3, Typhoon will also play host to a Super Bowl XLVII bash in partnership with Vavi, a local sports club and social team. Details about the event will be available at www.typhoonsaloon.com. Fred’s Mexican Café and Typhoon Saloon are located at 1165 Garnet Ave. For more information, visit www.typhoonsaloon.com or www.fredsmexicancafe.com.
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www.oceanbeachsandiego.com • www.obtowncouncil.org
People in the news

PB artist wins honor in art, photography show

Pacific Beach resident G. Pasha Turley was named a honorable-mention award recently in the annual Digital Art and Photography Show held at St. Mark’s United Methodist Church.

Turley’s winning entry was a digital canvas print entitled “Quiet Dreams.” The show’s theme was “Creation Continues.”

This is the sixth year on view that were created by 16 artists. The juror was award-winning graphic artist Randall Cornish.

Local girls honored with leadership awards

Seven young ladies from Pacific Beach Middle School, one from Mission Bay High and another from Hoppy High in Point Loma were honored with recognition as one of the winners of the Jenna Druck Foundation “Spirit of Leadership” awards gala and leadership conference.

Each year, hundreds of high school-age girls are nominated by the community to receive the “Spirit of Leadership” award.

Among the awards to be handed out are those in the areas of community leadership, student leadership, academic leadership, creative leadership, athletic leadership, family leadership, personal integrity and the “undiscovered leader.”

Award recipients include:

- Jenna Smith, Mission Bay High
- Jessica Coyne, High Tech High
- Myka Green, Pacific Beach Middle
- Alex Briski, PB Middle international baccalaureate program
- Serena Castro, PB Middle international baccalaureate program
- Karina Eisenhardt, PB Middle international baccalaureate program
- Laura Pule, PB Middle international baccalaureate program
- Martina Pulido, PB Middle international baccalaureate program and
- Jessica Coyne, PB Middle international baccalaureate program

The Jenna Druck Center was founded by Dr. Ken Druck in honor of the life of his daughter, Jenna, who passed away when she was just 21. In celebration of Jenna’s commitment to leadership and positive change, the Spirit of Leadership program was established.

The Spirit of Leadership Conference is one of the highlights of this year’s round program, and just one of many ways in which SeaWorld invests back to the young girls in our community.

For more information on the Jenna Druck Center, visit www.jennadruckcenter.org.

SeaWorld’s Christmas celebration offers extravaganza of family fun

With special holiday-themed animal shows, real snow, reindeer, festive décor and lots of activities in the wings, SeaWorld San Diego is preparing to wow families this Christmas season.

This year is SnowWorld, a winter wonderland of snow and family fun, with a brand-new snowball target game for kids and snow falling along the pathway.

SeaWorld will also be decked out with more lights and décor than ever before, and a baby reindeer named Jingles is sure to put a smile on everyone’s face, said park officials.

SeaWorld’s Christmas celebration takes place on the weekends through Dec. 16 and then daily from Dec. 22 through Jan. 5. Holiday festivities are included with admission.

Shamu and friends celebrate with the “Chama’s Christmas” nighttime show and the SeaWorld’s prank-loving married-loving pineapple (California sea lions) have a hilarious holiday time in “Clyde and Seamore Save Christmas,” the cutest cats and dogs at Pets’ Playhouse take over and throw a Christmas party full of high jinks, and the nightly lighting of SeaWorld’s 120-foot Skytower Christmas Tree of Lights will capture the spirit all season.

Among this year’s features:

- 8,000 square feet of fresh snow every day
- Animal encounters with talents from SeaWorld’s arctic foxes will add to the wintery atmosphere. SnowWorld will be open daily through Jan. 5.
- “Clyde and Seamore Save Christmas,” daily through Jan. 5.

For complete show schedules, prices and information, visit www.seaworld-sandiego.com. — Staff and contribution
PB Library announces changes for month of December

Good news for bibliophiles. Effective this month, the PB Library will be open 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday, with the library closed for the holidays Dec. 24 through Jan. 1. Some new times for Friends of the PB Library book sales are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesdays and Saturdays. For more information, call (858) 581-9928.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lost and found
Lost 1987 Harley 110 black, with headlight Turner 112, 11/12, old female form, for a wonderful, tiny, sweet pine squirrel (helped with winter feeding) Finders reward. Call (619) 684-2920.

Library card number 1169842 was destroyed. Please get a new card at the library. Call (858) 581-9929.

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Here are some tips to follow during flu season:

- **Stay home if you're sick.** Wait at least 24 hours after you no longer have a fever (100° Fahrenheit or 37.8° Celsius).
- **Try to avoid close contact with sick people.**
- **Wash your hands often.** Use soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that has at least 60% alcohol.
- **Cough or sneeze – and throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.** If you don’t have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve or elbow, not your hands.
- **Get a flu shot.**
- **Avoid close contact with people who are sick.**
- **Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze – and throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.**
- **Learn about the flu vaccine.**
- **Stay healthy.**

**Who should get a flu shot?**

- All adults, especially those 65 years of age and older
- People with chronic health conditions
- Women who are pregnant
- Children and adults who have certain conditions
- People who are at higher risk of serious complications from the flu
- People who care for or interact closely with people at higher risk
- People who live with or care for someone who has a long-term health condition
- People who live in nursing homes or other long-term care facilities

**Getting your flu vaccine early, before flu season hits full force.**

- **Medicare covers the flu vaccination, along with many other preventive-health services.**
- **There’s no coinsurance, copayment, or deductible.**
- **Here’s how to get your flu vaccine:**
  - Go to a pharmacy
  - Go to a local health center
  - Go to a doctor’s office
  - Go to a school health center

**Information is available at www.healthcare.gov.**
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