Unforeseen city budget windfall a shot in arm for libraries, rec centers
Curtailed hours, services now set to be restored

State’s soaring gas prices have motorists seeing red
Drivers in Pacific Beach are feeling the angst of escalating gas prices. According to a report by AAA and a study by the Lundberg Survey, San Diego prices are among the highest in the nation — if not the highest, according to San Diego prices are among the highest in the nation — if not the highest, according to the Lundberg Survey, San Diego prices are among the highest in the nation — if not the highest, according to the Lundberg Survey. Drivers in Pacific Beach are feeling the angst of escalating gas prices. According to a report by AAA and a study by the Lundberg Survey, San Diego prices are among the highest in the nation — if not the highest, according to San Diego prices are among the highest in the nation — if not the highest, according to San Diego prices are among the highest in the nation — if not the highest, according to San Diego prices are among the highest in the nation — if not the highest, according to high state gas prices have motorists seeing red.

Undefeated Mission Bay High girls’ soccer squad continues to roll in CIF

Christina Burkenroad’s goal off an assist from teammate Hannah Cavanaugh late in the second half lifted the Mission Bay High School (MBHS) Buccaneers varsity girls’ soccer team to a 1-0 victory over La Jolla School (MBHS) Buccaneers varsity girls’ soccer team to a 1-0 victory over La Jolla on Feb. 25 to advance Mission Bay High into the semifinal round on Wednesday, Feb. 29. See Soccer, Page 3

Christopher Burkinroad, upper left, knocks in game-winning goal against La Jolla on Feb. 25 to advance Mission Bay High into the semifinal round on Wednesday, Feb. 29. See Soccer, Page 3
**GREAT CLAIREMONT LOCATION!**

This stunning 3 bedroom, 2 bath has been lovingly designed with over $100K in remodel. Nice quiet street perfect for a family that is gated with a nice grassy front yard. Garage is converted to a studio with a kitchen and bath. And 5 ceiling fans too!

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**BEACH FRONT COMANCHE!**

This is a bank owned - REO! Come check out this gorgeous 2 bedroom, 2 bath with ocean views, Travertine floors, stainless steel appliances, granite counters and newer gleaming wood floors. **MAKE YOUR OFFER NOW!**

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MB man goes the distance to cheat death in grueling challenge

Dr. MARKO LAMAR | BEACH & BAY PRESS

Longtime Mission Beach resident Sean Burns is preparing himself for one of the most difficult challenges of his life. From months of physical and mental training, he will face three days of running, heavy weightlifting and an intensive 12-hour overnight workout once a month — may still not be enough to overcome the daunting task that lies ahead.

Regardless, whether his muscle and brawn is enough to keep him in the race, his mind must be equal to the challenge. A walk into the unknown with the totally unexpected is meant to break the physical and mental limits of every competitor.

“The actual start and end times are never the same from year to year — meant to break the physical and mental limits of every competitor.”

Organizers of the Spartan Death Race do nothing to sugarcoat the difficulty of the challenge, nor is its web site — www.youmaydie.com — a testament to that.

“The Death Race is designed to present you with the totally unexpected and the totally insane,” the website warns. “90 percent of you will not complete this endurance race. Please only consider this adventure-style race if you have lived a full life to date.”

“The Death Race is designed to present you with the totally unexpected and the totally insane,” the website warns. “90 percent of you will not complete this endurance race. Please only consider this adventure-style race if you have lived a full life to date.”

The race will take place in Pittsfield, VT. On June 15. Aside from the date and location, not much is known about this year’s race — not even to its competitors.

“The actual start and end times are never the same from year to year — meant to break the physical and mental limits of every competitor.”

The series includes four races, which are typically thousands of dollars and mortgage, can cost or save you literally thousands of dollars and years of expense.

Whether you are about to buy your first home, or are planning to make a move to your next home, it is critical that you inform yourself about the factors involved before you buy. In answer to this issue, industry insiders have prepared a free special report entitled “6 Things You Must Know Before You Buy.”

“6 Things You Must Know Before You Buy.”

To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this report, call toll-free 1-800-896-3787 and enter 1004. You can call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Get your free special report NOW to find out what you need to know before you buy a home.

