Residents from far and wide braved the cold, windy conditions as the annual holiday parade wound its way down Newport Avenue on Dec. 7, thrilling spectators and captivating the minds of youngsters with sugarplums dancing in their heads with promises from Santa, left, holding a puppooch with antlers. At right, Hokule’a girls strut their stuff for the crowd. And, with political dances in the minds of San Diegans, even politicos — including Kevin Faulconer (City Council District 2) and David Alvarez (City Council District 8) in the fun.

CVS wins planners’ blessing on site, alcohol-licensing

CVS Pharmacy’s plan to occupy the long-dormant Apple Tree super-market at 4949 Santa Monica Ave. took a step forward this month when the Ocean Beach Planning Board threw its weight behind a request for a license to sell beer, wine and spirits. The board voted 8-2-1 in support of alcohol at a future CVS at its monthly meeting Dec. 4, citing a “community benefits package,” in which the pharmacy chain had pledged to be a responsible tenant and active member to the community. But opponents said CVS would be a poor fit because Ocean Beach lacks a supermarket and already has a pharmacy in Rite Aid, a few blocks away.

The OBPIB plays only an advisory board to the city but, in this case, could play a big role in determining whether liquor may be sold at CVS. The state department of Alcohol Beverage Control, which rules on liquor license applications, has said the building is located in a census tract that has exceeded its allotment of licenses. Such a condition requires an appeal to San Diego police — known legally as a finding of “public convenience or necessity” — and police say community support is an important factor in making that determination.

The ability to sell alcohol is all-important to the pharmacy — corporate officials said CVS won’t move in without a liquor license. If police eventually make a finding in CVS’ favor, the pharmacy will formally submit a Class 21 liquor license application to the state, which triggers notification and public comment requirements.

The OBPIB’s vote to support CVS came as a surprise to many. Just one month earlier, in front of an audience of more than three-dozen citizens largely opposed to CVS, the board tabled the matter to wait and see how police would decide. State law gives police 90 days, placing the deadline to sometime in January.

But OBPIB chairman Tom Gawronski said power lines would be roosting territory for Ocean Beach’s famous feral parakeets — not a hitching post for ripped-up and decaying plastic bags twisting away in the wind, according to the Ocean Beach Town Council’s Board of Directors.

The board last month voted to support a proposed ordinance that would ban carry-out plastic bags at grocery stores and retail outlets in San Diego and charge 10 cents for paper bags. If carried through, the city would join Solana Beach and more than 85 cities and counties in California that have taken action, according to Roger Cube, director of the San Diego County chapter of the Surfrider Foundation, who addressed the board in October.

Cube, pointing to a recently released study by the Equinox Center, said the harms from using plastic instead of reusable tote bags is irrefutable. More than 95 percent of the half-billion bags used annually throughout the city goes unrecycled, winding up as roadside and beach litter.

A ban could achieve an 86 percent reduction in plastic bag usage, the study said. It was a fabulous presentation, very convincing,” said Ocean Beach Town Council president Gretchen Kinney Newsom.

The ordinance was approved in October by the San Diego City Council’s Rules and Economic Development Committee, but has yet to be consid-ered by the full City Council. OB Town Council board members decided to pass a resolution as a way to express the community’s pro-environment stance, Kinney Newsom said.

“We felt it was important to get the word out effectively,” Kinney Newsom said.

The resolution in full can be viewed at obtowncouncil.org.

— Tony de Garate
With the holidays fast approaching, are you puzzling over what new activity to suggest for guests’ entertainment? Perhaps you relish playing tourist in your own hometown or challenging yourself to find appealing settings for special occasions.

San Diego has a charming new entrant to its tour boat fleet. Forget the loud engines spewing diesel fumes, vessels filled with hundreds of passengers and running kids, even the sails hoisted on sailing cruises.

BayDreamin’ Cruises, which operates from Sunroad Resort Marina at 955 Harbor Island Drive at the east end of Harbor Island, uses an 18-foot Duffy Electric Boat, offering a fresh, green approach to the San Diego Bay tour boat business.

