La Jolla’s Children’s Pool is closed for the next five months during the harbor seals’ annual pupping season there, but this year is different: Public access to the beach is being denied.

Predictably, the closure has rekindled the long-simmering debate over shared use at the pool, created 83 years ago by La Jolla philanthropist Ellen Browning Scripps as a safe children’s wading area. The pool sits off a spit of land at 850 Coast Blvd.

Some contend it is the public’s constitutional right to unlimited beach access. Others insist keeping humans off the beach during the marine mammals’ pupping season is the only sure way to protect them.

Opponents of the new seasonal ban at the Children’s Pool in La Jolla gathered recently to hold a candlelight vigil.

Ryan Sweeney, president of San Diego Free Divers, organized the small protest, during which about a dozen people sat outside the barrier.
Shores group hears plan to change permitting for religious institutions

By DAVE SCHWAB

At its December meeting, La Jolla Shores Association got an update from community planner Joe LaCava explaining a proposed change in the city’s Land Development Code that would require a conditional user permit to site a religious institution in zones within La Jolla Shores Planned District.

LaCava noted that regulations requiring special permitting to site religious institutions in neighborhoods like the Shores somehow got “swept away” in the most recent City Land Development Code update.

He said there were three proposed options the association could take in dealing with siting religious facilities in the PDO: require a conditional use permit for any religious facility or large assembly, prohibit them in single-family, multi-family or commercial zones.

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Any assembly of more than 300 persons would require conditional use and coastal development permits,” LaCava said, adding the situation has been complicated by lawsuits won by religious organizations in the courts challenging denial of their requests to be cited on grounds that they would be too big.

Asked if new proposed regulations to put permitting limitations would apply to existing religious facilities, LaCava said they wouldn’t, as those facilities would be grandfathered in. He added that would apply to Hilal’s ongoing proposal to site a Jewish student center adjacent to a Shores single-family neighborhood, noting “that project is already in the pipeline.”

Board member Janie Emerson said the issue of requiring permitting for religious institutions “ought to be a voting item on our January agenda.”

“I want it on our website so we can get the community’s input,” said group chair Tim Lucas, adding, “You don’t represent the community unless you get the community’s input. That’s really important.”

LaCava added there’s time to consider options on how and where to allow religious facilities, as the City Land Development Code is not likely to be reconsidered by City Planning Commission until February of 2015.

In other matters:

• An permitting application by Verizon for a new wireless communication facility at Allen Field for two antennas concealed inside two 30-foot-tall light standards has been delayed for consideration by the association until its Jan. 14 meeting. The proposal previously has drawn significant opposition. Neighbors and parents have expressed concern about the proposed cell site’s proximity to Torrey Pines Elementary School and the perceived potential for students to be adversely affected by cell tower transmissions.

• Lifeguard Rich Stropky noted the Shores is looking into ideas to beautify Laureate Park on Avenida de la Playa. “We’re thinking of planting some jacarandas or other trees,” he said. Planner Janie Emerson suggested the neighborhood host a contest to collect ideas on park improvements. The late architect Dale Naegle had previously suggested building monuments in the park honoring UCSD nobel laureates. Shores resident Bob Whitney noted Naegle’s suggestion ultimately didn’t fly “because the proposed monuments looked like tombstones.”

Looking for a way to increase the surveillance range of its cutter, the U.S. Coast Guard tested an unmanned helicopter off Point Mugu in Ventura County. The MQ-8B Fire Scout, built by Northrop Grumman in San Diego, took off for a test flight from the USCGC Bertholf with the helicopter being controlled by Navy pilots and Coast Guard personnel from a Fire Scout control station on the ship during a demonstration Dec. 5.

The demonstration will help the Coast Guard determine the capabilities of the Fire Scout for its uses, Lt. Cdr. Dan Broadhurst said. “The MQ-8B Fire Scout is the Navy’s combat-proven unmanned helicopter, and can provide the same persistent maritime surveillance capabilities for the Coast Guard,” Northrop Grumman’s spokesman George Vardoulakis said. “I’m confident that we’ll demonstrate increased NSC effectiveness while lowering the Coast Guard’s operational costs.”

A Fire Scout was recently deployed with a Navy littoral combat ship in San Diego.

-- Times of San Diego

Coast Guard Tests Unmanned Helicopter

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LA JOLLA VILLAGE NEWS

TUESDAY · DECEMBER 23, 2014

News
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Muirlands - La Jolla
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Bird Rock Sanctuary
3 bdr, 2 bath, 2,064 esf. Ocean Views. Great Location near shops & restaurants!
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Charming Village Bungalow
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$879,000

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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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Church leader, parade organizers among standouts at town council meeting

By DAVE SCHWAB

La Jolla Town Council heard from the leader of a historic community church, gave kudos to organizers of the annual holiday parade, honored a longtime restaurateur and announced the State of La Jolla address to be delivered at the group’s next meeting in January.

Those were some of the highlights of the council’s Dec. 11 meeting.

Rev. Chuck Norris, pastor of Prince Chapel by the Sea, noted the church, at 7517 Cuvier St., has served the community since 1943.

Prior to that, the African Methodist Episcopal church’s congregation, predominantly domestic servants at that time, had worshipped out of La Jolla Union Mission, which was founded by seven members in 1921.

“Some of the founding members of that church’s descendants worship at Prince Chapel today,” said Norris, adding the church in its 93-year existence has served “families that have their roots in La Jolla.”

Today, Norris said, Prince Chapel is multi-ethnic, with a broad spectrum of about 40 to 50 regular members, some of whom he said “I’ve only seen once or twice,” and another 50 or so other members whom, Norris joked, “I’ve never seen.”

“Our church holds about 100 people,” Norris said, adding that the congregation’s objective is to “build a church that’s safe enough for anyone to worship in.”

Norris said Prince Chapel has three major ministries, one of which works with The Rachel Center, a homeless shelter in downtown San Diego.

He added that the church also pays very special attention to youthful members of mixed-race lineage.

“It’s a little confusing, and a little more difficult than we realize, for those children to fit in,” Norris said. He pointed out that times have changed, adding that “the melting pot in this country” has become a “salad bowl.”

“We all need to just be ourselves, be respectful and appreciative and celebrate one another,” said Norris.