Burns, 44, has completed the annual, 12-hour overnight workout once a month — may still not be enough to overcome the daunting task that lies ahead.

Sean Burns does a set of 500 leg-extended pushups in preparation for his Spartan Death Race adventure in June.
Tango enthusiasts won’t want to miss a rare appearance from Argentine singer Maria Volonte on Saturday, March 9 at Tango Del Ray. With a powerful, plaintive voice, Volonte mixes touches of folk and even blues into her music in a mission to bring tango sounds and rhythms into the mainstream. With eight albums to her credit since her 1996 recording debut, Volonte has a wealth of material at her disposal, making her performances diverse and changing many moods. While participation is not necessary to enjoy the music of this Grammy-nominated artist, the venue is offering free tango lessons an hour before show time.

• Maria Volonte performs at 9 p.m. on Saturday, March 9 at Tango Del Rey, 2667 Del Rey St. $12. All ages. www.tangodelrey.com

Steeped in the sounds of Led Zeppelin, Hendrix and King Crimson, Superunloader has been one of San Diego’s favorite bands since its inception in 1995. Still featuring original members Jimmy Lewis (guitar), Chris McGrail (bass) and Chad Farran (drums), the group appears on March 9 at The Griffin.

Superunloader has released four albums to date, but it’s live where the band has really made its name. Topped by Lewis’ soulful vocals, the three musicians’ origins are in the classic-rock tradition, with both technical proficiency and excellent arrangements that allow the songs to breathe. Anyone looking for a night of great rock ‘n roll need look no further.

• Superunloader performs at 9 p.m. on Friday, March 9 at The Griffin, 1310 Morena Blvd. 21 and up. $8. www.thegriff.com

On March 10, Brick by Brick will be the site of a fundraising event for Los Compadres de Escuela Longfellow, an organization dedicated to support the education of children at Henry W. Longfellow Spanish Language Immersion Magnet School. The night will be a celebration of the school, featuring music and dancing, as well as a silent auction – all in the hope of raising money and awareness. The event is open to the public, so anyone wanting to make a difference in local education or just help children with after-school and extracurricular activities can join in the fun.

Country music is rarely booked in the beach area, but aficionados can turn to the Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch Library for a Whirlwind away from a live country western band, the Honky Tonk Kings. Appearing at the PB Library on March 14, the group is fronted by guitarist George Gordon, with its influences ranging from Hank Williams to Steve Earle. Boasting a wide repertoire of originals and covers, the Honky Tonk Kings play with a real passion and it’s contagious. Don’t be surprised if a lot of dancing breaks out between the bookshelves.

• Honky Tonk Kings perform at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 14 at the Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch Library, 4275 Cass St. All ages. Free. www.pblibraryfriends.org

When it comes to bang for your musical buck, there are few events in San Diego as action-packed as the Acoustic Alliance series at Brick by Brick on Sunday, March 11. Beginning at 6 p.m., guests will be treated to three sets by a mix of a dozen local and touring artists, along with pre-show and intermission entertainment. Opening the night will be the Yes Team, followed by round-robin sets in three groups. Topping the bill is Denver-based songwriter Whitten, whose recent album, “Rare Bird,” shows a deft sense of melody and song hooks.

Other highlights include Jean folk singer Miss Erik Davies and Seaholm Macintosh, featuring acclaimed producer Steven Erik Selham. Also on are Jessica Hull, Tim Flack, Carl Durant, Lenny Morris, Ian Alexander, Oldest Boy and Girl, Rob Carona, Ryan Miller, Steve Harris of the Stylophones, Groove Doo and Hargo. Acoustic Alliance offers music fans one of the best opportunities to enjoy a large cross-section of area talent in a single night.

• Acoustic Alliance: 6 p.m. on Sunday, March 11 at Brick by Brick, 1310 Buena Ave. 21 and up. $8 to $10. www.brickbybrick.com.

— Bart Mendau
Social Cycle plans to provide a new way to see PB

City residents and regulars are used to seeing pedicabs carting passengers around. They may be surprised to learn, however, that there’s a new bike in town — and some of them will soon be cruising through Pacific Beach.