Quiet as a kite, the California-designed and -built Duffy offers guests the experience of sitting low to the water in a protected blue scalloped surrey-topped clear glass-like enclosure, while enjoying the breezes and waves lapping against the hull.

Each narrated BayDreamin’ cruise is limited to six passengers, preserving the intimacy of a personal tour around the bay. Guests can bring their own libations and treats to enjoy while under way. BayDreamin’ Cruises is the creation of captains Mike and Jackie McNabb, both “liveaboards” on their own boats — Mike on a sailboat and Jackie on a powerboat — the two met as members at Southwestern Yacht Club, where Jackie kept her boat. They moved aboard Mike’s sailboat, relocated to Southwestern and sold Jackie’s powerboat.

“I didn’t think that lightning could strike twice,” said Jackie, a widow and former Temecula resident who also works part-time as a meeting planner. They married two years ago under a Shelter Island tree overlooking San Diego Bay and Jackie had the inspiration of starting a tour company.

“I’d seen these Duffys around at Coronado Cays and was intrigued. I was missing my powerboat. I told Mike about my idea of putting together a tour company using Duffys,” Jackie said.

Both boaters since childhood, they attended the Maritime Institute in Point Loma for their certification training to become U.S. Coast Guard-licensed captains. As newbies enjoying each other’s company, the McNabbs usually operate the tours together and alternate

Captains Mike and Jackie McNabb take turns at the wheel of BayDreamin’ I, an all-electric Duffy, which they recharge overnight.

Both boaters since childhood, they attended the Maritime Institute in Point Loma for their certification training to become U.S. Coast Guard-licensed captains. As newbies enjoying each other’s company, the McNabbs usually operate the tours together and alternate
A blow-up Santa, snowman and endless strings of lights are among the sights on Garrison Street in Point Loma every year.

Neighbors on Garrison Street in Point Loma have a Christmas tradition that begins and ends with charity. The street is known for its dazzling Yuletide show and displays, which start on Thanksgiving and end after New Year’s. And right in the middle of it is the annual “Cocoa for a Cure” fundraiser held in the courtyard of the Freitas family at 3616 Garrison St. This year, the 14th installment of the hot-chocolate charity event is being held from 5 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14. The fundraiser will benefit the fight against juvenile diabetes, which has impacted several local families in the Point Loma area. SEE GARRISON, Page 6

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage

Phyllis Whitebread
619.818.4929
www.4623SantaMonica.com
Ocean Beach
$399,000
This sweet 1-bedroom condo in upper OB has panoramic ocean & night view views. Hardwood floors, pull-out storage, open floor plan, newer window, 1-car garage & private laundry. French doors open to almost 100 square foot view deck with retractable awning. Small 4-unit complex.

Point Loma
$1,220,000
Contemporary Mediterranean totally remodeled & enlarged 1989; one owner since! 3 br, 3 ba with large dining area & loft. Master retreat with spectacular views, open bathroom and a huge walk-in closet. New roof, 2 pkg spaces and storage.

Tish Quadron Branch Manager
619.944.2006
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Coldwell Banker is the industry leader! We have developed training programs that cannot be compared to any other brokerage. As the manager, I take an active role in personal development and coaching. This foundation allows for a rewarding and long term real estate career.

Ocean Beach
$424,500-$449,500
Newly painted throughout, 2BD/2.5BA plus a two car garage. Tennis courts, pool, spa, clubhouse & more! Just in time for the holidays! This 4BD/BA home sits high up on the hill and provides stunning panoramic views of downtown, the bay & Coronado Bridge. Please call for details.

Ocean Beach
$629,000
Welcome to Studio B. This hidden gem in hip East Village will blow you away. 2BR, 2.5BA with 3586 sqft, 22’ barrel ceilings, private courtyards, gourmet kitchen, 2-car garage, dual master suites & private petting Greene. This is a Lifestyle not just a home!