He concluded his speech by inviting La Jollans to worship services.

In other action:

• Alfonso Fierro, owner of Alfonso’s Mexican restaurant, at 1251 Prospect St. for the past 32 years, was commended by the council for being a cornerstone of the Village merchant community.

Dec. 11, 2014 was also proclaimed to be Alfonso Fierro day in La Jolla.

• LJTC chair Steve Haskins said the group’s next meeting on Thursday, Jan. 8, will be special, as the council will have a brief business meeting at 5 p.m. This event will be followed by a State of La Jolla 2015 address to be delivered by community leaders at 6 p.m.

“We’ll have a powerpoint or multimedia presentation as part of that, which will take about an hour,” Haskins said.

• Ann Kerr Bache was lauded by the group for another year of shepherding the annual La Jolla Christmas Parade to another successful conclusion.

Board member Cindy Greatrex was also recognized by the group for being a “tireless volunteer” for the annual event.
The federal courts have said the Mount Soledad Memorial, with its cross, violates separation of church and state. It was designated in the 1980s as a memorial to the veterans of the Korean War.

### De Anza Cove settlement ends 35-year legal dispute with City

A 35-year legal dispute between the city and tenants of the De Anza Cove mobile-home park has been resolved, with tenants agreeing to voluntarily move out of the park within a year in return for relocation compensation averaging $77,000 per household — about $2.2 million total.

Peter Zamoyski of the law firm Tatro & Zamoyski, representing De Anza mobile-home park residents, commented on the settlement.

“Tatro & Zamoyski are pleased that the court found that the sales proceeding before the court is completely fair,” Zamoyski said. “The court decided that the sale of the park was fair to the residents of the mobile-home park. The court ruled that the sale of the park was fair to the residents of the mobile-home park.

Zamoyski noted many De Anza residents are seniors, pointing out that many left the park already prior to the final settlement.

“It was very important to be able to fund those relocating, giving certainty, and finally, to a lot of these folks in their golden years,” Zamoyski said.

In October, the De Anza Cove Homeowners Association voted to accept the City of San Diego’s terms of settlement. This week, the De Anza Cove Homeowners Association voted to accept the City of San Diego’s terms of settlement. The tenants were given a reprieve to order their FREE copy of this report, call toll-free 1-800-276-0763 and enter 1071. You can call any time. 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Get your free expert report now to learn how to price your home to your maximum financial advantage.

### Free report reveals secrets smart home sellers use to preserve their equity

When you decide to sell your home, setting your asking price is one of the most important decisions you will ever make. Depending on how a buyer is made aware of your home, price is often the first thing he or she sees, and many homes are discarded by prospective buyers as not being in the appropriate price range.

Your asking price is often your home’s “first impression,” and if you want to realize the most money you can for your home, it’s imperative that you make a good first impression.

This is not as easy it sounds, and pricing strategy should not be taken lightly. Pricing too high can be as costly to a homeowner as pricing too low.

A recent study, which compiles 10 years of industry research, has resulted in a new special report entitled “Homeseekers: How to Get the Price You Want (and Need!).” This report will help you understand pricing strategy from three different angles. When taken together, this information will help you price your home to not only sell, but sell at the price you want.

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### Ask The Trust & Estate Attorney

Virginia Weber
Laskowitz
Estate Attorney

**Question:**
I cannot discuss the subject of estate or financial planning with my: Partner, Wife, Husband, or Parents, what can I do?

**Answer:**
Information is very important when you plan a talk with your family member. You can set an appointment with the estate planning attorney to determine what you need. It is also very important to have an attorney to review your financial and estate planning documents. Your attorney is specially trained to work with you to create an estate plan that fits your needs.

If your parents own a home worth $800,000 and have no wills or planning, at the second death the probate costs and fees would be $40,000 for this procedure. If that amount of cash is not available, the home will need to be sold. You have minor children and assets and no Will and Trust. There will be a guardianship set up in court and the judge will decide who will raise your children. At the time that the child reaches the age of 18, they will be in charge of 100% of their money.

The home is still in the previous spouses name with your spouse. Without changing the title of the home and living estate planning, the ex spouse will receive the home and you will have to leave your home when your spouse dies.

If you cannot continue to discuss this, bring them in my office and I will get them to do so.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!! HAPPY NEW YEAR!!**

Virginia Weber
Laskowitz
Estate Attorney
619-222-5500

www.virginiaweber.com E-mail: vweber01@yahoo.com 4817 Santa Monica Ave. Ste D, San Diego, CA 92107

### Potential land sale to memorial group could mean end to Soledad cross flap

By an 89-11 vote, the U.S. Senate Dec. 12 passed a defense bill containing a provision from 52nd District Republican Rep. Duncan Hunter Jr. that authorizes sale of the land containing the Mount Soledad Veterans Memorial with its 4-foot-high cross to Mount Soledad Memorial Association, Inc., a private group that maintains the site.

The provision, which began with a City Attorney’s opinion in 1978, spanned 19 City Councils and eight mayors.

With the close of this chapter, the property can return to recreational, commercial and educational uses, as intended by state law, said City Attorney Jan Goldsmith.

“Mission Bay was never intended to be a mobile-home park,” Goldsmith said. “It is an active and accessible public park – the world’s largest water park – and a place for recreation and tourism, for paddle-boarding and picnics.”

This settlement fairly compensates the tenants who will be displaced, but most importantly, it returns to San Diego 76 waterfront acres we never should have lost.”

Tenants have 12 months to vacate the park. Future uses of the tidelands trust [of 1945] for educational, commercial and recreational purposes, to include parks, playgrounds and facilities.

Residential uses were not permitted as intended by state law, said City Attorney Jan Goldsmith.

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In addition to compensating the tenants, the City will pay attorney fees equal to one-third of the total amount paid.

Tenant compensation will be determined by a combination of factors. In cases where the coach can be physically relocated, the tenant will receive an allowance based on the coach’s size plus $1,660 to defray additional costs. Where it is not feasible to relocate the coach, the tenant will receive a $1,660 moving allowance plus the rent differential for the first four years. Tenants who do not own their coach will receive a $1,660 moving allowance plus an amount equal to two months’ rent for a comparably sized apartment.