Launched in the fall in downtown San Diego, Social Cycle is the area’s newest activity to satisfy the sightseeing, fun-loving (even drinking) cyclist in all of us.

The 16-passenger touring bicycle is powered by its pedaling riders and steered by a professional Social Cycle driver. Tours include East Village, the Gaslamp Quarter, Marina/Sorrento Village and Little Italy, with plans to expand to Hillcrest, University Heights, North Park and South Park — and even Pacific Beach.

With spring break afoot and summer just around the corner, the minds behind Social Cycle are trying to get word out about their interesting new service.

Owner/operator Laura Rovick was inspired by Pedal Pub, started by two men in her hometown of Minneapolis, Minn., who brought the idea back from a trip to Amsterdam.

“I thought that if this can be a hugely successful company in Minnesota (when they only get a max of six months of weather when they can run the bikes) that it definitely needed to come to San Diego,” Rovick said. “It’s a fun, social, group activity to do. I am a very social person, love meeting new people and having new experiences, so I thought this would be a great way to mix business with pleasure and bring a whole new experience to San Diegans and tourists alike.”

Rovick said Social Cycle caters to both residents and visitors, serving as a platform for socializing with friends, family and colleagues while exploring local sights and light exercise. Tours, she said, can be tailored to cruising the city, bar-hopping, corporate events, town building, bachelor and bachelorette parties, mixers, reunions, tailgating, picnics, progressive dinners and wine tastings — and stopping points along each tour can be customized.

“The great thing that people get out of the experience is that it’s a fun way for them to get some exercise and it’s a great way to meet new people, have a cool experience for a few hours, etc.,” she said. “Every time we take the bikes out, the passengers feel like celebrities, because people on the streets are taking pictures like paparazzi would.”

The Social Cycle can be rented by the hour and requires a two-hour minimum. Regular price per hour for group tours is $260 (or $12.50 per person filling each of 16 seats), Fridays through Sundays and $185 Mondays through Thursdays. The price includes a captain who handles the steering, signals and brakes, while passengers pedal. Passengers must be at least 21 years old to ride.

To plan a tour or for more information, call (619) 846-9436, visit www.socialcyclesd.com, or email info@socialcyclesd.com.

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REMEMBER WHEN?

Dr. JOHN FRY | BEACH & BAY PRESS

IT’S BEEN WHICH WICHCANADIAN SHOP

for a little while, but was Cafe Crema before that, and the telephone compa-
ny for many years before that. You may not be able to read the signs on this
photo, circa 1950, but that’s Chip’s Liquor on the corner. Sampson’s Men’s
Shop, Cass Laundrette, Cass Cafe Luncheonette, a store I can’t identify
and Ethel’s Yarn shop. Still can’t figure

MUSTREAD

Book recommendation from the Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch Library

TITLE: Taken
AUTHOR: Robert Crais
SYNOPSIS: Elvis Cole, Joe Pike, an abduc-
tion and human trafficking across the border. Cole is hired to find the
daughter of a local businesswoman who has received requests for small amounts of ransom. Cole enlists Joe Pike to work with him. Cole’s plan backfires and he is taken hostage by the bands. Joe Pike and Jon Stone work to find Cole and the others being held for ransom. Robert Crais at his best.

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News Brief

MBWC fundraiser to benefit WWII veterans

The Mission Beach Women’s Club (MBWC) is preparing for its eighth annual fundraiser event on Sat.

De'Kshit Antigiovanni | Beach & Bay Press

Michaela Shafter Porte and Betty Arnold King, two Mission Bay High School (MBHS) alumni from the class of 1977, recently gave their time and effort to help refurbished the MBHS auditorium — just in time for a schoolwide talent show on Thursday, March 1 and more school events on the way.

“I was talking to Betty at one of the Mission Bay alumni events and we talked about the auditorium,” Porte said. “Her husband and her brother-in-law had worked for a theater company, so they had experience with stage and lighting. I thought they might have experience doing this.”

Porte and Arnold King teamed up with Arnold King’s husband, Doug, his brother, Don, as well as a handful of volunteers, to help install a new backdrop and a new set of curtains.

“The backdrop was in terrible shape and the curtains were badly ripped,” said Burns. He decided to attempt to do the paperwork for themselves.