Ocean Beach
$1,199,000
A wonderful custom, one owner home on a large wooded lot. 3 bedrooms, 4 baths with area views, 3 car garage, pool and spa. 2 fireplaces, one in LR, one in MBR. A charming, elegant home in excellent condition.

Ocean Beach
$899,000
It’s Rare to find a home at this price with this amazing view! Panoramic views overlooking the Bay, to Coronado Island & Mexico. Single family owned since the 1930’s. Single story 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with 2-car garage, hardwood floors, fenced at rear, air-conditioning and a private back yard.

Ocean Beach
$1,895,000
Welcome to Studio B. This hidden gem in hip East Village will blow you away. 2BR, 2.5BA with 3586 sqft, 22’ barrel ceilings, private courtyards, gourmet kitchen, 2-car garage, dual master suites & private petting Greene. This is a Lifestyle not just a home!

Ocean Beach
$975,000
Microwave views 3-1/2/BA with spacious views of the city, bay & ocean! This home offers a great plan with 2BD/2BA upstairs. LR featuring high tongue & groove ceilings, fireplace, den leads to spacious views, open kitchen, 1-car garage, large outdoor courtyard & an underground parking garage. This home has an abundance of character & is waiting for the right buyer that craves entertaining.

Ocean Beach
$1,905,000
Just in time for the holidays! This 4BD/BA home sits high up on the hill and provides stunning panoramic views of downtown, the bay & Coronado Bridge. Please call for details.

Ocean Beach
$799,000
2 story Ayres. 2BR/2BA has spacious rooms, great layout & large deck w/endless ocean views. Downstairs 2BR/BA has great room size, attached garage & 2 full baths. Both units have 1/2 car garages, driveway parking, private laundry & they share a large backdrop.

Ocean Beach
$449,000 - $519,000
Ocean Views from Master Suite. 2BD/2BA located 1 block to ocean. Beaches & Newport restaurants! Peaceful home to crowing ocean waves & beach scents filling the air. This town home is completely upgraded & move in ready. Fiji Room in LR. Private patio, 2B upstairs. New circuit breaker, new skylights, solar power, blackout shades, new roof, 2 pkg spaces and storage.
Happy Holidays

During this holiday season and every day of the year, we wish you all the best.

John J McKeen, CFP®
Financial Advisor
2907 Shelter Island Drive
Suite 106
Point Loma, CA 92106
619-222-0375

Natalie P Chappius
Financial Advisor
5083 Santa Monica Ave
Suite 1 A
San Diego, CA 92107
619-223-8357

Kali Mistry
Financial Advisor
2143 Poinsettia Dr
San Diego, CA 92107
619-222-1321

Member SIPC

HTH Point Loma gets spotlight in Macy’s Parade for robotics prowess

The Holy Cross from High Tech High and their robot had the honor of opening the 87th annual Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade® on Nov. 28 in New York City along with four other award-winning teams from around the county.

For nearly a century, Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade has been the official kick-off to the holiday season.

Every year, this Emmy Award-winning tradition is seen by more than 1.5 million people in New York and 50 million people at home, tuned in to see giant balloons, floats and now—robots.

Robots are no longer a sci-fi fantasy in recent years. They have become commonplace in many aspects of life, from cleaning floors to teaching in the classroom. Macy’s recognizes the importance and relevance of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) to its customers.

Moreover, the company is sensitive to the need for STEM workforce development, and understands that the key to expanding these fields is to inspire young people to take an interest in them.

“We are extremely excited and thankful for this unique opportunity that Macy’s has given us,” said FIRST founder, Dean Kamen.

“Entering into the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade is an American tradition, and this year the first thing people will see in the parade is the robotics teams. Thanks to Macy’s, we have the chance to pipe the curiosity of millions of young people, as well as potential mentors, sponsors, and volunteers.”

San Diego FIRST Robotics Team 1518, The Holy Cross, proudly represented FIRST and its progression of programs with this trailblazing appearance, and traveled across the country to New York City to lead the historic parade.

Their team’s director of engineering, Danielle Pariararescu, said, “I am excited that FIRST is getting recognized on a larger scale, and I am honored to be able to be part of this once in a lifetime opportunity.”