The property beneath the mobile-home park has been resolved, with tenants agreeing to voluntarily move out of the park within a year in return for relocation compensation averaging $77,000 per household — about $2.2 million total.

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www.virginiaweber.com E-mail: vweber01@yahoo.com 4817 Santa Monica Ave. Ste D, San Diego, CA 92107
LJHS soccer goalie's knee is as strong as her family roots

By ED PIPER

Roanoke Island in North Carolina has a mysterious history amid its "lost colony" of settlers from England, before the Pilgrims arrived. Mayflower fame, who were never heard from again. But La Jolla High School's Helen Lee, whose family vacations in the area yearly, is a survivor and is being heard from.

The friendly, smiling starting goalie for the Vikings' soccer team doesn't joke about disappearing like Sir Walter Raleigh's contingent. But she is known to make cracks about her surgically repaired left knee — "My right knee is the weak one now," she says after rehabilitation has strengthened the left one — and other things about herself. She says she got her humor from her older brother Coleman.

Her humor and positive outlook helped her get through eight months's sitting out from the sports she relishes so much. She tore her ACL in soccer during a glorious two weeks of vacation in the area yearly, is a survivor and is being heard from. The Lee family has vacationed during a glorious two weeks of downtime. "It's really relaxing," she says. "You go to the beach, read books. We know the guy who owns the local bookstore/coffee place. The area is big for lighthouses, so we visit those. It's go-go-go during the school year, the multi-sport student-athlete says. This is a chance to reconnect as a family."

Her parents are Craig and Ali- son. Her siblings are Sadie, a La Jolla High freshman who just played lacrosse, and Cole man, who played lacrosse at La Jolla High and who now plays at the University of Richmond in Virginia. [The Outer Banks vacation] allows me, especially, to go all-out during the year, knowing I'm going to have to break and refocus," Lee says.

In academics, she is moving ahead well. "My favorite classes right now are my AP U.S. History class and my AP Psychology class. They both are very interesting to me. I'm interested in health and studying anything about the human body, whether it's mentally or physically. Career-wise, there are just too many options ahead to focus on one at this point."

Interestingly, Lee occupies her mind while in goal when the ball is downfield by running potential plays through her mind. "I come up with different scenarios in my head of what I think they might do," she says. "Who their strongest players are. Whether they're more likely to attack from the side or down the middle. I just try to be prepared for any situation when the ball gets close."

Regarding interests outside sports, she says, "I love to spend time with my friends and family. I love to cook and bake and find new restaurants around La Jolla."

In the bigger realm of life, Lee expresses a strong view about the right place of technology in our daily lives. "I'd love to see my generation become techies — not become obsessed with technology," she says. "I like technology. It can do so much. But I don't want to be the generation that uses technology and loses their roots."

"Roots — really, family. Every night you eat with your family. You're not on your phone. Outer Banks (vacations), supporting what my brother is doing. It always comes back to family."
A Last Look

An open message from the La Jolla Christmas Parade & Holiday Festival Foundation

We are happy to report that another wonderful Christmas Parade & Holiday Festival was enjoyed by the Village of La Jolla and its neighbors. The weather was ideal, and spirits were bright. This was a record-breaking year for participation, with more than 100 entries, 3,500 participants and more than 80 percent repeat entrants. We are grateful to our parade chairs, Bill Kellogg and Jack McGrory, for supporting the foundation and helping raise the funds to make the 57th annual event a reality - and we also thank our dedicated parade committee, without whom none of this would be possible. Please check the parade program on our website, ljparade.com, for more info.

Under sunny skies, more than 30,000 came out to enjoy a wonderful day, which started with the exciting Antique Aircraft Flyover and was filled with bands, canine and equestrian units, beauty queens, schools, fire engines, floats, marching bands and VIPs. The La Jolla High School Marching Band joined us this year with great fanfare. It was a treat for all to see the outstanding participation of many SDUSD and other bands and to honor our marshals – Las Patronas as Grand, Phyllis Minnick as Civic, former SDUSD Superintendent Tom Goodman as Education, Greg McKee as Innovation, Doug Fitzgerald as Sports and Steve Kappes and the Military Outreach Tennis Team as Military. As always, Santa arrived in the Old Black Goose courtesy of the La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club.

Our Holiday Festival, at the Recreation Center, extended the theme of education, including not only music and entertainment but also educational displays, from among others the Venter Institute, Birch Aquarium of Scripps Institute of Oceanography and La Jolla High School. Festival coordinator Gail Forbes did her usual outstanding job of bringing an afternoon of joy to the children.

Many thanks to George and Pancho Dewhurst for donating many staff hours and equipment in trimming and lighting the Christmas Community Tree at the rec center, featuring new holiday décor designed by Laura McDonald of Eloquence Design and handcrafted Community Tree at the rec center, featuring new holiday décor designed by Laura McDonald of Eloquence Design and handcrafted, designed by Laura McDonald of Eloquence Design and handcrafted, designed by Laura McDonald of Eloquence Design and handcrafted, designed by Laura McDonald of Eloquence Design and handcrafted. Generous donations by Sunrise Rotary and CEO Doug Fitzgerald’s recreation center board made this possible.

In 2013, we raised more than $9,000 to support local schools, and we fully expect to exceed that number when this year’s expenses are met. As always, we rely upon and are very thankful to the residents and businesses that support the La Jolla Christmas Parade & Holiday Festival Foundation and enable us to grow each year.

With Warm Wishes for a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a Wonderful New Year.

La Jolla Christmas Parade & Holiday Festival Foundation
Ann Kerr Bache, CEO
Charles Hartford, VP/Secretary
Cindy Greatrex, Treasurer
Pat Wells, Parade Administrator
Mike Carlin, Parade Director
Gail Forbes, Festival Coordinator
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Newly opened Scripps facility supports advanced orthopedic care

On Nov. 13, Scripps Health celebrated the grand opening of the Donald P. and Darlene V. Shiley Musculoskeletal Center at Scripps Clinic, made possible in part by a $5 million gift from Darlene Shiley to support advanced orthopedic care and research at Scripps Clinic.

“Darlene Shiley and her late husband, Donald, have been instrumental to the expansion of programs and services at Scripps Health, and we are grateful for their continued generosity and support of research and patient care,” said Chris Van Gorder, president and chief executive officer of Scripps Health. “Their dedication to serving the health care needs of our community will allow us to offer exceptional care to an even greater number of patients.”