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A Guardianship is established when the parents are still alive to help the older adult. For example, if in the event they inherit funds or have a personal injury settlement, for example.

Both are conservatorships that require a lot of time and paperwork to name another to take care of that person’s estate and health care decisions. You want to avoid these if possible because they time consuming and expensive.

A Conservatorship will make it easier for you to understand and account for the other person’s money. It will make it easier to understand your role in understanding and accounting for the other person’s money. It will make it easier to understand your role in understanding their health care decisions.

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SOCCER
CONTINUED FROM Page 1
League title. MBHS girls’ head soccer coach Jorge Palacios, who is now in his 10th sea- son, believes teamwork and cama- raderie are two of the keys to the Bucs’ stellar season so far. “We had a lot of things come togeth- er for us this year and a great group of seniors who were coming off a good season from last year,” Palacios said. “We also had other players step it up for us and perform well under pressure. Overall, this year almost everything has gone right, but we still have to focus on the playoffs.” The Bucs have been dominant on off- ence and led by a pair of senior for- wards — Christina Burkenroad and Danielle Jones. Burkenroad scored 29 goals and had 18 assists for a total of 76 offensive points, while Jones put up 12 goals and 11 assists for a total of 35 points. “She [Burkenroad] has had a great year and rebounded after a tough year for her last season,” Palacios said. Senior midfielders Kelsey Boulger and Lauren Boulger also have contributed to the scoring. Lauren Boulger had eight goals and five assists for 21 points, while Kelsey Boulger has logged five goals and four assists for 14 points. Junior midfielder Hannah Cavanaugh also contributed with three goals and six assists for 12 points. Mission Bay High was just as domi- nant on defense, with senior goalkeeper Mafe Salli stopping 66 shots and has allowed only 11 goals during 1,610 minutes played. “Our defense has stepped it up,” said Palacios. “We were playing a brand- new defense this year and it was good to have Salli’s senior leadership from the goalkeeper position.” Overall, the Bucs scored 66 total goals and allowed only 11 goals through 22 regular-season games. Salli posted her 15th shutout of the season against La Jolla on Feb. 25, played 80 minutes and made four saves. The No. 3-seeded Bucs were expected to be on the road Wednesday, Feb. 29 against No. 2 seed Del Norte in the Div. III CIF semfinals round.

FUNDING
CONTINUED FROM Page 1
said. Five million dollars of the new revenue will be used to increase operating hours at all of the city’s 15 branch libraries by four hours per week, increase operating hours at all of the city’s 55 recreation centers by five hours per week, add 15 more cadets to the upcoming police academy, and fund a new fire station alert system that connects the city’s 47 fire stations with the dispatch center to replace an out- dated 20-year-old system. More than $8 million of the sur- plus will be saved and carried over into the next fiscal year beginning in August, a preliminary event to Ms. Senior California pageant participants who perform dance routines at nursing homes, hospitals and other community and charitable orga- nizations around the country. She hopes her win will encourage her students and friends to stay fit. “Stay active in any way you can,” Lenhart said. For older generations, “Start walking. Or if you like music, sign up for a beginner dance group in your age group.” Her win and overall enjoyment of the life she leads is testament that some things really do get better with age.

B E A C H & B A Y P R E S S | M A R C H 1, 2012 PAGE 7
Point Loma Arts Academy 2012–
“Handspun Dreams”
Pt. Loma Arts Academy has been engaging children ages 5-13 in a unique hands-on smorgasbord of visual arts, including clay, print-making, music, guest artists, stories, and delicious homemade snacks...for 32 years! Classes are small with creative teachers, teen assistants, and a welcoming atmosphere which keeps our children coming back year after year.
The afternoon theater program is designed for drama-loving kids ages 7 to 15 and will be performing Peter Pan, directed by the talented Billy Stevens. This program is limited to 30 children. Each program is 3 weeks long running from July 9-27 and includes all supplies, daily snacks, and an original tee shirt. The fee for each program is $400.

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San Diego Junior Theatre JuniorTheatre.com 619-239-1311

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Visit our website at peninsula.ymca.org for more information.

