Police realignment may benefit the Peninsula’s more problematic areas

By TONY De GARATE | THE BEACON

Police officials say an upcoming realignment of some of the city’s nine divisions will put more cops on the beat in the Peninsula area, giving officers more time to patrol troubled spots and prevent crime.

As of Sept. 17, the department’s Western Division will give up the North Park and Burlingame neighborhoods to the adjacent Mid-City Division, but Western will retain the same number of officers, according to David Surwilo, community service officer.

A smaller boundary means police will be able to spend less time “being a slave to the radio,” Surwilo said. “Every time we turn on the engine, we get a call. Too much time has been spent taking reports.”

Increasingly, officers have been called away from the Peninsula area to handle calls in North Park, an area that has seen an increase in condominiums, restaurants and bars. The decision to shrink Western resulted from a recent analysis of crime trends and workloads, Surwilo said.

The Western Division headquarters is located at 5215 Gaines St. A neighborhood storefront facility is located at 3750 Sports Arena Blvd. The phone number is (619) 531-1540.

Port of San Diego looks to future needs, challenges

By JOHNNY McDoNALD | THE BEACON

At a strategic planning forum convened by the Port of San Diego on Aug. 16, a cross-section of community leaders and groups, including elected officials, military and industry representatives, met with Port District representatives to discuss vital needs and challenges.

Job creation and economic development, safety and security and environmental stewardship are considered the major issues facing the port as it charts its course for the next several years.

Among the more than 100 guests at the three-hour planning session were Congressman Bob Filner, District 3 City Councilman Todd Gloria, National City Mayor Ron Morrison and Imperial Beach Mayor Jim Janney. Included in the discussions were the Downtown San Diego Partnership, San Diego County Regional Airport Authority, San Diego Convention Center and educational institutions.

“Our accomplishments are many and not without cost — over $2 billion has been invested since the port’s inception in 1962 and there has been controversy, challenges and some heartache along the way,” Board of Port Commissioners Chairman Scott Peters said in welcoming remarks.

Peters cited some accomplishments: bringing more than 3.7 million cruise passengers to the city between 2006 and 2010; generating $205 million in maritime revenue in that same five-year period; pumping $10 billion in tourism dollars to the regional economy and creating 18,000 jobs.

“The next 50 years will bring about remarkable projects and initiatives that will leave a legacy for generations of San Diegans,” Peters said.

Guests participated in a working session in which they catalogued what they believe are the major regional priorities.

Challenges and barriers cited were lack of funding, state budget concerns, job creation, reinvigorating the cruise business, excessive bureaucracy and balancing economic and environmental interests.

The group agreed partner- ships should be forged with other ports as well as with labor, military and educational institutions.

Memorial to mark 10th anniversary of Sept. 11

The San Diego Fire-Rescue Foundation (SDFRF) and San Diego Fire-Rescue Department (SDFD) will host two events in Pacific Beach to commemorate the lives and heroics of emergency first responders during the 9/11 terrorist attacks on New York City’s World Trade Center a decade ago.

On Sept. 9, city leaders — including Fire Chief Javier Mainar, Police Chief William Lansdowne and District 2 City Councilman Kevin Faulconer — will unveil a 9/11 commemorative memorial at Pacific Beach Fire Station 21.

SDFRF will also present special guest speaker retired FDNY Lt. Joseph Torrillo, who will tell his story of survival during the 9/11 attacks and how he was mistakenly thought to have perished in the rubble.

The memorial, designed by 24-year-old Station 21 firefighter Tim Swanson, consists of a black concrete base and two polished-aluminum columns that represent the fallen towers.

The columns are inscribed with the names of all the emergency first responders who died in the 9/11 attacks, and a piece of steel from the Twin Towers is incorporated into the front facade of the memorial.
Supporters to walk Liberty Station for autism in special 9/11-linked tribute

The seventh annual Walk Now for Autism Speaks will take place at Ingram Plaza in Liberty Station on Saturday, Sept. 10 to raise funds for Autism Speaks — the nation’s largest autism awareness, advocacy and research organization.

In addition to acting as a source of awareness and fundraising for autism, this year’s walk will also commemorate a couple other occasions — including one marking perhaps the most horrific chapter in American history 10 years ago.

In tribute to the 9/11 attacks a decade ago, a 20-second moment of silence will take place at 9:30 a.m. between participants’ recital of the Pledge of Allegiance and singing of the “Star-Spangled Banner.”

Sept. 11 is also a special day for Autism Speaks walk participants Elisabeth and John Beattie of Murrieta as they celebrate that day as the birth of their twin girls Grace and Ava three years ago.

The day before his twins were born, John recalls filing a folder on his computer labeled “9/11” before leaving work. “I wonder if I’ll ever be able to look at that date and not feel sad?” he asked a coworker that Sept. 10 day. “The next day, on Sept. 11, 2008, my twin girls were born — a little unexpectedly as they were four weeks early. I haven’t felt sad on 9/11 since.”

For the girls’ birthday this year, the Beattie family will celebrate by participating in Walk Now for Autism Speaks in honor of Grace, who was recently diagnosed with autism.

“I could try to imagine what Grace would be like if she didn’t fall on the spectrum, but then, that wouldn’t be Grace,” John said. “What I would call an obstacle, my girls would simply consider a way of life.”

Grace’s sister, Ava, although not diagnosed on the autism spectrum, has developmental delays in other areas. Now, both of the girls are gearing up for preschool — a much more difficult task for the twins than for most children.

“We have been in five-day-a-week in-home therapy with both girls since June of this year,” Elisabeth said. “That means that for two hours every day, our home is filled with therapists who work with each of our girls one-on-one, so play dates and out-and-about adventures are not possible.”

The girls will both be placed in special classes that cater to the needs of developmentally delayed and autistic children, but they will have to go to two different schools since their needs are different.

“That is a bit hard on us,” she said. “But, in the end, we are just excited for them to get the services they need so that they are prepared as best they can be for kindergarten and a mainstream education.”

The early intervention efforts have been successful for both girls so far.

“Life is different for everybody, with or without a diagnosis of autism,” John said. “Every child has their path to take — they aren’t longer, shorter or more or less difficult paths. They’re just paths.”

The Beatties hope to raise $1,000 for the organization and have asked for donations to the walk in lieu of gifts for the girls’ birthday.

Another effort to raise money for the organization is through Dabble, Elisabeth’s online jewelry store where 10 percent of all proceeds go to the Autism Speaks organization. She even has a stackable autism bracelet for others to show support for a loved one with autism.

To shop at Dabble, visit www.etsy.com/shop/dabbletheShop.

Registration for the walk will begin at 8 a.m. and an opening ceremony — including the 9/11 tribute — will begin at 9:30 a.m. Registration is free, however T-shirts are given to walkers who raise $15 or more and VIP recognition in the Grand Club are given to walkers who raise $100 or more and VIP recognition in the Grand Club are given to walkers who raise $1,000 or more. For more information, visit www.autismspeaks.org or call (323) 849-5000.

Gracie Beattie of Murrieta, who was born on Sept. 11 three years ago with her twin sister, Ava, has been diagnosed with autism and will participate in Saturday’s annual Walk Now for Autism Speaks at Liberty Station with her sister and parents. In addition to the twins’ birthdate, the day obviously has special significance to other Americans. 