The center, on the first floor of the Scripps Clinic Torrey Pines Anderson Outpatient Pavilion at 11025 North Torrey Pines Road in La Jolla, features diagnostics, treatment, surgery and rehabilitation services and routine and follow-up appointments. Patients will be offered centralized imaging services in orthopedic specialties including sports medicine, podiatry, hand and wrist surgery, spine surgery, total joint replacement and foot and ankle reconstruction.

“When I learned about the exceptional work that was being done in research and with patient care at Scripps Clinic,” Darlene Shiley said, “I decided to offer my support to help enhance the scope of services available to patients. I think for the scores of people with musculoskeletal issues, this is the place to be for world-class care in San Diego.”

Musculoskeletal services account for more than 100,000 annual patient visits at Scripps Clinic and more than half of all surgeries performed at Scripps Green Hospital. The need for orthopedic services will only grow in the coming years as the population ages and more people seek ways to maintain a mobile lifestyle.

Dating back to 1980, the Shileys’ gifts to Scripps total more than $15 million, supporting programs and services related to heart care, orthopedics, neurology and clinical research. One of the earliest donations from Darlene Shiley established the Donald P. Shiley Visiting Lectureship and served as a Christmas gift for her husband. Donald Shiley was the founder and retired chairman of a pioneering biomedical firm that significantly advanced development and use of state-of-the-art medical devices in cardiovascular surgery, including the Bjork-Shiley Heart Valve. Donald Shiley died in 2010 at age 90.

Founded in 1924 by philanthropist Ellen Browning Scripps, Scripps Health is a San Diego nonprofit integrated health system. Scripps treats 500,000 patients annually and employs 2,600 at its five acute-care hospital campuses, hospice and home health care services and an ambulatory care network of physician offices and 25 outpatient centers and clinics.
The champagne – and jewelry – sparkled at this holiday party

By CHARLENE BALDRIDGE

Exclusive of highly touted turkeys, it’s a fact that created critters were among the most impressive things seen on San Diego stages in 2014.

Most jaw-dropping of all were the multitude of puppets created by designer Michael McKeon for Cygnet Theatre’s “A Christmas Carol.” McKeon, who calls himself “a maker of things,” created and made the puppets and then taught the actors to use them! He recently became “stagecraft technician” at Grossmont College, where he will design several productions each year and also do some teaching. The fully staged “A Christmas Carol,” with a tightened adaptation by artistic director Sean Murray and a fine score by Globe associate artist Nicky Martin, got a Tony nomination for the Broadway production. Sadly, Martin died before Globe rehearsals began, but those who knew him recognized his sensitivity over the work.

The other outstanding Globe production was “Time and the Conways,” just the kind of complicated, old-fashioned work that delights this theatergoer, who expected joy to proceed from La Jolla Playhouse’s “Ether Dome” and “Orphan of Zhao” as well. Alas, they proved Thanksgiving birds.

There is much for which to give thanks, however. Big kudos to the Playhouse and San Diego Rep for one of the year’s most exciting and unexpected delights, Herbert Siguenza’s “El Henry,” which played outdoors at Maker’s Corner in East Village and featured some of my favorite Southern California Chicanos, including John Padilla and Luis Valdez’s sons Kinan and Lakin. So much machismo was unleashed that it’s a good thing it played outdoors. All this and low riders, too. Sam Woodhouse directed.

Other bests include San Diego Musical Theatre’s “Next to Normal,” San Diego Rep’s “Pianist of Wiilisden Lane” and “Honky”; New Village Arts’ “To Kill a Mockingbird”; North Coast Rep’s “Man of La Mancha”; San Diego Rep’s “Pianist of Tesoro.”

For the second annual San Diego Fringe Festival, which experienced phenomenal growth over the inaugural 2013 version among the new works by San Diego playwrights, my favorites were Eddie Yaroch’s “Nighttingale” and Tim West’s “Olivia Bolivia.” Speaking of San Diego playwrights, Circle Circle dot dot’s holtopia productions “Naughty” and “Nice” gave eight of them a chance to shine:

For the catching presence of music director Steven Schick and choral director David Chase at La Jolla Symphony & Chorus, which presented a memorable performance of Beethoven’s Ninth in December.

For Mainly Mozart’s selection of Michael Francis as music director of Mainly Mozart Festival;

For the two years that remain to hear San Diego Symphony under the baton of departing music director Jahja Ling. If his longitudinal performances of Gustav Mahler’s “Symphony of a Thousand” don’t come about, it will be a crying shame.

Here’s to the health of all artists, directors, designers, actors, playwrights and musicians everywhere. May 2015 be a magnificent year!
There are lots of reasons to see Cygnet Theatre's 'Christmas Carol' - but...

By MARTIN JONES WESTLIN

The Spirit of Christmas Yet to Come was a terrific touch in Cygnet Theatre Company’s last A Christmas Carol, mounted in 2005 — the hulking, spindly, raven demon stood on little ceremony as Ebenezer Scrooge was shown the interdictory manner of his dispatch. I’m reminded of those moments when I think of this season’s installment, which features an equally spectral messenger: and several different turns, like a puppet Tiny Tim and two female alms-takers, indicate that the first Carol had by no means cornered the market on creativity.

Where this Carol lets down is in its interminable absence of an absolutely indispensable character. The storyline bears repeating only because I have the space: Tight-listed, wheeling Scrooge, who for years has punked Victorian London with his miserly ways and casehardened business acumen, is visited by three spirits assigned to seek his ownership of past misdeeds and, ultimately, his redemption. The better gets best as he morphs into an ambassador of Yuletide goodwill and mutual love, having digested the spirits’ lessons in humanity and acting accordingly. “...[It] was always said of him,” concluded the story’s author Charles Dickens of his character, “that he knew how to keep Christmas well, if any man alive possessed the knowledge.”

And in case you’ve been out of the room since the book’s 1843 publication: Tiny Tim, God bless us every one, dodged a serious bullet. But there’s subtext and then there’s subtext, and it’s largely missing from Tom Stephenson’s Scrooge for several reasons — chief among them the mysterious disappearance of nephew Fred. Fred is a magnificent source of good cheer against Scrooge’s caliginous soul, primarily because he’s family! Without kin like Fred, the possibilities for Scrooge’s redemption dim indeed, making his epiphany all the less likely. So too do they fade without the saga of Eb’s unfortunate sister Fan and the understory behind his fiscal deceptions on his way to a ripe old age, both plainly absent here.