Sign up for La Jolla YMCA Summer Camp
The La Jolla YMCA offers day camps all summer long, beginning June 3rd - August 31st. Day camps range from a variety of choices and for all ages. There are more than 100 camps to choose from, including ice-skating, gymnastics, swim lessons, field trips to amusement parks and much more. Kids will learn, grow and thrive making lasting friendships and memories. Camps fill up fast so please sign up as soon as possible. To ensure that every child and teen has the chance to go to camp, the Y offers financial assistance those in need. Also, it’s not too late to sign up for our spring camps, April 2-6.

To register for either spring or summer camps, please visit lajolla.ymca.org or call (858) 453-3481 for more information.
Taste of North PB Restaurant Walk to dish up savory food, camaraderie

By MARSHA KAY SEFF | Beach & Bay Press

It’s not often you get to enjoy an evening of good food and community camaraderie while helping local schools pay for everything from prom Retry occurrence to cow eyes for the science lab. But that’s just what the annual Taste of North PB Art and Restaurant Walk will accomplish.

The eighth annual event is set for March 14 from 5 to 8 p.m. As in the past, Friends of Pacific Beach Secondary Schools is sponsoring the evening, planning to divide the proceeds among Pacific Beach Middle School, Mission Bay High and Pacific Beach Elementary.

With school budgets tight, teachers count on revenue from the fundraiser to help pay for such things as science supplies, books, calculators and school beautification, according to Pacific Beach Middle School principal Julie Marotz. The event also helps fund athletics and theater.

During the self-guided culinary walk, North Pacific Beach restaurants and a few other businesses open their doors to the community to sample food and drinks, as well as to enjoy student art exhibits and live music by student groups.

This year’s event features 17 eateries along Turquoise Street, from La Jolla Boulevard to Cass Street, and along Cass to Beryl Street.

Tickets are $15 for adults and $7 for children from 5 to 10 years old, the same prices as at the original event, according to volunteer co-chair Laura Daly. She said the parent-teacher group purposely keeps prices low so entire families can enjoy the activity. General admission tickets are also available at the three Pacific Beach schools, as well as at Jaru Café, Turquoise Coffee, Perret’s Cafe, La Jolla Seafood and Leilani’s Cafe.

Tickets also will be available during the event in front of the Turquoise Animal Hospital, which will host musicians from the Mission Bay High School Preservationists, Pacific Beach Middle School Jazz Wave and the Pacific Beach Elementary Fun Band.

Daly said there will be a sign-up sheet this year for potential art buyers, and the parents’ group will follow up after the event.

Now this year the event is the new chef-owner at Alex’s Brown Bag/Latitude 32.5.” On his menu are chili and pastrami. Also, joining the festivities this year is Matt Richman, chef-owner of the new Table 926, which moved into the former Chateau Orleans space in December.

“Taste of North PB is for a good cause and we want to be supportive of our community and introduce ourselves, let people know we’re here,” Richman said. “We’re excited.”

The chef, who specializes in new-California cuisine, will offer samples of his braised lamb shoulder ragu with creamy polenta.

Participants may start at any venue and hit as many as they like for the ticket cost, picking up plates, cups and bowls of “more food than anyone can eat,” Daly said. Restaurants will mark tickets before participants move on to their next stop.

The evening is a win-win-win celebration, according to Daly. The restaurants showcase their dishes and the community enjoys sampling some of their favorite eateries and some they’ve never tried. Three schools reap the financial rewards.

“It is nice to see local people out on the street, taking advantage of the event and trying all these places, mostly mom-and-pop places with a home feel,” said Chris Swire, chef-owner of Chronic Smoothies Illium Grill, which has participated in the event for several years.

“We need this event. We have the car traffic, but not so much foot traffic,” he said, adding that he plans to cook up something special for the event.

Despite rain, the 2011 installment brought out 450 people for a profit of nearly $6,500. That compares with almost $7,600 in 2010 and $8,800 in 2009—the event’s first fundraising year, so far.

Free Living History Activities in Old Town State Park All Year Long

February may be museum month in San Diego but Old Town San Diego State Historic Park has a lot of great things to offer visitors,” stated Interpretation and Education Manager Marie Egan.