The Holy Crosses were chosen to help kick off the parade because they won FIRST’s most prestigious honor, the Chairman’s Award, at the FIRST World Championship in St. Louis earlier this year. This award is given to the team that best demonstrates the greatest commitment to spreading passion about science and technology; best represents a model for other teams to emulate and best embodies the purpose and goals of FIRST. Their Chairman’s Award video demonstrates how they’ve worked toward this goal and their 2013 season wrap-up video shows highlights from the competition.

The food drive is run by the Ocean Beach Town Council, in cooperation with local social-service agencies.

Anyone needing a pickup should call (619) 225-8705 and give their address. They can call any time between Tuesday, Dec. 10 and 11 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 14. Pick-ups will be made that afternoon.

Donations requested are unopened, nonperishable food items; new or nearly new toys; and unopened general household supplies.

They will be used to make up gift boxes for needy families and seniors in Ocean Beach and Point Loma.

27 Quick and easy fix ups to sell your home fast and for top dollar

Point Loma Ocean Beach - Because your home may well be your largest asset, selling it is probably one of the most important decisions you will make in your life. And once you have made that decision, you’ll want to sell your home for the highest price in the shortest time possible without compromising your own personal goals. Before you place your home on the market, here’s a way to help you to be as prepared as possible:

To assist homeowners, a new industry report has just been released called “27 Valuable Tips That You Should Know to Get Your Home Sold Fast and for Top Dollar.” It tackles the important issues you need to know to make your home competitive in today’s tough, aggressive marketplace. Through these 27 tips you will discover how to protect and capitalize on your most important investment, reduce stress, be in control of your situation, and make the best profit possible.

In this report you’ll discover how to avoid financial disappointment or worse, a financial disaster when selling your home. Using a common-sense approach, you will get the straight facts about what can make or break the sale of your home.

You owe it to yourself to learn how these important tips will guide you to a competitive edge to get your home sold fast and for the most amount of money.

Order your free report today. To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this report call toll-free 1-800-691-1489 and enter 1023. You can call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Get your free special report NOW.

The report is courtesy of Wenhe Mortgage & Realty. CA BRE #1325444 Copyright © 2013

Mary Lee Gardocki
11/06/1916 - 11/30/2013

RESIDENT FOR 63 YEARS

In 1950, Mary Lee, and her husband Gene, a naval aviator, moved to Point Loma. Soon after she went to work for Cal Western Univ. Later the University was renamed USIU and moved to Scripps Ranch. In 1994, after 40 years of service she retired at the age of 77. Mary Lee was known for her friendly and helpful disposition and her tireless work ethic. During retirement she would still meet with co-workers monthly at Nat’s in O.B.

Mary Lee’s family was very active in the Pt. Loma community. She was very proud, and enthusiastically supported them in all of their endeavors.

Her son Chip grew up playing P.L. Little League, and played basketball & golf at Cal Western Univ; and his grandsons, Ryan and Sean, attended Sacred Heart Academy, played Peninsula Little League and various sports at Point Loma H.S.

Mary Lee’s daughter, Mary Lee Silva (Candy), taught at Loma Portal Elementary for 18 years, and her daughter Caroline Knaplund still teaches there. Her husband Manny taught at Saint Agnes School. Candy’s son Matt’s wife, Maggie Silva, taught at Diana Middle School.

Mary Lee felt privileged to live close to her great granddaughters, Hailee & Alyssa Silva and Ally Knaplund and enjoyed their regular visits.

A memorial mass will be held on Saturday, December 14 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Agnes Church, 1145 Evergreen, SD, 92106. A reception will follow in the Parish Hall. Mary Lee will be laid to rest with her husband at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery.
Last year’s Garrison Street charity fundraiser recipient was Will Barton, a 21-year-old Point Loma High School alum who was shot in a case of mistaken identity near Balboa Park and critically wounded — only to rebound slowly but surely beyond the wildest expectations of doctors, who gave the victim almost no chance of survival. The neighborhood raised over $4,000 for his family.