The dialogue for its own sake muddies the waters as well. “I seem to have been restored to consciousness,” Eb says after his visit with the Ghost of Christmas Past, as if we can’t see that. “I seem to recall” that the sound of chains, like partner Jacob Marley’s, are endemic in older houses; so what if he does? “Is this my future?” he wails as he stumbles on his final resting place (after politely informing us he’s clearing the snow from his tombstone). Of course this is his future, as it is all our futures, no matter the depth and breadth of our hearts. Did Scrooge actually think that death was beneath him, especially amid the news years before of Marley’s demise? Somehow, I doubt it.

Bob Cratchit’s and Fezziwig’s (both Patrick McBride) underwritten passages, Marley’s (David McBean) lack of reference at show’s end (Marley’s the one who started the whole ball rolling; doesn’t he get at least an honorable mention?). Multiple narrators, motivated to their positions by who knows what. On and on go the fits and starts, countered nonetheless by cool tech twists (like three Ghosts of the Past), original Foley sound effects and Billy Thompson’s reflective original compositions, which enfold Murray’s lyrics without so much as a sneeze.

But much of this presentation sits on Andrew Hall’s comfortable scene design like a lump of coal. You expect, and indeed experience, many of the production values for which Cygnet is known here — but too often, they’re wrapped in Cellophane, strewn with miscalculations and errors of omission. Again: Please do see the piece for all its many virtues, and remain hopeful that, with many revisions, it’ll be back next year.

This review is based on the opening night performance of Dec. 6. A Christmas Carol runs through Dec. 28 at The Old Town Theatre, 4040 Twiggs St. in Old Town (oddly enough). $37-$59. cygnettheatre.com, 619-337-1525.
Donovan’s

The grand restaurant being built on Mission Bay as a new showpiece for the Catamaran Resort Hotel & Spa and a showcase for executive chef Steven Riemer has just been dubbed Oceana Coastal Kitchen.

Due early next year, the $2.1 million, 8,200-square-foot project is getting an interior from Kristine Smith Design Studio, who also designed The Lodge at Torrey Pines.

The tropical design plan for Oceana Coastal Kitchen includes an 800-gallon jellyfish-filled aquarium, a waterfront dining room with ocean-inspired colors and significant outdoor seating; the trellis-covered outdoor dining area will also have a tiki torch-lit lounge complete with lava rock fire pits.

Dining options include a cold bar that will plate up sushi, oysters on the half-shell, ceviche and shrimp cocktail; entrees from Riemer’s California Comfort Food menu range from Mary’s Farm seared duck breast with leg confit and Japanese pumpkin to a cold-smoked Niman Ranch pork chop with goat cheese grits and white sea bass with ancho chili, orange, beets, faro and baby kale.

The bar will feature all local beer, wine and tiki drinks.

– Eater San Diego

Lodge figures into Oceana Coastal Kitchen

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– Eater San Diego

Batter up, courtesy Richard Walker’s Pancake House

At Richard Walker’s Pancake House, sweet carbs rule. Try — just try! — to ignore the French toast, fruit-topped Belgian waffles and stuffed crepes and direct your attention to the baked German pancake.

To create it, batter made from at least four eggs, clarified butter, milk, sugar and flour goes into an oven-proof pan to bake. Halfway through the process, it’s flipped, allowing the sides to rise into a tall pancake fortress, protecting its custard-like center. The final touches of powdered sugar, lemon slices, butter and more powdered sugar make for addictive sweet-tart-buttery bites. To tackle this monster, do as Richard Walker Jr. suggests: Fold in the crisp ends, roll the pancake up into a baton and slice it up for manageable eating. The result is a mix of soft and crunchy textures. But however you slice it, we guarantee you’ll never want to order a plain old pancake again.

909 Prospect St., La Jolla, (858) 459-8800, or 520 Front St., (619) 231-7777.

The Broken Yolk Café

The Broken Yolk Café offers a large selection of home cooked meals in a comfortable and casual atmosphere. There are more than 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 half-pound burgers or one of our large sandwiches.

The Broken Yolk Café

1005 Prospect St., La Jolla, (858) 459-8800, or 520 Front St., (619) 231-6755.
**SAT, Jan. 10**
- Amanda Farber art exhibit, workshop concert, noon. Athenaeum Music & Arts Library, 1008 Wall St. Farber works with images derived from many sources: imaginary forms, personal memories, photographs, textile patterns, vintage illustrations and advertisements. Her paintings are loaded with high contrasts and rhyming negative spaces. Her work has been exhibited widely, including most recently at MCASD, Quindt Contemporary Art, the Protea Gallery and the Athenaeum Music & Arts Library. Farber currently teaches at Design Institute of San Diego.

**SAT, Jan. 10**
- San Diego New Music, soundON Festival of Modern Music, Athenaeum Music & Arts Library, 1008 Wall St. Cutting-edge world premieres by Mark Menzies, Christopher Adler and festival favorite Juan Campoverde Q, with works by Sidney Marquez Boquiren and New York composer Eric Wubbels. We will also celebrate our modern masters with Pierre Boulez, Elliott Carter and San Diego’s Chinary Ung. ljtheatre.org.

**MON, Jan. 12**
- Hospital tour of maternity and mother-baby unit, 6-7 p.m., Scripps Encinitas. Visit the facilities and get a behind-the-scenes look at the hospital’s newborn care. Free. Visit scripps.org.

**TUES, Jan. 13**
- Shaun Breyer, La Jolla Riford Branch head librarian, will speak on the book business from all sides. Visit lajollalibrary.org/home0.aspx.

**WED, Jan. 14**
- San Diego Cloud9 Speed Dating for single professionals in their 30s and 40s, 7 p.m., La Jolla Brewing Company, 7536 Fay Ave. $35 general admission. Visit lajollabeer.com.