“The Visitor Center and museums are open daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. during the summer and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. October through April and outside the Robinson-Rose Visitor Center.

On the fourth Saturday, the park hosts the Mound Man and the Soap Makers Guild. Park visitors will learn about the mountain men and the discoveries they found as well as learn the art of soap making.

In conjunction with the different events every Saturday, the park also showcases the Blacksmith Guild’s presentation every Wednesday and Saturday morning and the Quilt Guild every Wednesday afternoon. For more information about the guild schedules of the day and their location in the park, visit the board outside the Robinon-Rose Visitor Center.

The Visitor Center and museums are open daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., October through April and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. May through September. To confirm hours of operation or for more information call (858) 270-5422 or visit: http://www.parks.ca.gov/oldtownsandiego.

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Beaumont, CA – Beaumont High School’s music program is working to fund a trip to New Orleans. A fundraiser will be held at Tango Del Rey on March 10 to earn money for a trip to the birthplace of jazz — New Orleans.

To help make that dream come true, a special fundraiser will be held March 10 at Tango Del Rey, with performances from the school’s students as well as a special set from boogie-woogie piano queen Sue Palmer.

“My school, we’ve been working on preserving the earliest form of jazz that came out of New Orleans over the last 30 years,” Balmat said. “So for me, it was just a natural progression to want to take the students to actually see the birthplace of jazz, and learn from the landscape of New Orleans.”

“The music scene there is so amazing and there are so many different types of culture and different types of music going on,” he said. Balmat speaks from experience.

“I know that when I went, it was a huge source of inspiration,” he said. “I just fell in love with the city and everything it had to offer.”

To help with costs, which Balmat estimates will exceed $12,000, the music program has also launched a “Kickstarter” campaign, giving anyone a chance to contribute financially to the trip while also getting access to different perks at different levels of giving.

Bonuses for donations range from the latest CD by the school’s Jazz Preservationists Band at the $25 level to a private concert at $500, with lots of other options in all price ranges.

Band leader and trumpeter Nik Snyder said he is thrilled with the opportunities a trip like this offers. “It’s the only city in the world that the primary music is jazz,” he said. “It will be a phenomenal experience to be where it was created.”

He notes the difficulty in funding a trip like this.

“Most of the people who are in the band come from low-income families, so we really need the support from the community,” Snyder said. “The band plays a lot of gigs, but we still need help to get down there.”

The musicians will only be in New Orleans for a brief time, but it’s a seriously action-packed stay. Besides the concert, there will be a radio session to promote the show as well as workshops with local musicians at Preservation Hall and Tiptina’s, with trips to the French Quarter and Congo Square also planned. They will also be touring the Musician’s Village, a community set up to help the area’s musicians in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

“We’re going to hit everything we can in those four days,” Balmat said.

Balmat said he’s excited by the caliber of performers heading to New Orleans. “I definitely have one of the best groups to ever come out of Mission Bay,” he said. “Really, top-notch musicians. We’re going to be recording a CD in March.”

Mission Bay High School’s musicians have played many prestigious venues, but it’s clear that Balmat considers the Preservation Hall Jazz Band show to be something truly special for his students.

“Having the opportunity to go there and play with these guys, who are the best traditional jazz band in the world, and to play in a place that’s so important, it just seemed like it would be the best educational trip for any jazz musician,” he said.

• The New Orleans fundraiser takes place at 7 p.m. on Saturday, March 10, at Tango Del Rey, 3567 Del Rey St. $10. All ages. For more information, visit www.missionbaymusic.com or www.kickstarter.com/projects/missionbaymusic/send-us-home.

The Mission Bay High Preservationists will engage the audience with musical prowess when the group hosts a fundraiser at Tango Del Rey on March 10 to earn money for a trip to the birthplace of jazz — New Orleans.

LIFESTYLE

Sunset Dinner Specials
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Caesar Salad $11.75
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Caesar Salad with Grilled Chicken Breast

Drink your favorite type of culture and different types of music going on.”

“Most of the people who are in the band come from low-income families, so we really need the support from the community,” Snyder said. “The band plays a lot of gigs, but we still need help to get down there.”