Festivities, the charity fundraiser among them, are all in the spirit of the holidays and giving back, said Kyle Ybarra who, along with wife, Carrie, run Cocoa for a Cure and are among neighbors on the street who pitch in to make things happen every year.

Kyle Ybarra said the charity fundraiser has really taken off from what it started out as.

“Our daughter and three of her friends 14 years ago wanted to raise a little money to buy Barbie dolls and other things for a young girl up from Mexico who had surgery while she was in the hospital,” he said.

That inaugural fundraiser netted $60. “Every year for 14 years it’s (revenue’s) increased. Last year we raised $5,000 in one night. We’re hoping to exceed that this year,” he said.

Someone or something different benefited every year from the “chocolate charity,” Kyle said.

“Over the years, we’ve always tried to select either a charity that can assist local families, or a specific individual, like a friend of our daughter’s who was diagnosed with lung cancer a few years ago,” he said.

Guests at Cocoa for a Cure can purchase hot chocolate for $1 a cup, as well as other family baked goods and a number of items donated by local merchants selling for 50 cents to a dollar.

“We also have a jar, as well for folks who don’t want cocoa and just want to make a straight donation,” said Ybarra. “One hundred percent of all the proceeds go to charity. Absolutely nothing comes out to pay for the light displays.”

But Cocoa for a Cure is just one aspect of the Garrison Street Christmas celebration on the block between Chatsworth Boulevard and Garrison Place. The annual tradition of lighting up the block was begun by the mother-daughter team of Nazare Cabou and Carolynne Freitas, neighbors on Garrison, in an attempt to “brighten up the street.”

The holiday light tradition began without anything elaborate — just a small nativity scene. There then was a Santa in the window. Then angels in the windows. Then Mickey Mouse characters in the window.

Other homes nearby joined in adding lights and other things, like big blow-up displays of Santa Claus and his reindeer, snowmen and other Christmas icons.

“It’s really only eight or nine homes total, but it seems like a lot more because of all the lights,” said Kyle.

Garrison Street neighbor Richard McLaughlin said his Christmas display, which one neighbor likened to “Disneyland,” started out small with add-ons every year, and has turned into something quite large a decade later.

“My daughter, Casey, started doing it (lights). It was a nice hobby for her,” he said. “We built some little houses out front and filled them up with Santa Clauses and other things with lots and lots of lights.”

McLaughlin said Christmas Eve is the biggest — and best — night for viewing everyone’s holiday display.

“It’s just chaos that night,” he said. “People from the bus line stop off. We have Santa Claus out front talking to all the kids. Christmas Eve is the big event. After that it starts slowing down.”

Nazare Judd, a granddaughter in the family that started the Garrison Street Christmas tradition, said the “light show” started as a friendly competition 27 years ago between her mother and her grandmother that “got out of control.”

“Year by year, it grew and all the neighbors started doing it and new families came and joined in and it’s become a great tradition that’s adored by people around the county,” Judd said. “We have people who’ve been coming back every year who say ‘I used to come here as a little kid. Now there are second- and third-generations of people coming back to see it. It’s really neat.’”

Judd said most neighbors are modest about discussing their Christmas displays, which she said have evolved into something really remarkable.

“Every window has a little display,” she said. “There’s possibly hundreds of thousands of lights. You can get out of your car and go down a walkway that connects all the different individual displays. There’s even a display honoring fallen heroes from the police, fire and military.”

Judd said it now takes as long as three or four weeks to set up some of the Christmas displays, which collectively consume so much power when all the lights are on that “SDG&E electric meters start going in the opposite direction there’s so much power (used) in our block.”

McLaughlin admits the annual Christmas light display is no small expense. But he said it’s all worth it.

“We do it for the community,” he said. “We get a lot of thanks from people for doing it.”

Who needs moonlight during Christmas on Garrison Street as residents go all out to please visitors each year?
Because of its boat’s easy maneuverability, BayDreamin’ Cruises can approach San Diego Bay’s attractions for close-up views and passengers’ photographs, including this view of the San Diego Maritime Museum’s vessels.