**THURS, Jan. 15**
- The Gillispie School Open House, 9-10:30 a.m. 3730 Girard Ave, The Gillispie School invites all prospective families to attend our open house tour of the campus, which has grown to include a new sports field, an art atelier, a sustainable garden and a new science bungalow. The event will also include an in-depth overview of the school’s innovative educational programs, a community panel and a Q&A session with the head of school. RSVP to admissions lead Brittany Wizcek at bwiczek@gillispie.org or (858) 459-3773 ext. 135. Gillispie.org.

**FRI, Jan. 16**
- Dances of Love, Laughter and Loss, 8-10 p.m., La Jolla Brewing Company, 7536 Fay Ave. $35 general admission. Visit lajollabeer.com.

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My Path to Becoming American

By Natasha Josefowitz, Ph.D.

It was October. 1939—I was 12 years old. My parents, my brother and I were sitting in the basement of our Paris apartment building with gas masks on. We did this every night as the sirens screamed and German planes flew overhead threatening to gas us. We had been told that mustard gas was odorless and invisible. My 6-year-old brother keeps taking his mask off—it is difficult to breathe through it, and he cannot do it for long. My mother worries he might die if we are unignorously gassed. After several weeks of this nightmare, my father said that even though the French would win the war — after all, we had the Maginot Line, with the cannons at the border facing Germany — we should leave.

We packed just a few belonging—

kings, knowing we would be back shortly, and we were lucky to get on board the last boat out of Genoa in Italy. This ship, the SS Saturnia, took ten days to get to New York. We landed and were taken to Ellis Island. None of us spoke English, and it was scary. We were counted going in and out of the dining room and going in and out of the bathroom. We slept in a large room with a hundred cots on black-and-white tile floors. When I visited Ellis Island 60 years later, I recognized the tile.

After a few mind-numbing days of anxiety, we were brought in front of three judges. I was wearing my best smocked, silk dress and white knee socks. I had red hair in long curls and a large ribbon on top of my head. We were asked questions that were translated to us. Whenever I was asked something, I curtseyed and said, “Oui, monsieur.” When we were allowed to stay in America, I was convinced it was because of my curtseys.

Living in New York was difficult. We did not know anyone, and we were staying in a small hotel room with a kitchenette. My mother had never cooked, having always had staff, first as a child in Moscow, then later as a married woman in Paris. I was in the eighth grade and my brother was in the second at Dalton School. He cried every morning, not wanting to go: the kids made fun of him because — like many French boys — he had a bobby pin in his hair. I was teased because I couldn’t speak English. My family did not adjust to the strange city, so, after a couple of months, my father decided to go back to France even though the war was still raging. (He was sure that we were winning.) My mother suggested we visit California before returning.

My aunt and uncle joined us in Los Angeles, and we all decided to stay there for a couple of months before returning to Paris. But when France fell in the spring of 1940, we had nowhere to go home to.

At Beverly Hills High School, I was the only foreign girl that spring, and I was made fun of because of my strange accent and clothes. My mother was clueless about how American teenagers dressed. I was not allowed to go out to parties nor wear lipstick, I secretly bought lip gloss and put a lot of it on.

In the fall of 1944, I attended Scripps College — a women’s college with 200 students, only a couple of hours away from our home. My mother drove me to Claremont: it was to be my first time apart from my family, and, sitting in my new dorm room, we both cried for a very long time.

I was one of three foreign girls there, and it took a few months before I felt like I belonged. I majored in philosophy with a minor in psychology and finished college in three years by going to summer school at UCLA and Berkeley. I loved college and the world that it opened up for me.

At 21, I was again standing nervously before three judges, this time for my citizenship test. Since I had just finished a course in American history and government, I could answer all the questions and was granted citizenship.

Even though I still have emotional ties to my upbringing — I cry when I hear the Russian songs my father taught me, and I tear up at French poetry — my heart and mind are American. This is my intentional country and culture, not just an accident of birth. America not only saved my life and those of my family, it gave me opportunities to grow and become a person I would not have been otherwise.

— Natasha Josefowitz taught the first course in the U.S. on women in management and is the author of 20 books. She lives at the White Sands in La Jolla.

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TUESDAY · DECEMBER 23, 2014
LA JOLLA VILLAGE NEWS
People often wonder who I am and what I do. In brief, I engage with clients who want to create a new way of living because of a transition or a sudden revelation that life is short and we must live it to our fullest lest we end it regretting what we missed.

The avocation of learning ideas, mastering tools for change, intuition and a lofty desire for carving out for others has blossomed into The Retirement Concierge. I help people shift their lives into their best-imagined result. Like eating an elephant the proverbial bite at a time, I assist my clients in transforming themselves, a step at a time. I hear, teach, encourage and champion my clients as they have never been before. This caring extends to estates that involve my clients. I have helped more than 50 clients deal with the ‘stuff’ of estates: investments, policies, sales, clean-outs, transition to senior housing or staying safely at home for life. My team takes care of those pesky thousand details to free our clients for better living.

Living Life Fully

Raised in Valle Vista (pop. 223), just east of Hemet, Calif., I read everything in the county library by age 13, loved the travels of Marco Polo and determined to be a traveler, to speak another language, to live in foreign countries, to experience all the num- lions and exotic foods. I wanted to expand my connection to the world. I came to faith at age 8, studied and read the Bible many times and feel a close connection with my Creator. I pray regularly, have received miracles upon my own person and have seen things that can only be explained by intervention of the Divine. I hum- bered to learn! Everything! Still do!

At 19, and as a Rotary Club exchange student, I left home for an East African country called Territoire Francais des Afars et Issas (now known as Djanet Region of Djibouti). No one in my entire town ever heard of such a place. It was exactly opposite California on the globe. While there, I fell madly in love with a local, African, third-generation of Greek descent. I spoke nothing but French for four years and returned to the U.S. with a strong French accent when speaking my native English!

Back in the U.S., I served as a fee-based financial advisor with American Express for 25 years, delving into tax planning, invest- ment planning and estate planning as well as charitable gift planning. I learned how to help my clients get what they want by really looking, hearing, looking at available options and evaluating them with my clients. We partners were each other’s best.

My MBA in organizational behavior and psychology, Certified Financial Planner (CFP), MS in financial services, certified pecamemaker, thousands of books, hundreds of classes, decades of work and observation of our humanity came in handy when working with diverse clients, each with unique needs and goals.