By MARIKO LAMB|

ATTORNEY - ESTATES

BAY FRONT!
Perfectly proportioned, this Jim Bruce Richards design has expansive windows which bring sunshine and boats of all sizes right into your living room. Hardwood floors throughout, chef’s kitchen, wine cellar, 2 fireplaces: 1 inside and 1 outside plus a very spacious patio right at water’s edge. Once you see this home, you will clam it for yourself. Call me for an appointment to see.

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Check out this wonderful wooded area 4BR/2.5BA home. One level, gourmet kitchen; just fabulous! $835,000

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Charming Point Loma home! This wonderful home features 3 bedrooms, 2 baths with over 1600 square feet! Situated on a corner lot and in a delightful neighborhood! $695,000!

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3130 AVENIDA DE PORTUGAL #303
Vacation all year round in this 2000sqa condo, walking distance to Shelter Island, shops, restaurants, and yacht clubs! Top floor unit with views, washer and dryer in unit, new appliances, and two, very secure underground parking spaces. Call Annie Coleman for an appointment to show.

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BAY FRONT!
Perfectly proportioned, this Jim Bruce Richards design has expansive windows which bring sunshine and boats of all sizes right into your living room. Hardwood floors throughout, chef’s kitchen, wine cellar, 2 fireplaces: 1 inside and 1 outside plus a very spacious patio right at water’s edge. Once you see this home, you will clam it for yourself. Call me for an appointment to see.

FABULOUS WOODED AREA!
CRISTINE GEE & BETH ZEDAKER
(619) 980-4433

IN ESCROW
Charming Point Loma home! This wonderful home features 3 bedrooms, 2 baths with over 1600 square feet! Situated on a corner lot and in a delightful neighborhood! $695,000!

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REAL ESTATE. REAL INTEGRITY. SINCE 1914.
Firefighter Tim Swanson of Station 21 in Pacific Beach, left, designed a Sept. 11 Twin Towers tribute to be unveiled Sept. 9. Artist Tara Tarrant, right, is assisting.

Photo by Paul Hansen / The Beacon

**TRIBUTE**

**CONTINUED FROM Page 1**

project.

“The piece of steel was donated to the SDFD from the fire department in New York with the stipulation that it be used on a public art project. They’ve had it for a couple of years, but never quite got started on making something with it,” said Wendy Robinson, executive director of SDFRF. “We had another design that was presented and approved, but he (Swanson) felt very strongly about that was presented and approved, but he (Swanson) felt very strongly about that. The piece of steel was donated to the SDFRF.”

Swanson, a certified welder, took on the project four months ago. “I think it means a little bit more to Swanson, a certified welder, took on the project four months ago. “I think it means a little bit more to me than it might mean to someone else,” he said. He enlisted the assistance of Barnhart Construction to pour the concrete base and Tara Tarrant of La Jolla Stone Tarrant of La Jolla Stone Echting to inscribe the names of the emergency first responders into the columns.

Other materials and labor were donated by Barnhart Ballfour Beatty, Industrial Metal Supply, KMA Architecture, La Jolla Stone Echting and SDFDF.

The memorial is in its final stages of construction and will be implanted permanently next to the flagpole at Station 21.

Following the unveiling ceremony, the SDFRF will hold a fundraising event at Firehouse, located adjacent to Sta- tion 21, to raise funds for the foundation. The free fundraiser will feature drink specials, prizes and firefighter guests.

The memorial unveiling will take place at 10:10 a.m. on Sept. 9 at Fire Station 21, located at 750 Grand Ave. SDFRF’s fundraiser will take place from 5 to 8 p.m. at Firehouse, located at 722 Grand Ave.

No tickets are required for either event.

**PORT**

**CONTINUED FROM Page 1**

cational institutions, along with the fire cities that are port members — San Diego, National City, Chula Vista, Coro- nado and Imperial Beach.

“I appreciate this outreach and I’m delighted to see the beginning of the outreach and input from stakeholders,” said Jan Unger, president of the San Diego Port Tenants Association.

Kris Michell, president of the Down- town San Diego Partnership, complimented the port for bringing together such a diverse group to provide strategic ideas.

“I hope we can create a path for the future,” Michell said.

Gloria said job creation is among the region’s top priorities. He emphasized the port’s role as an economic catalyst for the region, saying, “We want to make sure the port remains an eco- nomic asset.”

The timing for regional dialogue and collaboration would appear perfect, since the port will celebrate its 50th anniversary next year.

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Mission Hills | $847,000

Pike House. Off Market Home Interior Photographs, 2 bath with optional room + storage apartment above garage. Lawn maintenance perks bring this home up to date. Bath in 1972.

Point Loma | $3,800,000

2 1/2 acres includes house + office building, upgraded lift, with terrarium, tile & white appliances, optical lift, con- tact土地, fencing, room + 4-car garage. Lovely patio + 1/3+ acre land. Copper roof on ocean, elevated corner lot. Copper roof justly designed. Huge grassy yard.

Ocean Beach | $499,900

First time on the market. Stunning home! Living rm has dramatic 25 foot ceilings w/ large windows of light. Formal dining rm w/ hardwood floors & French doors to pristine bath backspalsh w/ pool. Gorgeous kitchen w/5-burner stove & breakfast bar. 4 br, 3 ba, Master suite w/ huge walk-in closet & spa-like bath. Large deck off master bd. Low maintenance yards bring this home up to date. Bath in 1972.

Ocean Beach | $525,000

2 br, 2.5 ba townhome features cherry flrs, upgraded kit & kit. 160 degree ocean views from 2nd floor 201 foot crane kitchen, formal dining rm w: car attached gar & 2-car detached gar off the sky RV parking + 2 additional spaces. Room for 26-foot RV.

Mission Beach | $1,295,000

2 br, 2 bath in the hills has huge roof top deck w/ 2-car detached gar. Panoramic views of ocean & bay + deck off master & large patio, over sized garage + 1 space. Lower unit is fully furnished with patio & carpets.
Point Loman blends tech with ‘earth first’ approach in dome home

By Patricia Walsh | The Beacon

A half-century after R. Buckminster Fuller connected a series of triangles to build America’s first dome home in the woods of Illinois, Hal Brody married modern technology with environmental materials and Old World décor to construct his own geodesic dome, which he calls “the greenest home in San Diego.”

His single-family residence will be open to the public from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Sept. 24 and 25 in the heart of Point Loma at 3,235 sq. ft. (Don’t worry, you can’t miss it.)

Brody, 67, has spent a decade researching and designing the light-gauge steel structural sphere, and the last two years building his vision of the eco-conscious domicile of the future.

“Most wanted to do the best I could to be a good environmental steward — to use the best materials that last for years, and the least amount of energy to maintain,” said Brody, who will use his home to educate contractors on how to incorporate environmental systems and materials into their buildings.

Architects will then have the ability to create homes that contractors can build,” he said. If he achieves his goal of having five crews build two dome homes a year in San Diego, there will be plenty of work for everyone busy.

An anomaly amid wood-framed dwellings on manicured lawns, the dome has created a controversy of dome homes on the lot when Brody purchased it in 2007 lives on in southeast San Diego.

Brody estimates the construction costs for a basic dome home on a ready-to-build lot at $450,000 — or $200 per square foot. Environmental systems like solar and greywater are extra.

W FILE PHOTO | THE BEACON

Brody steps aside to watch visitors’ expressions when he opens the door to the 2,235-square-foot four-bedroom, two-bath home. “There’s an emotional reaction. Almost everyone has one,” he said. “Vaulted ceilings are inspirational.”