Advance reservations are required, but as little as two hours’ notice is sufficient. For more information, visit www.baydreamincruises.com. For reservations, call (800) 979-3370 or (619) 701-3766.
Former Point Loma fixture, Barnard Elementary reopens in PB

The location may have changed, but Barnard Elementary’s mission remains unchanged: emphasizing global education with Mandarin Chinese language instruction.

Named for its original location in Point Loma, Barnard Asian Pacific Language Academy hasn’t changed its name, despite having moved from 910 Barnard St. in Point Loma to 2445 Fogg St. in Pacific Beach.

Principal Edward Park toured the grounds of the newly relocated magnet school, formerly Bayview Terrace Elementary, enthusing about Barnard’s new digs, its progressive program, being one of six schools in the Mission Bay “cluster” and its role in the larger community.

“We want local people, local businesses to come by and support the schools,” said Park. “We’ve got a very special community. I know for a fact these parents want to make positive changes in this community. And we’re doing everything we can to be as special as possible and create opportunities for everyone, like the Mandarin program.”

The most-spoken language in the world. Mandarin is the primary language taught at Barnard, whose students spend half the day learning it and its thousands of written characters. The idea behind Barnard’s program is that, through integration with the Mandarin Chinese culture, including the arts, music and literature, students will develop the ability to successfully use their knowledge to think and act globally and become thoughtful, responsible and successful global citizens.

The blending of a world-language program with a challenging and well-rounded academic program also taught in English enables Barnard students to face and triumph over the challenges of the 21st century, said Park.

“It supports the mission of all our schools in Mission Bay, which is to be globalized,” he said.

The Mandarin Chinese magnet program started out six years ago in Point Loma in a 65-year-old rundown facility with just 130 students.

“It was a school that wasn’t going anywhere,“ said Park. “We instituted the Mandarin language program and got a whole slew of partnerships and students coming from different places all over San Diego County. Now we’re looking at about 430 students with a wait list — and we’ll probably even extend it more next year.”

We want children surrounding teachers instead of the teacher here, and students over there. That creates space and we want collaboration. We want students to be engaged. We want a lot of conversations happening, not like the olden days where teachers continued to talk and kids just listened. Now we want to bring out their creativity and their innovative mind set.”

Barnard also has the latest technological educational innovations like Promethean, a high-powered display whiteboard that combines touch interactivity with integrated sound.

“It brings the students closer to our innovative style of learning,” said Park, demonstrating the use of the new high-tech board.

“I just love doing Google Earth,” he said, focusing the large Promethean screen on the Great Wall of China, demonstrating just how cutting-edge an educational system is.

Commenting on his new school and larger, more modern facilities, Park said, “It’s awesome. I love it. It’s bigger, better. We have a wealth of energy. We’re very happy about it.”

Which of these costly mistakes will you make when you sell your home

SAN DIEGO. A new report has just been released which reveals 7 costly mistakes that most homeowners make when selling their home. And a 9 Step System that can help you sell your home fast and for the most amount of money.

This industry report shows clearly how the traditional ways of selling homes have become increasingly less and less effective in today’s market. The fact of the matter is that fully three quarters of homemakers don’t get what they want for their homes and become diluted and worse – financially disadvantaged when they put their homes on the market.

As this report uncovers, most home sellers make 7 deadly mistakes that cost them literally thousands of dollars. The good news is that each and every one of these mistakes is entirely preventable. I answer to this issue, industry insiders have prepared for a free special report entitled “The 9 Step System to Get Your Home Sold Fast and For Top Dollar.”

To order a FREE special report, call toll-free 1-800-276-0763 and enter “Home Seller.”

We reserve the right to edit for clarity, accuracy, brevity and liability.

COPYRIGHT © 2013 All rights are reserved. This newspaper is printed in the United States of America with any inks and recycled paper. Please recycle.
ski said waiting for police to go first amounted to an abdication of the board’s role to represent the community and asked fellow board members to take the matter off the table earlier. He also cited the newly released benefits package, which had been negotiated between CVS representatives, Ocean Beach Town Council president Gretchen Kinney Newsom and the Ocean Beach MainStreet Association.