The musicians will only be in New Orleans for a brief time, but it’s a seriously action-packed stay. Besides the concert, there will be a radio session to promote the show as well as workshops with local musicians at Preservation Hall and Tiptina’s, with trips to the French Quarter and Congo Square also planned. They will also be touring the Musician’s Village, a community set up to help the area’s musicians in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

“We’re going to hit everything we can in those four days,” Balmat said.

Balmat said he’s excited by the caliber of performers heading to New Orleans. “I definitely have one of the best groups to ever come out of Mission Bay,” he said. “Really, top-notch musicians. We’re going to be recording a CD in March.”

Mission Bay High School’s musicians have played many prestigious venues, but it’s clear that Balmat considers the Preservation Hall Jazz Band show to be something truly special for his students.

“Having the opportunity to go there and play with these guys, who are the best traditional jazz band in the world, and to play in a place that’s so important, it just seemed like it would be the best educational trip for any jazz musician,” he said.

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**Mission Bay girls’ softball season under way**

Dr. Keith Antigiovanni | Beach & Bay Press

With the San Diego Padres’ spring training and Mission Bay Boys’ Little League beginning this month, the Mission Bay Girls’ Softball League (MBGL) got an early jump when it opened the 2012 season at McEvoy Field east of Mission Bay High School on Feb. 18.

The opening slate consisted of three games: the 6-and-under (6U) Pink Lightenings’ faced the 6U from Clairemont, the 8-and-under (8U) Pink Buccaneers pitched for the Bucaneers in 1980 when the Bucs advanced to their first CIF finals appearance under head coach Dennis Pugh. The 1980 team lost to USDHS in 13 innings. Paull was also a member of the Mission Bay Pony League All Stars’ in 1976 and batted 2-for-4 against future New York Yankee and San Diego Padre David Wells when Wells grew up in Point Loma and played for the Peninsula Pony All Stars. Paull said many of the players on the 1976 All-Star Team faced each other in the CIF Championship game between Mission Bay and USDHS.

Paull now coaches his daughter, Sydney, as a member of the Bumblebees. “It’s great to be back on that field,” Paull said.

McEvoy Field has been given a facelift with the addition of a new scoreboard, which debuted on Opening Day. The MBGL has four age divisions: T-Ball (6U), Rookie (8U), Junior (10U) and Senior (12U/14U). The league plays from February until May and faces teams from Clairemont, La Jolla, Mira Mesa, Point Loma and University City.

The Mission Bay Girls’ Softball League is still taking registrations and looking for volunteer coaches and managers. For more information, visit www.mbgsl.org.

TonyRomasSanDiego.com

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PACIFIC BEACH

• Pacific Beach Middle School’s award-winning athletic department hosts many different leagues and sports activities throughout the week. The championship PBMS girls’ volleyball teams have been enjoying grimmages every Wednesday vs. Delportola Middle School. PB Middle is hosting the SDUSD boys’ middle school soccer league every Saturday for five weeks. On March 17 and March 24, PBMS will host the girls’ and boys’ SDUSD middle school basketball carnival. Event sponsorships are available for business and organizations. Contact Pacific Beach Middle School for more information at (619) 273-9570.

• The PB Middle’s music depart ment will host the “St Pat’s Day Pancakes Breakfast” on March 17 from 7 to 11 a.m. at the middle school campus. Come and enjoy great pancakes, orange juice, muffins and support the award-winning PB Middle school music students as they work toward their award-winning PB Middle School music department. Come and enjoy the music and support the school campus. Come and enjoy 17 from 9 to 11 a.m. at the middle school. For more information at (619) 273-9570.

PACIFIC BEACH ELEMENTARY

Kate Sesame School will host its annual Jog-A-Thon on March 7. Students from preschool through fifth grade participate in the Jog-A-Thon, jogging together for 45 minutes. Last year, students collectively jogged over 4,500 laps. Students gather sponsors (one-per lap or per lap donation) and funds raised support art, music and library programs at the school. Contact Kate Sesame School at (619) 273-9570 for more information and sponsorship opportunities.

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In honor of our 50th anniversary, Beach Cruiser is offering a coupon at time of purchase. Exp. 05/01/12. Not valid with other offers. Must present coupon at time of purchase. For more information, call (858) 488-6341.
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