From the first-floor threshold, the sky-painted ceiling on the second floor commands the eye upward. A single continuous interior wall curves seamlessly up and around from the dome’s fly ashes and cement foundation and radiant floor heating (no forced-air duct system in this house).

Sunflower seed shell board, wheat board, biocomposite, bamboo and walnut shell phenolic make up countertops, shelves and tables. Brody personally cut the curved 12-foot-long dining room table.

The tongue-and-groove shower walls aren’t wood, but high-density polyethylene (HDPE R2 – recycled milk cartons and plastic bottles.) “It’s very expensive, but it’s forever,” Brody said.

When natural light filtering through double-pane windows and six skylights isn’t enough, dimmable LED lights illuminate the house in sections. “My grandchildren will be using the same bulbs,” Brody beamed.

Closets are enclosed behind curtains because doors require more materials and take up too much space. The two toilets have the privilege and privacy of the house’s only interior doors.

Outside, a greywater system pumps recycled bath and shower water (from low flow fixtures to the food-heating landscaping. In the front yard the showiest trees have been planted near the brown picket fence. In the back yard the showiest trees have been planted near the brown picket fence. In the back yard landscaping. In the front yard the showiest trees have been planted near the brown picket fence. In the back yard landscaping. In the front yard the showiest trees have been planted near the brown picket fence. In the back yard landscaping.

Solar panels harness the San Diego sun. “The goal is to generate 100 percent of our needs,” Brody said. But a back-up hot water heater is on standby in case of a cloudy day.

Walkways are made from the original concrete driveway or compressed stabilized decomposed granite. Even the 60-year-old, 1,000-square-foot house that was on the lot when Brody purchased it in 2007 lives on in southeast San Diego.

Point Loma real estate broker Leslie Devlin Reynolds

Brody estimates the construction costs for a basic dome home on a ready-to-build lot at $450,000 — or $200 per square foot. Environmental systems like solar and greywater are extra.

While neighbors admire Brody for his tech-first approach, they tried to stop the dome. First they called the city’s planning department to complain. When that failed — the structure passed the test of strength and durability — they circulated a petition asking Brody to conform to the rectangular norm.

“I do feel bad if people’s aesthetics are offended,” Brody said. “The objectors appreciate saneness and have a value for continuity. I don’t share that opinion; I like to see difference in architecture,” he said. “Weird is OK — as long as it’s not ugly.”

Not to mention a rectangle does require more materials than a circle to create the same amount of space. As for putting a dome home in the heart of the city: “This is where I want to live. I want to create infill, not be part of urban sprawl,” Brody said. “This house doesn’t belong in the woods. It’s a feature in the neighborhood.”

While debating rectangular vs. round, keep in mind the bigger question people ponder when moving to this neighborhood: is it if they want to live under the flight path of an expanding airport.

Pristine Dream Home in Bankers Hill! 3 bedroom with master suite upstairs. Open 2-5 pm and cool views from rear rooms, and private sewer ruling. Call for your personal tour starting at $1,300,000 140 B. Page Street, San Diego.

Photo by Harry Mark The Beacon

Brody stands in front of his 2,235-square-foot, 2-story home in Point Loma.

An interior shot of Hal Brody’s dome home in Point Loma.

An interior shot of Hal Brody’s dome home in Point Loma.
Thousands to swarm coastal sites for annual cleanup day Saturday

NEWS BRIEFS

Man sought in Midway pharmacy robbery

San Diego Police Department Robbery Unit detectives are probing a recent series of pharmacy robberies that began in July, including a heist at the Ralph’s grocery store on Sports Arena Boulevard on July 23.

Investigators said a male wearing a white surgical mask approached the pharmacy counter, indicated he had a gun and demanded specific drugs. Police said he made off with some Oxycontin and Xanax. The suspect placed the bottles into his black backpack and walked out of the store.

Other similar cases in which the man wore clear latex gloves occurred at a Von’s store on Aug. 12 in El Cajon and at the Ralph’s grocery store on Mission Boulevard in Pacific Beach on Aug. 14.

The suspect is described as a white male between the ages of 30 and 39, 5-foot-4 to 5-foot-10 with a medium build, wearing a black ball cap or fedora and dark pants. He wore latex gloves in two cases and carried a black bag or backpack in each case.

Anyone with information is asked to call the San Diego Police Department’s Robbery Unit at (619) 531-2299.

Council seeks nominees for Citizen of the Year

Nominations for the title of 2011 Ocean Beach Citizen of  the Year are now being accepted by the Ocean Beach Town Council (OBTC). Candidates should be members of  the Ocean Beach community, active in local events and have made a significant contribution to the spirit and character of OB. Candidates do not have to be members of the OBTC.

Nomination letters should be emailed to OBTC President Jim Musgrove at jimmusgrove@mac.com, or mailed to Ocean Beach Town Council, P.O. Box 7225, San Diego, 92167. Letters must be time stamped or postmarked before midnight on Monday, Sept. 19.

The OBTC Board of Directors will present the award at the council’s annual awards dinner on Oct. 4. The 2011 OB Citizen of the Year will be an honored participant in the Christmas Parade in December. For more information, call (619) 515-4400.

Paddle for Clean Water event now in 20th year

The annual Paddle for Clean Water will celebrate its 20th year at the Ocean Beach Pier on Sunday, Sept. 18 by returning to the age of  grunge, bungy jumping and fine dancing.

One of the San Diego Surfrider Chapter’s most popular community events, the free paddle is a non-competitive event designed to bring the community together in the name of clean water and a healthy environment using any form of human powered paddlecraft.

The event runs from 9 a.m. to noon; registration is at 9. For information, visit www.paddle4cleanwater.blogspot.com.

Thousands of volunteers will pack sites in Ocean Beach, La Jolla, Mission and Pacific beaches and elsewhere Saturday during the annual California Coastal Cleanup event, sponsored by San Diego Coastkeeper and I Love a Clean San Diego.

Volunteers are encouraged to bring their own buckets, gloves and debris containers.

“We do encourage people to stay within their communities,” Justice-Black said. “But for those who want to pick up a ton of trash elsewhere, there are plenty of sites [such as] the area between the I-94 and I-8 corridor(s).”

Area cleanup sites include Mission Bay, La Jolla Shores, Pacific Beach, Mission Beach and Ocean Beach. Volunteers are encouraged to download and fill out a registration form prior to showing up to the cleanup. Comprehensive site maps, registration forms and additional information about the event can be accessed at www.cleanupday.org.

America’s Finest City Half Marathon

Thank you Point Loma Residents for your support of the 8298 runners from 44 States and 16 Countries

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Start/End: Ocean Beach Pier on Sunday, Sept. 18 by returning to the age of grunge, bungy jumping and fine dancing.

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At the June 1 meeting of the Ocean Beach Planning Board (OBPB), we voted to send a letter to Mayor Jerry Sanders’s office in response to the City’s Development Services Department’s (DSD) rezoning through variances.

These variances allow property owners to exceed their floor-area ratio (FAR) in Ocean Beach, thereby increasing size and scale of the homes. Three property owners in the community were granted variances to property owners that would allow that increase, and this a major concern of the board. The letter was also sent to DSD, the City Attorney’s Office and members of the City Council’s Land Use and Housing (LUH) Committee. Our councilmember, Kevin Faulconer, sits on that committee.