At times, I think that I have learned how not to “fix” people, even though I see clearly the results of their current path. I mull over situations and issues and work at finding what I call “revelation questions.” These questions catch a person in the heart and often cause a shift into a better world than they ever thought possible.

True Stories

Sue and Sal, 70-year-old sitters, could not inherit from their mother. She was 89, not in good health and mentally losing it. The sisters kept going to write them checks. Lisa, realizing they were actually com- mitting elder abuse, I had to have a stern talk with both of them, explaining that their mom’s funds were for her benefit as long as she lived, even if she used up her entire nest egg. Then I had to have a talk with the mom, and I taught her to say anything to anyone who asked for money in the name of her mother. That sounds like a good idea! Give them something in writing, and I will review it with my financial advisor. We will get back to you.” This one memo- rized phrased saved mom thou- sands of dollars that would have simply gone out the door because she could not say “no.”

Jesse Russell was 86 when he need help in publishing an auto- bio. The Retirement Concierge team worked to create a professional book, reflecting his life and times, and published it on Amazon. A year later, Jesse proudly talks about Doing What Comes Natchery! at local libraries, to staff of his breakfast hangouts, to strangers drinking margaritas at happy hour, to peo- ple in grocery stores and neigh- bors. This memoir helps Jesse make his mark in the world.

Melinda, 33, was stuck in a dead-end job, going to school studying accounting. “Life is not around, overweight, with no self-confidence. After many conver- sations, and because she worked for me, she saw what was possi- ble in her life because she saw me changing my own life. I asked her what she really wanted in her life. She quit school, slimmed down to her fittest body size, took over management of a local restaurant fell in love and lives happy happy. She let go of other peo- ple’s expectations of her and fol- lowed her heart.

Bob, 63, was happily married but unhappy with his grown children living at home and not contributing work or money. His mother, smoking like a chimney and projecting the pollution, was liv- ing with them to save money. I asked him what benefit there was to living in that environment. He made radical changes, and now he and his wife travel, enjoy- ing each other and the world.

Antonia, 83, was befriended at the Ocean Beach Peoples Coop a year ago. She had no children, and her friends were mostly gone. We struck up a conversation, shared stories and became friends for life. She is a very inter- esting person, famous on Rodeo Drive for her fabulous store of estate jewelry and antiques, renowned for appraisal of special stones. She met many famous actors and directors in the ‘60s and lived a movie-star life. Fast- forward through changes in life and fortune: She now lives a sim- ple life and takes good care of her health, enjoys music and books and offers melodious laughter that engages all who hear it.

Although The Retirement Concierge is my brainchild, I cannot know and do everything myself. I have trusted resources and a topnotch team. I consider myself a resource librarian for life matters, a private teacher for personal goals, a professional daughter or a sounding board for your great ideas. Sometimes, we get into situations and feel stuck. If that is you, The Retirement Concierge is here to help!

— The Retirement Concierge helps baby-boomers on the verge of retirement to plan, make and man- age life transitions by guiding them through a systematic process of dis- covery and re-creation where they can feel a close connection to the Ocean Beach Peoples Coop a year ago. She had no children, and her friends were mostly gone. We struck up a conversation, shared stories and became friends for life. She is a very inter- esting person, famous on Rodeo Drive for her fabulous store of estate jewelry and antiques, renowned for appraisal of special stones. She met many famous actors and directors in the ‘60s and lived a movie-star life. Fast- forward through changes in life and fortune: She now lives a sim- ple life and takes good care of her health, enjoys music and books and offers melodious laughter that engages all who hear it.

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Flowers of the holy night make your day

By LINDA MARRONE

During the holiday season in Mexico, a story is told about a poor young girl who was embarrassed and sad that she could only bring a bouquet of simple weeds to church for her Christmas offering. Her young brother tried to comfort her, saying, “Even the most humble gift, if given in love, will be acceptable in His eyes.” It is told that when the girl placed her offering on the church alter Christmas eve night, the humble bouquet burst into a brilliant display of beautiful red flowers. In Mexico, the poinsettia plant is known as flores de noche buena – flowers of the holy night.

A native of Mexico, the poinsettia (Euphorbia pulcherrima) was cultivated and used by the Aztecs for dyes and as a medicinal plant to bring down fevers. The plant was introduced to the United States by our first ambassador to Mexico, Joel Roberts Poinsett, in 1828; since its introduction, it has become an American holiday tradition. The beautiful red petals of the poinsettia are not the plant’s flower but its leaves. The plant’s flower, or cyathia, is the small yellow and green berry-like center portion of the plant.

In the 1890s, I had the privilege of meeting local horticulturist Milton Sessions, nephew of locally renowned horticulturist Kate Sessions. I enjoyed my conversations with Milton, especially his stories about “Aunt Kate.” One story he told was about the Sessions family’s poinsettia business in the 1920s and how they sold poinsettias as cut flowers, not potted plants. This puzzled me, because every time I’ve placed a broken poinsettia branch in water, it would wither and die. Milton explained that the family had large caddrons of boiling water, in which they would dip the cut branches of the poinsettias. By doing this, the plant’s white, milky sap becomes cauterized and will allow the branches to live in water for about a week without wilting – it definitely works! Every holiday season when I bring home a poinsettia plant, I fondly remember Milton, who passed away in the early ’90s.

Poinsettias are the number one selling potted plant sold in the United States, with approximately 70 million sold each year. When selecting your poinsettia plant, choose a plant that has green foliage to its soil line. Plants with a more “naked” bottom may tend to be older or overly exposed to elements, and that will shorten their lifespans. Besides traditional red, you can choose poinsettias in white, pink, peach and yellow, and there always seem to be new hybrids that are marbled and speckled with different colors. Here are a few dos and don’ts on poinsettia care I learned from the experts at Paul Ecke’s poinsettias many years ago, now under new ownership:

- Do place your plant in indirect sunlight for at least 6 hours per day.
- Do provide room temperatures between 68 and 70 degrees.
- Do water your plant when the soil feels dry to the touch.
- Do fertilize after the blooming season with a balanced fertilizer.
- Don’t place plants near cold drafts or excessive heat (fireplaces, heat ducts);
- Don’t expose plants to temperatures below 50 degrees;
- Don’t overwater your plant or allow it to sit in a pot of standing water;
- Don’t expose your plant to chilling winds;
- Don’t fertilize your plant when it is in bloom.