The push for a benefits package began in November, when Newsom brought the matter up before the OBPB. She cited Rite November, when Newsom brought the Beach MainStreet Association. Gretchen Kinney Newsom and the Ocean Beach Town Council president negotiated between CVS representatives, released a benefits package, which had been the table earlier. He also cited the newly released CVS packages for benefits, which included:

- It will participate with the community in efforts to make any surplus parking open for public use.
- It will “evaluate the feasibility” of selling a limited amount of fresh fruits and vegetables.
- It will develop a process to allow local vendors to sell their wares.

Denny Knox, executive director of the MainStreet Association, said CVS was a more-than-willing negotiating partner. “It was really refreshing to see a corporation wanting to be a member of our community,” she said. But opponents said it wasn’t enough to address concerns citizens expressed a month earlier.

“We have a Rite Aid. I can throw a whistle ball to from the parking lot of (the proposed) CVS. I don’t think they need a liquor license,” said board member Andrew Wilson. “They (CVS) are appealing us by giving us a list of terms. What’s to say another company wouldn’t give us the same deal, if not better?” he asked.

Wilson said when people who know about the CVS plan approach him, “They want to know about the CVS plan approach him, “They want to know about the building’s north side, less the Apple Tree location wanting to be a member of our community more-than-willing negotiating partner. “It was really refreshing to see a corporation wanting to be a member of our community,” she said. But opponents said it wasn’t enough to address concerns citizens expressed a month earlier.

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Enjoy Christmas Services at these churches

San Diego First Church of the Nazarene
In Point Loma
Advent Events & Services
Meet Me At the Manger - A Children’s Musical
Sunday, December 15th - 10:15am
Joyful Sounds of Christmas - Choir Concert
Sunday, December 15th - 6:00pm
Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
Tuesday, December 24th - 5:00pm
3901 Lomaland Drive
San Diego, CA 92106
619.849.3100
sdflnaz.com

MUSIC ON THE POINT CONCERT SERIES
Sunday, December 15, 2013 at 4pm - San Diego’s exciting music ensemble presents music of the season featuring Courtly Noisy. Reception will follow.
Christmas Eve/December 24
Choral Christmas Eve Services - 5pm & 9 pm
Christmas Day/December 25:
Holy Eucharist - 10:15 am
1475 Catalina Boulevard
San Diego, CA 92107
www.all-souls.com

ST. PETER’S BY THE SEA
Please join us:
Christmas Eve Worship
5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Christmas Day Worship at 9:30 a.m.
St. Peter’s by the Sea Lutheran Church
1371 Sunset Cliffs Blvd 619-224-2894
www.stpetersbythesea.org

It’s the end of the year – are you thinking about reducing your taxable income through charitable giving?
Give it right back to your community by donating to the Point Loma Association! Donations over $500 are tax-deductible through the Point Loma Foundation.

Over 70% with an IRA and needing to take required minimum distributions (RMDs)? You can currently contribute up to $100,000 to a qualified organization – like the PLA – tax-free, if you make this gift directly from your IRA through the Point Loma Foundation. Talk to your financial advisor for more information – and look for the Point Loma Foundation donation form link on our web site (www.pointlomaassociation.com).

Why donate? To help defray the costs of improving our community. The PLA’s community work is entirely supported through your donations.

What do we do?
• We have planted and maintain over 800 Jacaranda, Sycamore, Pepper, Pine, Ficus and Palm trees throughout Point Loma.
• We improve medians throughout the community. Our projects include Nimitz/West Point Loma Blvd., Cañon/Catalina, and Nimitz/Sunset Cliffs. We’re excited about our next project – the Nimitz Greenway Project, which will beautify the median from West Point Loma Blvd. to the Famous Bridge…and that’s only the beginning…
• We work with local artists to paint their beautiful designs on utility boxes.
• We send out our Mean Green Team every Friday to clean up, trim, and plant at one of 18 public sites throughout Point Loma.
• We remove graffiti.
• We hang colorful street banners to beautify our Village.
• We represent the community through direct involvement with agencies of federal, state and local governments, the Port District, the San Diego Unified School District, the Peninsula Planning Board and others who directly affect our quality of life.