Our DSD, the City Attorney’s Office and the board. The letter was also sent to the community’s desire to maintain low-density and small-scale homes and structures in Ocean Beach, thereby increasing size and scale of the homes on these properties to a scale larger than the zone allows. Our letter from the board to city officials stated that:

“City staff has supported variances from the municipal code ‘based on the substantial lot size (2,500 square feet) combined with the limitation of E.A.R. in the RM-2-4 Zone.’ The city’s staff has failed to correctly identify the hardship condition necessary to grant the variances and we believe the variances are improper for the parcels in question and others in the same general area.”

It should be noted that all the lots in question are, and have been, perfectly buildable without variances for more than 30 years since our Precise Plan identified the community’s desire to maintain low-density and small-scale homes and structures in Ocean Beach and set the FAR level to specifically accomplish that design intent.

This is where the board is at odds with city staff. Our concerns were stated in the Aug. 11 Peninsula Beacon article titled “Faulconer, City planners at odds on beachfront variances, demolitions.” It should be noted that Faulconer is the only city official who has responded to the letter. In addition, that Anthony Faulconer’s communications director, has assured me that Faulconer is aware of the issue and of OBPB’s concerns. Faulconer is also consulting with the City Attorney’s Office to see if there is anything DSD has done that comes to the issue of rezoning through variances. We would prefer that the city docket this for a City Council hearing (Process 5) in order to determine the community’s will to either support or change the municipal code in a proper and democratic fashion.

The projects on West Point Loma Boulevard are not the only location where this FAR variance was allowed by the city, and therefore this is not an issue limited solely to one specific area of the community. In addition to voting against these projects, the OBPB also voted unanimously against removing the 25 percent FAR requirement from the city’s municipal code. As we requested that the OBPB discuss the issue in August 2010. The city has requested that we either increase the allowed FAR or remove the parking requirement a number of other times over the course of history–requests we were rejected by the board. Rezoning through variances is a significant concern for members on the board as it is counterproductive to the public process and also dishonors the city’s will to either support or change the municipal code in a proper and democratic fashion.

Recently, DSD has been allowing variances to property owners that would allow them to not include the 25 percent dedicated toward parking, thus increasing the size and scale of the homes on these properties to a scale larger than the zone allows. Our letter from the board to city officials stated that:

“City staff has supported variances from the municipal code ‘based on the substantial lot size (2,500 square feet) combined with the limitation of E.A.R. in the RM-2-4 Zone.’ The city’s staff has failed to correctly identify the hardship condition necessary to grant the variances and we believe the variances are improper for the parcels in question and others in the same general area.”

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BY GIOVANNI INGOLIA
THE PENINSULA BEACON
THURSDAY · SEPTEMBER 8, 2011

Fostering responsible discussion, oversight of variances, rezoning

OBPB has supported variances from the municipal code “based on the substantial lot size (2,500 square feet) combined with the limitation of E.A.R. in the RM-2-4 Zone.” The city’s staff has failed to correctly identify the hardship condition necessary to grant the variances and we believe the variances are improper for the parcels in question and others in the same general area.”

It should be noted that all the lots in question are, and have been, perfectly buildable without variances for more than 30 years since our Precise Plan identified the community’s desire to maintain low-density and small-scale homes and structures in Ocean Beach and set the FAR level to specifically accomplish that design intent.

This is where the board is at odds with city staff. Our concerns were stated in the Aug. 11 Peninsula Beacon article titled “Faulconer, City planners at odds on beachfront variances, demolitions.” It should be noted that Faulconer is the only city official who has responded to the letter. In addition, that Anthony Faulconer’s communications director, has assured me that Faulconer is aware of the issue and of OBPB’s concerns. Faulconer is also consulting with the City Attorney’s Office to see if there is anything DSD has done that comes to the issue of rezoning through variances. We would prefer that the city docket this for a City Council hearing (Process 5) in order to determine the community’s will to either support or change the municipal code in a proper and democratic fashion.

The projects on West Point Loma Boulevard are not the only location where this FAR variance was allowed by the city, and therefore this is not an issue limited solely to one specific area of the community. In addition to voting against these projects, the OBPB also voted unanimously against removing the 25 percent FAR requirement from the city’s municipal code. As we requested that the OBPB discuss the issue in August 2010. The city has requested that we either increase the allowed FAR or remove the parking requirement a number of other times over the course of history—requests we were rejected by the board. Rezoning through variances is a significant concern for members on the board as it is counterproductive to the public process and also dishonors the city’s will to either support or change the municipal code in a proper and democratic fashion.

Recently, DSD has been allowing variances to property owners that would allow them to not include the 25 percent dedicated toward parking, thus increasing the size and scale of the homes on these properties to a scale larger than the zone allows. Our letter from the board to city officials stated that:

“City staff has supported variances from the municipal code ‘based on the substantial lot size (2,500 square feet) combined with the limitation of E.A.R. in the RM-2-4 Zone.’ The city’s staff has failed to correctly identify the hardship condition necessary to grant the variances and we believe the variances are improper for the parcels in question and others in the same general area.”

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JIM SOKOLOVE
San Diego Restaurant Week is serving something new for the 18th-23 run-lunch. The county’s largest bi-annual culinary event that for years has offered diners the opportunity to enjoy fine restaurants at discount-ed prices is expected to grow even more the year around with special mid-day menus.

About 180 restaurants in San Diego County are parting in an on- going course lunch and three-course pre-fixe dinner menu options. Lunch menus run $10, $15 and $20, while dinner menus are $20, $30 or $40, depending on the restaurant.

Restaurant Week was started by the California Restaurant Association (CRA) San Diego Chapter, a trade organization that promotes the hospitality industry. Participation in the event has grown even during the recession when the industry as a whole took a hit — with about 14,000 participating in the most recent Restaurant Week in January.

The Restaurant Week website offers a search feature to select restaurants by cuisine, neighborhood, meal or price. It also maps venue locations, displays menus and allows diners to submit a reservation online. The website also has a promotion to enter to win gift certifi-cates to on- every restaurant for a specific date.

Restaurant Week also coincides with California Wine Month and diners at The Marine Room can experience the state’s finest wines with pairings arranged by Advanced Sommelier Lisa Redwine.

Beau Bo Kitchen + Bar in Point Loma, the Colun Restaurant Group’s new French project on the site of the former Bungalow, will feature melon, prosciutto, goat cheese and roasted beet flatbread, and host bouzoukia as a pre-fixe menu selections.

This year, some proceeds from Restau-rant Week will go to support local stu-dents by raising money for schools to enhance on-site gardens and hospitality programs.

Some of the participating San Diego Restaurant Week are not necessary, though reserva-tions are recommended as restaurants fill up quickly.

For more information, maps and exact pricing at individual restaurants, visit www.sandiegorestaurantweek.com. 

Cheers! SD Festival of Beers returns for 17th year

The San Diego Festival of Beer returns to downtown Friday, Sept. 9. Now in its 17th year, San Diego’s oldest beer fest-ival brings crowds that have poured into the streets of the Core Columbia district since the beginning of the local craft brew revolution that catapulted America’s Finest City into a world-class beer destination.

The festival is organized by the non-profit San Diego Professional Against Cancer (SDPAC), an all-volunteer organization of professionals from various fields who are joined forces to carry on the event. Since its inception, the festival has raised more than $500,000 for cancer treatments and research in San Diego.

“We do it to benefit cancer causes because it touches everyone’s life at some point,” said Candace Brown, president of SDPAC and a director of finance for Prudential California Realty. “The festival is a wonderful opportunity to support the craft breweries and benefit a cause right here where the people who are going live.”