— Linda Marrone is a Realtor with Coldwell Banker. Stories about her historic La Jolla garden have been published in local and national magazines.

Let's all enjoy daily commutes to school and work by foot or bike

By NICOLE BURGESS

Many of you know me from traveling throughout the community by bike: my name is Nicole Burgess, and I am passionate about bikes and being outdoors in this beautiful city. I am an advocate for our youth and for active transportation, and I’m hopeful that more people will be inspired to hop on a bike or take a walk and enjoy their community by actively commuting to their destinations. I am excited to be able to represent District 2 for the City’s newly formed Bicycle Advisory Committee, and appreciate all of the support. Along with other great active transportation leaders throughout our city, we look forward to supporting San Diego in its quest to become a world-class biking city.

The Dana Bike Train is on course for its sixth year of success. This year, we are seeing a large increase of fifth and sixth graders taking charge and enjoying their commute to school by bike or foot. It’s fun and easy to find friends in the neighborhood who also enjoy walking or riding to school. Meanwhile, studies show that students benefit and do better in school if they have some form of physical activity prior to learning, and adults do better at work if they get a little morning fitness to begin their day.

There are many students that walk and roll to Correia and Point Loma schools as well. Don’t be fooled; it is actually very cool to bike and walk to school. Being fit, feeling energized and protecting our environment should be a cool thing. Imagine if the students on the Peninsula commuted by bike or foot; there would be much less vehicular traffic to worry about, and we would be surrounded by energized and smiling students engaging and enjoying their community.

There is also the benefit of more time for parents, more independent children, less money on car expenses and stronger and healthier children; athletes will only benefit with the extra cross-fit training with an active commute. This is beautiful San Diego, and every reasonable commute can and should be enjoyed by bike. You’ll feel great and ready to go when you reach your destination while protecting and enjoying the outdoors. The benefits to all are so rewarding.

Here are a list of bike trains and walking school busses on the Peninsula, which I welcome all to join.

Bike Trains to Dana Middle:
Ocean Beach Elementary at 7:45 a.m.; Long Branch and Guizot at 8:10 a.m.; Park Point Loma at 8:10 a.m.; Thursday Club at 8:20 a.m.
Walking School Bus to Dana Middle:
Point Loma Hervey Library at 8:30 a.m.; Midblock Coronado between Catalina and Chatsworth at 8:30 a.m.

For those of you who choose the vehicle as your means of transportation, I hope you will find patience and respect for the growing number of young cyclists among the Peninsula and throughout San Diego. We ask all to please share the road wisely and avoid idling when picking up students.

If you’re ready to make the switch to an active lifestyle and looking for some support, feel free to contact me at nicole23@cox.net. You may also send me any comments, recommendations or suggestions for District 2, and I will do my best to address your concerns at the monthly City Bicycle Advisory Committee meetings.
Real Estate

Point Loma man named SEAL unit head

Point Loma resident William Fenick, former director of public affairs and corporate communication for the Naval Special Warfare Command in Coronado, has been named executive director of the SEAL-Naval Special Warfare Family Foundation. The nonprofit foundation raises awareness and funds for special programs in direct support of Naval Special Warfare families on a local, national and global scale.

In his new role, Fenick will be responsible for the execution of the foundation’s fundraising, fiscal management and program execution, all designed to enhance the naval special operators’ ability to train, deploy and balance their unique family needs.

“I believe the right mix of energy, intellect and passion to our family foundation team,” foundation president John Moninger said. “His years of active duty service in combination with his working knowledge of the naval special warfare command add great value and will assist us in moving our family foundation forward. The naval special warfare community will be better for his efforts and energy, and I’m honored and pleased he joined our great team.”

Fenick has more than 25 years’ experience advising Navy leadership and military staffs, with a focus on strategic communication, messaging, issues management and teamwork. He has served as director of public affairs and corporate communication for the Naval Special Warfare Command since 2010, and was there he led a corporate communication and engagement strategy to manage the increased public, legislative, media and stakeholder interests related to all aspects of Naval Special Warfare.

The SEAL-Naval Special Warfare Family Foundation supports individual and family readiness through programs that assist the naval special warfare community. For more information or to make a donation, visit sealnswff.org.

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**TRUCKS**

CONT. FROM PG. 1

claims are true.

“The recycler of reference is basically going onto the properties of the different businesses and taking their bottles without them knowing,” Marengo continued. “The worst part of the restaurant owners’ not knowing what’s going on is this specific truck takes the bottles out to the front of the respective business, where he parks his truck in the valet and loading zones then starts to throw the glass in the truck with broken glass falling or shattering on the street for the next car to avoid.

“The liquid remnants of the bottles are now leaking on to the pavement for the walking tourist to experience as they walk our streets,” Marengo continued. “All of this is in front of the business he is taking the bottles from, so it leaves a pungent aroma as you proceed toward the restaurant you might wish to visit. Obviously, it is very bad for business.”

Witt said he and other neighbors have tried the “carrot,” writing “nice” notes, some in Spanish, in envelopes and putting them on the windshields of offending trucks asking them kindly to move, which has not solved the problem.

Witt said the recycling trucks are older F-150 types, stained and dilapidated looking, with open beds in back piled high with bags of bottles that “reek and leak.”

One such truck, Witt said, parked in front of his home on Thanksgiving eve and was “right there when I woke up the next morning.

“Sadly, we’re in a 72-hour parking area,” Witt said. “A lot of people that work in the Village park there all day. The trucks will just park in front of one house for a couple of days, then move to the next street. It’s disruptive to the neighborhood, not only visually but for health reasons.”

Marengo said he took video footage of the offending trucks, which he intends to share with business owners “to educate them on how we should find a method to control the collection of bottles and allow the proper disposal or recycling process to happen in a secure and clean manner. We hope to discourage the pillaging of bottles from the businesses and better control the situation for all of us to enjoy a cleaner, safer La Jolla. We don’t need to challenge our merchants and residents more with additional sources of smell and noise disturbances.”

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**‘TWAS THE WEEK BEFORE CHRISTMAS**

Twas the week before Christmas
And all ‘round the town
Not a buyer was buying...

And to all a good night!

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