Brown said the idea for the festival came when she and some friends, including SDPAC President Rachel Cano, a deputy district attorney for the county of San Diego, were at a beer fes-tival in San Luis Obispo. With most fundraising benefits at the time more formal affairs, the group thought it an opportunity to create an event that would support a good cause with a more causal event.

Receiving guidance and participation from some of the up-and-coming brew- ers in the area, including Chris Cramer of Karl Strauss Brewing Company and Greg Koch of Stone Brewing — which is planning a huge expansion at Liberty Station — the event con-tinued to grow and expand.

About 70 breweries are expected to participate in this year’s festival, which will also feature food, wine and live music.

Some of the beneficiaries from the fes-tival include the pediatric cancer patients at Rady Children’s Hospital, where the SDPAC has donated upwards of $200,000 to purchase equipment for children with cancer.

The 17th annual festival of beer will be held from 6 to 11 p.m. and is a 21-and-older event. Entrance is at Columbia and 10th streets, in a parking lot behind the SDPAC. For more information, visit www.sdbeerfest.org.
One of the wonderful things about Ocean Beach is the community's collective love of music and art. Mixed with the weather and beachfront location, it's the perfect location for the sauce and sizzle of outdoor events like the annual, all-day Jazz 88 Ocean Beach Music and Art Festival, which takes place Sept. 10.

The estimated 3,000-person block party is now in its sixth year, with a musical roster of straight-ahead jazz, Latin jazz, blues and funk.

"We feel that Ocean Beach is the ideal place for it because it's so representative of San Diego," said Jazz 88 station manager Mark DeBoskey. "But it's a little bit unconventional, if you will, and we're a little unconventional, too. As a station, that's kind of cool and hip. We want to be in a cool and hip place, and Ocean Beach is definitely that." The City College studio downtown has been playing jazz since 1985.

Onstage this year will be an impressive lineup of more than 20 national and local artists, topped by iconic New Orleans pianist Dr. John, a.k.a. The Night Tripper. Performing with his band, The 911, Dr. John is best known for his songs like "I Walk On Gilded Splinters" and "Right Place, Wrong Time," but he's also been a session legend since the 1960s, having played a part in numerous recordings by everyone from James Taylor to the Rolling Stones. This rare appearance alone makes the event a must for music fans.

Other festival highlights include jazz from the saxophone-led Donald Harrison Quartet, hot jazz/western swing trio Hot Club of Cowtown, blues from harmonica virtuoso Charlie Musselwhite, Hammond

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SEE | PAGE 11

By BART MENDOZA | THE BEACON
There is a ton of musical and artistic talent. With admission, you can check out 23 bands featuring local legends, Grammy Award winners and international superstars. Real great music!

In addition, as you make your way through Ocean Beach to enjoy each of the venues, on the 4900 block of Newport Avenue, you can enjoy the free outdoor art row section with some of the best in fine-art visual artists. At the end of Newport Avenue, there are unique craftspeople and delicious food vendors along the waterfront in the beachfront vendor area. A $30 ticket gets you access to eight of the nine stages (excluding the VIP stage) all around the block footprint of the festival.

The participating venues have been reserved only for the festival attendees. You can bounce around from one stage to the next, while also enjoying the free art row section and the craft beer and wine garden at the main stage area. Also, with a Jazz 88 Ocean Beach Music and Art Festival wristband, you can enjoy the many discounts that have been set up at local restaurants for festival visitors. Take a look at each coupon for details as you visit the establishments, and redeem your coupon at more than 15 local eateries. These merchants will give you a discount in connection with the festival. Enjoy the shows!

WHY THIS FESTIVAL IS SO COOL

A POSSIBLE ITINERARY FOR THE DAY:

9:00 AM

Arrive in Ocean Beach. There is plenty of street parking this early. Go to one of the Ticket Booths to exchange my $30 ticket for a Festival wristband.

9:15 AM

Grab breakfast at one of the participating restaurants (page 8 of this program) and get a discount with your festival wristband!

10:00 AM

Peruse Art Row that opens at 10 AM and pick up a wonderful piece of art for the living room! Ask the artist to hold onto it for your while you enjoy the Festival.

11:00 AM

The MLK Choir kicks the music off at the Community Stage of the Festival. Peruse the beachfront merchandise and craft vendors set up on Abbott St.

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Bounce around the 8 stages (and one VIP stage if you have that ticket) from Main Stage to Gallagher’s to Winston’s to Hodad’s Tent Stage to The Harp to Electric Ladyland to Nick’s at the Pier and back listening to great music the whole way.

1:15 PM

Time to wet the whistle at the Craft Beer Garden sponsored by Pizza Port, Ballast Point, Stone Brewing Co., La Jolla Brewhouse and Coronado Brewing Company!

1:30 AM

Getting hungry – go for lunch at another participating restaurant and get another discount with your Festivalwristband!

2:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Keep bouncing around from venue to venue and through Art Row until sunset! Your wristband gets you in everywhere!

7:30 PM

What a day! Why not get dinner at another discounted restaurant and go tell my friends what a great day I had at the beach!!
The annual Jazz 88 Ocean Beach Music and Art Festival — put on by KSDS Jazz 88.3 at City College downtown — takes to the streets of Ocean Beach for an all-day affair on Saturday, Sept. 10. Among the headliners is iconic New Orleans pianist Dr. John and his band, The 911.

FESTIVAL
CONTINUED FROM Page 9

Bl master Dr. Lonnie Smith and a set from multi-Grammy-Award-nominat-ed Latin Jazz artist Wayne Wallace. Meanwhile, San Diego’s own musical community will be well represented, including performances from Nathan James, Steph Johnson, The Danny Green Quartet, The Stylotones, Allis-on Adams Tucker and ISP, with an appearance from legendary guitarist Mundell Lowe in the VIP area.

Making this event a unique experience, some of the artists, excluding Dr. John and Dr. Smith, perform twice during the day, giving visitors a better chance to catch the musical magic a second time.

The action takes place on three outdoor stages, including one adjacent to Hodad’s Burgers, with six more located in venues along Newport Avenue and Bacon Street, including Gal-laghers’s Tavern, The Harp, Nick’s at The Beach, Electric Ladyland and Winston’s Beach Club. All the performance areas, except the ones in 21-and-up establishments, are open to all ages. Connoisseurs’ of craft beer will also find a beer garden adjacent to the main stage.

Meanwhile, there will also be a community stage featuring performances from The MLK Community Choir, Mission Bay High School Dix-ieland Band and the San Diego School for the Performing Arts Jazz Combo. Additionally, Newport Avenue between Bacon and Cable streets will be the location of an art row, with more than 100 artists displaying their wares. It’s a full day of art and music. Activities will run from 11 a.m. to 6:45 p.m. Festival tickets are $30, with children under 12 admitted free. Special VIP packages are available. There is no admission charge to visit the art row areas of the festival or the community stage.

The annual Jazz 88 Ocean Beach Music and Art Festival takes place from 11 a.m. to 6:45 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 10 along Newport Avenue. Adult tickets are $30. For more information, visit www.obmusicfest.org.

As much fun as concertgoers will be having at the festival, performers also get a kick out of it.

“I’m thrilled to be a part of this,” said award-winning singer Steph Johnson. “Jazz 88 has been so supportive of music and arts in San Diego. I’m happy I’ve been asked to participate, especially on a bill that includes leg-endar’y acts like Dr. John and local friends like Nathan James.

Mission Bay High School music director JP Balmat points out the audience is a little bit different than the typical one the Mission Bay High School Dixieland Jazz Band plays for.

“It’s a little bit more mainstream,” he said. “You’re getting a more diverse audience. You’re getting a younger audience. I think it’s great for the band to have this diversity of people coming to see them and appreciate their music.”

Though student musicians are limited by their age as to which stages they can view, they can intermingle with some of the older, seasoned pros. According to Balmat, this festival experience is a boon to visitors, but especially to the students.

“It’s a (wonderful) opportunity for them to see the caliber of musicians out there,” he said.

The Jazz 88 Ocean Beach Music and Art Festival takes place from 11 a.m. to 6:45 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 10 along Newport Avenue. Adult tickets are $30. For more information, visit www.obmusicfest.org.
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To get listed please visit www.oceanbeachsandiego.com or call (619) 224-4906

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hodadess.com

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oldtownhouserestaurant.com

Tower Two Beach Cafe
5055 Santa Monica Ave. • 619-223-4509

O.B. Kanobe’s
4976 Newport Ave. • 619-621-7353

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W.O.W. Cafe
“On the OB Pier” • 619-226-3474

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Cheswick’s West
Dream Street
Gallagher’s Irish Pub
5046 Newport Ave. • 619-222-5300
gallagherspub.com

Lucy’s Tavern
4900 Voltaire St. • 619-222-0246

Pacific Shores
4927 Newport Ave. • 619-223-7549

South Beach Bar & Grill
Sunshine Company Saloon
5028 Newport Ave. • 619-222-2072
sunsaloon.com

The Arizona – Bar & Cafe
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The Harp – Bar/Café
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SportsBars.com

Tony’s
5034 Newport Ave. • 619-223-0056
Tonysherb.com

Winston’s
BARBECUE
Bar-b-que House
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barbquehouse.com

CALIFORNIA CUISINE
Nick’s at the Pier
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nicksatthepier.com

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ShadesOB.com

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3rdCornerOB.com

The Pearl Hotel
CANDY STORE
Beach Sweats
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beachsweats.com

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Pointer football squads open season with triple wins

By SCOTT HOPKINS | THE BEACON

Three games, three victories. The combined score: 112-20.

That was the degree of domination shown by Point Loma High School as its three football teams raised the curtain on the 2011 season last week at Orange Glen High School in Escondido.

The new varsity team showed flashes of brilliance on offense and defense but left plenty for coaches to work on after a penalty-diluted 27-7 victory over the Patriots in the Sept. 2 main event.

Earlier, the freshman team administered a 51-7 whipping of its counterpart’s Thursday before the junior varsity Pointers roared out of the starting gate during High School’s first time through the air.

Both the freshman and junior varsity teams will be working to repeat as Western Lakes League champions after rewarding 2010 seasons.

In the varsity contest, Jaivon Griffin began his senior year right where he left off last season, using his deceptive speed and moves to pick up 141 rushing yards on only 12 carries. At only 5’6” and 155 pounds, Griffin often took a beating while rolling up 1,213 yards (6.3 per carry) last season.

After being stung by Matt Magers for a 24-yard score, Eischen, who earned a starting position on defense last season as a sophomore, also won the signal-caller job this season. He completed four of five first time through the air.

After forcing the Patriots to punt from their own end zone, quarterback Zach Eischen, in his varsity debut, found wide receiver Matt Magers for a 24-yard score. Eischen, who earned a starting position on defense last season as a sophomore, also won the signal-caller job this season. He completed four of five first time through the air.

An attempted two-point conversion narrowly failed as the visitors took a 20-0 lead with 6:41 left in the third quarter. The Pointers closed their scoring with a 27-yard field goal by Soares upped the lead to 27-0.

A second PAT by Soares upped the lead to 27-0. Four fumbles (resulting in three turnovers) stopped Pointer drives.

Running back Jamal Agnew (35) trots back to the Pointer bench after scoring the Pointers first touchdown of the 2011 season on a 30-yard run just 2:49 into the new season.

The score remained unchanged until late in the second quarter. Griffin’s seven-yard scamper gave the Pointers a 14-0 halftime lead after Felipe Soares’ successful PAT.

The Pointers then struck twice in the third period to give themselves an insurmountable lead.

Following a pair of personal-foul penalties that put the Dogs back near their own goal line, the offense, which had sputtered earlier in the period, pushed the ball nearly to midfield before Griffin, displaying outstanding moves and balance, broke loose for a 54-yard scoring run.

Both the freshman and junior varsity teams will be working to repeat as West- ern Lakes League champions after rewarding 2010 seasons.

Next up: Pointers will try to avoid being stung by talented Hornets

By SCOTT HOPKINS | THE BEACON

There’s likely to be a buzz in the air on Saturday, Sept. 10, when the Lincoln Hornets swarm into Peter Rome Stadium for the annual home “Kick-Off” triple-header.

The Hornets finished 7-7 last year, but that doesn’t tell the Hornet story.

While only finishing 2-3 in the tough Eastern League, the Hornets came alive after entering the playoffs with a 4-6 overall record. They dispatched San Diego (66-0), Ramona (41-26) and St. Augustine (29-26) before losing to Cathedral Catholic in the Div. III CIF Championships in December in Qualcomm Stadium.

Since then, former Lincoln head coach Ron Hamamoto has left for a position on the staff at San Diego Mesa College, but he didn’t leave first-year coach David Dunn with a shortage of talent.

Notable are twins Tyrrell and Tyree Robinson. Tyrrell (WR/LB) and Tyree (WR/DB) are both top-level talents. The Hornets are strong at all skill positions.

On the line, Neneo Reese Henry (OL/DL, 295 pounds) and Jordan Letuli (OL/DL, 315 pounds) hold their own. Quarterback Talon Mondy is a veteran team leader.

The Hornets did not play in last week’s season opener so the team will be facing its first real test of the season against the Pointers.
Tequila Trail kicks off the spirited week on Sunday, Sept. 11. Sponsored by Vitto Bacinora, trailblazers will sample the new Bacinora cream along with select tequilas and savor culinary specialties from 10 of Old Town’s world-renowned eateries: Barra Barra Saloon, Café Coyote, Miguel’s Cocina, Old Town Mexican Café, El Fandango, The Cosmopolitan, Casa Guadalajara, La Palata, Rockin’ Baja Coastal Cantina and Fiesta de Reyes. Top mixologists and bartenders are anticipated to put their best cocktail forward using Solerno Blood Orange Liqueur for the Solerno Liqueur Cocktail Challenge Semi-Finals and Finals. The Semi-Finals occur during the Tequila Trail at The Cosmopolitan Restaurant, and on Wednesday, Sept. 14, finalists will shake, stir and pour their hearts out as they compete in the Solerno Liqueur Cocktail Challenge Semi-Finals where the 2011 Official Spirits of Mexico Cocktail will be determined. Tickets can be purchased for $25 for the Tequila Trail, which includes access to the Cocktail Challenge Semi-Finals. The final competition also has a $25 entry fee. A panel of experienced tequila connoisseurs will judge hundreds of agave-based spirits in private Monday and Tuesday for the 2011 Spirits of Mexico Tasting Competition. The Spirits of Mexico Awards Dinner and Tasting Reception at Barra Barra Saloon, Sept. 16, is when guests can sip world-class agave spirits paired with specialty cuisine infused with agave spirits. The Awards Ceremony, held in the Fiesta de Reyes courtyard after dinner, will reveal the winners of the 2011 Spirits of Mexico Tasting Competition. Dinner tickets can be purchased for $85 per person.

Spirits of Mexico Festival is set to showcase top agave spirits brewed by hundreds of distillers, September 11 to 18, in the heart of Mexican culture, Old Town San Diego. The event is the largest, most comprehensive festival of agave-based spirits in North America, and will be packed with seminars discussing the finest spirits, tequila tastings, cocktail challenges, authentic Mexican dishes and an awards ceremony.

The 2011 Spirits of Mexico Festival is anticipated to put their best cocktail forward using Solerno Blood Orange Liqueur for the Solerno Liqueur Cocktail Challenge Semi-Finals and Finals. The Semi-Finals occur during the Tequila Trail at The Cosmopolitan Restaurant, and on Wednesday, Sept. 14, finalists will shake, stir and pour their hearts out as they compete in the Solerno Liqueur Cocktail Challenge Semi-Finals where the 2011 Official Spirits of Mexico Cocktail will be determined. Tickets can be purchased for $25 for the Tequila Trail, which includes access to the Cocktail Challenge Semi-Finals. The final competition also has a $25 entry fee. A panel of experienced tequila connoisseurs will judge hundreds of agave-based spirits in private Monday and Tuesday for the 2011 Spirits of Mexico Tasting Competition. The Spirits of Mexico Awards Dinner and Tasting Reception at Barra Barra Saloon, Sept. 16, is when guests can sip world-class agave spirits paired with specialty cuisine infused with agave spirits. The Awards Ceremony, held in the Fiesta de Reyes courtyard after dinner, will reveal the winners of the 2011 Spirits of Mexico Tasting Competition. Dinner tickets can be purchased for $85 per person.

Spirits of Mexico Festival’s Main Event is on Saturday, Sept. 18, in Old Town San Diego State Historic Park. Attendees can enjoy more than 200 styles of agave spirits. Seminars take place at intervals throughout the evening and a silent auction will be held benefitting the Sky Ranch Foundation. VIP tickets can be purchased for $65 in advance; general admission tickets are $50 in advance. The Spirits of Mexico Festival is presented by Polished Palate and has been noted as ‘one of four festivals not to miss” by ‘O,’ the Oprah Magazine. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit polishedpalate.com.

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OLD TOWN – known affectionately as the “Birthplace of California” is the heart of San Diego. Locals should be proud that they are a part of this rich and colorful history that resides in their backyard. As the first mission, first pueblo and first city... it is the cornerstone of California.

As our state evolved, its face was changing dramatically. In the 1960’s, a few visionaries sought to create the Department of California State Parks in an effort to save the many landmarks that would remind us of our contributions in developing the West. California would be the first state in the Union to have such a preservation and restoration movement.

Since then, Old Town San Diego State Historic Park has been a tight-knit community where visitors and locals can experience what it was like back in the 1800’s. Although locals sometimes call us a “tourist trap”... we certainly are not. However, we are happy to be called California’s first “shopping center”... featuring old-fashioned mom-and-pop shops and chef-owner-operated restaurants like it was in the ol’ days. We are particularly proud to continue offering over 13 free museums, free parking and three beautiful parks for every family to enjoy!

***

One of many gems in Old Town is the newly revamped Fiesta de Reyes. Behind the scenes of this ‘new old courtyard’ is Chuck Ross, fondly referred to as “Old Town Park’s Turnaround Specialist.” Chuck often jokes that he was “captured and held against his will” to volunteer on every committee that we have in the community... and he is now happily on all of them! But these time-consuming commitments don’t seem to compromise the time he gives to embrace the history, culture and culinary delights that make Old Town and Fiesta de Reyes so special.

When you visit Fiesta de Reyes, you might be so captured by the music and charming ambiance that you miss taking note of the unique and colorful plants and shrubs. The bright and festive courtyard is filled with a collection of one of the largest displays of flowering succulents found in San Diego! Art also abounds on such unexpected canvases as doors, arches and walls, making this eye candy for many photographers. Along with 19 one-of-a-kind shops, Fiesta de Reyes features two restaurants. Casa de Reyes’ atmosphere is warm, festive and at night, you can eat under the stars and enjoy live Mexican music while you dine. Casa de Reyes also offers a variety of delicious authentic Mexican fare. Be sure to try “El Jefe”... however, you might need a friend to help you finish this bird-bath size Margarita with citrus juices, agave syrup and top-shelf tequila.

Barra Barra Saloon town “On the Best Margarita in San Diego for only $5.95!” They also have a full menu of homemade Mexican comfort food and are known for their Indian flat-bread tacos. Chuck’s love for details undoubtedly has made Fiesta de Reyes into a new star on the block and in the city having been honored with numerou


In less than a year, Hidalgo had recruited two hundred thousand men, mainly indigenous peoples and created a makeshift army, although Hidalgo knew it was lacking in composition and discipline. They marched towards Mexico City to fight the Spanish Army. However, he had no confidence in his army and quickly abandoned his plans and retreated.

After the efforts of Hidalgo, the War of Independence continued for another decade, varying in intensity, but with the Mexicans gradually gaining the upper hand. An agreement with Spain was soon forthcoming and the Treaty of Córdoba was signed in August 1821. After the treaty was ratified, Spain formally abandoned the former colony on September 16th, 1821.

Today, Mexicans celebrate this memorable event in many ways. Some hung Mexican flags outside their homes. Others join in parades or festivities and in- clude in traditional anthems and seasonal fruit punch. Even Mexico’s president is known to show his solidarity every year at midnight by shouting the El Grito with people gathered in various town squares, villages and cities throughout Mexico. Nuestro el Grito de October 12th - our Grito de Independencia is a mark of the day.

In Old Town San Diego State Historic Park also takes major note of the day with their own unique theme focused on the event. Costumed descendants from all over San Diego gather to perform a living history with lively dancing, music, food and drink. This year the FREE FIESTA will be on September 17th, from 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm. (619) 220-5422

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SEPTE. EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 11th - 18th
8th Annual Spirits of Mexico
Most comprehensive event for tequila spirits in No. America. Forum-styled seminars include a tequila tasting, cocktail challeng- es, authentic Mexican dishes and awards. (Tickets are available at: www.designtimesmexico.com)

SEPTEMBER 15th
El Grito Cocktail Challenge
Celebrate the pride as nine bartend- ers from So. California compete for the best original cocktails. The competition will be followed by a live reenactment of the El Grito, performed by Marco Ramos. This event will show-case the grand re- opening of the Tequila Room at Cafe Coyote. From 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm. 619-291-4969 (Free)

SEPTEMBER 17th
Fiesta Patrías Celebration Mexican Independence Day
Commemorative when Mexico won independence from Spain in 1810 with traditional activities from the early 1800s. Enjoy lively dancing, music, food and drink. From 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm in the Old Town State Historic Park 619-220-5422 (Free)

SEPTE. 30 & OCT. 1st
Art In Fashion Marketplace
Art and fashion meet in the Bazaar del Mundo’s vibrant courtyard with a display of one-of-a-kind clothing, jewelry and accesso- ries from top designers from So. California and the Southwest. For more information: 619-293-361

OCTOBER 1st & 2nd
Old Town Art Festival
Dozens of artists showcase their crafts, home decor, contem- porary artists and fashion. Enjoy an extensive wine & beer garden and continuous live entertainment. From 10:00 am to 6:00 pm (Free)

OCTOBER 22nd
16th Annual Bikes For Tykes
Take an easy fun 8-mile bike ride starting and ending at the Old Town Mexican Cafe where a parking lot fiesta will follow with raffle and brunch. Proceeds benefit the Make A Wish Foundation. Decorate your bikes and register early. The $35 entry fee includes a T-Shirt, a goodie bag & brunch. Entry forms are at the Old Town Mexican Cafe. 619-297-4350 or visit www.oldtownmexicancafe.com
Looking Ahead

Pensinsula events, Sept. 10-25
SATURDAY, Sept. 10
• The sixth annual JazZ 88 Ocean Beach Music & Arts Festival returns with 23 bands on eight stages and features an expanded beer garden, Art Row, crafts and food vendors, among other attractions along Newport Avenue between Cable Street and the ocean. The festival begins at 10 a.m. and runs until around 7 p.m. Tickets are $30 each. Children under 12 are admitted free. VIP tickets are also available for $265. For more information, visit www.obmusicfest.org.

• Dog Beach Dog Wash and Friends of Dog Beach will host a monthly cleanup on the canine-friendly stretch of sand from 9 to 11 a.m. Gloves, bags, scoops, brooms and shovels will be provided to participants and toys, treats and refreshments will be made available to canines and humans alike. For more information, visit www.dogwash.com or call (818) 329-1700.

• Work party at Famosa Lagoon to care for California native plants and remove invasive weeds. The work party takes place form 9 a.m. to noon. Participants are asked to meet at the south-east corner of W. Point Loma and Famosa boulevards. For more information, call (818) 224-4591.

SUNDAY, Sept. 11
• The Car Club Council of Greater San Diego calls its automotive attraction “the greatest show on turf.” So, they’ll use a new venue at Liberty Station to make the point with hundreds of cars on display on Sunday, Sept. 11. This signature fundraising event for the San Diego Automotive Museum has been a tradition for a number of years at Horton Plaza. But it has outgrown the park and selected Liberty Station as its new venue. The scheduled viewing hours for the free show are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The car registration fee is $25. For more information, visit www.carclubcouncilofsandiego.com.

• On the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 terror-ist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City and on the Pentagon. All Souls’ Episcopal Church will hold a special Choral Memorial Prayer Service at 4 p.m. to remember those who died in the tragic events — and to remember the firefighters, police officers and other workers who risked or sacrificed their lives to save others. All are welcome to attend and to bring pho-tographs and other mementos of loved ones they wish to be remembered. All Souls’ is located at the intersection of Catalina Boulevard and Chatsworth Avenue in Pt. Loma. For further information, call (818) 323-6554, or visit www.allsouls.com.

WEDNESDAY, Sept. 14
• The Friends of the Hervey/Point Loma Branch Library will host literary agent Sandra Diijkstra, who will speak on “My Adventures in Publishing.” The event is free. Diijkstra has been the literary agent for authors whose names have graced the best seller lists of America. Her suc-cess is rooted in the first line of her mission state-ment: “To find and place books that make a differ-ence.” The presentation takes place at 6:30 p.m. at the library, 3970 Will科 St. Refreshments served. For more information, call (818) 531-1537.

THURSDAY, Sept. 15
• The Point Loma Association beautification group will celebrate its 50th anniversary at the Kona Kai Resort on Shelter Island. Tickets for the celebration are $75 each. Cocktails will be at 5:30 p.m. and dinner is at 7 p.m. preceded by a presentation of “The PLA Story,” narrated by Mrs. Enright, professor of history at the Univer-sity of San Diego. For further information, contact PLA’s 50th anniversary chairman Linda Fox at (619) 225-0164.

• The Ocean Beach Historical Society will host its annual meeting with featured speaker Richard L. Carrico, who will speak on “Then They Turned into Stones Again.” San Diego’s Neglected Naturalist Author Judy Van Der Veer of Ramona’s Cicco will deal Van De Veer’s life (born in 1912) as an author of 100 arti-cles and as an advocate of animal rights, habitat preservation and an ecologist long before the term came into common usage. Often compared to John Steinbeck and Wills Cathor, Van De Veer’s minimalist, naturalistic works are largely forgotten in the 31st century. The presentation takes place at 7 p.m. at the Point Loma United Methodist Church, 1984 Sunset Cliffs Blvd. For more infor-mation, visit www.ooblackberry.wordpress.com.

SATURDAY, Sept. 24
• The Ocean Beach MainStreet Association will begin this year’s OB Christmas Craft Fairs on 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Veteran Plaza at the corner of Newport Avenue and Abbott Street. Shop by shop and see lots of fantastic crafts and gifts. The OB Christmas Craft Fair is sponsored by the Ocean Beach Town Council. For more information, call (818) 844-8269.

SUNDAY, Sept. 25
• The San Diego County Sobiher Living Coalition will host its fundraiser “National Recovery Month BBQ Picnic” at Ingram Plaza at Liberty Station, 2756 Dewey Road. Events include recovery games, team sports, a jump, a dunk tank, bands, a raffle and hot dogs and hamburgers. The event takes place from noon to 6 p.m. Entry fees are $10 to $60 (priced by $10) at 8 a.m. each day. Children under 5 are admitted free, and entry (619) 823-5006, or visit www.sdslc.org.

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  - 2BR/1BA 
  - $690,000
  - Robert Whaley 
  - 619-583-3011

- **Sat 1-4 Sun 10:30-5pm**
  - 7530 Dorper Ave. 
  - 3BR/2BA 
  - $925,000
  - Kathy Evans 
  - 858-486-7335

- **Sat & Sun 1-4pm**
  - 802 Prospect #4-0
  - 2BR/2BA 
  - $1,400,000
  - Lynn Walter 
  - 858-405-3901

- **Sat & Sun 1-4pm**
  - 7407 Hibade Dr.
  - 4BR/3BA 
  - $2,395,000
  - Kimberly Jean 
  - 619-895-8538

- **Sat & Sun 1-4pm**
  - 7516 Miramar Ave.
  - 5BR/3BA 
  - $2,450,000
  - Jeanine Wilson 
  - 858-206-6885

**PACIFIC BEACH / MISSION BEACH / CROWN POINT**

- **Sat & Sun 1-4pm**
  - 1951-1953 Feliz St. 
  - 3BR/2BA 
  - $499,000-$499,200
  - Kathy Evans 
  - 858-488-7335

- **Sat & Sun 1-4pm**
  - 1361-1371 Humboldt St. 
  - 3BR/2BA 
  - $559,000-$569,000
  - Kathy Evans 
  - 858-488-7335

- **Sat 1-4pm**
  - 1007 Seaport Dr.
  - 4BR/4BA 
  - $809,000
  - Kathy Evans 
  - 858-488-7335

- **Sat & Sun 1-4pm**
  - 4076-4080 Morrell St.
  - 4BR/3BA 
  - $599,000
  - Kathy Evans 
  - 858-488-7335

- **Sat & Sun 1-4pm**
  - 1056 Chalcedony St.
  - 4BR/3BA 
  - $699,000
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  - 858-488-7335

- **Sun 1-4pm**
  - 1566 Reed Ave.
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  - $639,000
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  - 619-852-8627

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- **Sun 1-4pm**
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- **Sun 12-3pm**
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  - 4BR/2BA 
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  - 619-236-6264

- **Sun 12-3pm**
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- **Sun 12-3pm**
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  - $658,000
  - Mace Huff 
  - 619-639-9400

- **Sun 1-3pm**
  - 2367 Point Loma Rd.
  - 3BR/2.5BA 
  - $689,000
  - Tami Fuller 
  - 619-236-6264

- **Sun 1-4pm**
  - 851 Avenida Terraza
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  - 619-223-9464

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