Will you donate or join? Membership for a family is as little as $30 per year.
Go to: www.pointlomaassociation.com for more information.
And – like us on Facebook!!
Ocean Beach
a Wonderland of Gifts

Shop Local
look for our
OB Local Gift Guide online at:
www.OceanBeachSanDiego.com

Unique Shopping & Dining

Dec. 5th - 16th
Storefront Decoration Contest
to vote online on Facebook today - facebook.com/obma92107

Dec. 14, 21
Craft Fair 9-3pm
Santa 11-2pm
(Newport & Abbott)

Dec. 16, 17, 19
Food & Toy Drive
call to volunteer 619-846-6269

Dec. 16th
Holiday Homes Decoration Contest
(judging will take place between 6-9pm)
Newport Avenue was once again the place to be during the Ocean Beach 34th annual Holiday Parade, with twinkling lights, glowing floats and hundreds of excited holiday spectators. Creativity abounded with the usual Ocean Beach flavor – from street-dancing elves to this holiday-themed boat out of water.

With surf culture being a huge part of the Ocean Beach lifestyle, parade participants can always expect a flotilla of classy, lighted Woodies that are so representative of the history of bygone surf culture days. Just to capture the spirit of the holidays, the driver of this Woody donned a festive Santa cap.

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Happy Hour Monday through Friday, 3 to 5pm.

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**POMA’S DELI**

**Happy Holidays from all of us at**

**INN AT SUNSET CLIFFS**

**Sunset Garage**

**IT Dream Printing & Shipping Center**

**POMA’S DELI**
Boy Scouts and adult leaders represent Troop 24 during the parade with what appears to be an oversize holiday canoe.

Chopper the Bike Dog, a regular at many local events, enjoys a ride down Newport Avenue during the parade. Chopper is quite the celebrity with his ability to stay focused on the cycle.

Celebrate the Season in Ocean Beach!

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How much of your shopping dollar is retained in your community?

6 cents of every dollar spent with a Big Box retailer is retained/recirculated in a community.
Source: Rocky Mountain Institute

20 cents of every dollar spent with a chain store is retained/recirculated in a community.
Source: Small Business Administration

60 cents of every dollar spent with a sole proprietorship is retained/recirculated in a community.
Source: Small Business Administration.

Reprinted from Barbara Wold, Professional Speaker’s email.

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Happy Holidays!
The chilly parade conditions prompted spectators to bundle up as they enjoyed the festivities, like these young ladies representing Point Loma High School.

Parade spectators were treated to this float from Wonderland (site of the former Nick’s at the Pier). Wonderland pays homage to Ocean Beach history, adopting the name of the 100-year-old Wonderland, the city’s first amusement park, which, tragically, was washed away by a torrential storm. The restaurant pays tribute to the original amusement park with historic photos of what once was a major draw for San Diegans in 1913.

The Ocean Beach MainStreet Association is offering up a sleigh load of gift ideas perfect for your loved one this holiday. The theme of the items reflects the 125th anniversary of Ocean Beach.

Come on down to the office at 1868 Bacon St. and choose from a wide variety of fun presents for the entire family.

Here are some of the fun items ready for you to choose from:
- “Beach Town: Early Days in Ocean Beach,” the audiobook ($20)
- 125th anniversary coffee mug ($5)
- 125th anniversary Farmers Market tote bag ($15)
- 125th anniversary shot glass ($5)
- Celebrate Ocean Beach Anniversary poster ($20)
- Commemorative OB hat ($25)
- Ladies’ crew neck 125th anniversary T-shirt ($20)
- Men’s crew neck 125th anniversary T-shirt ($20)
- OB 125th anniversary charcoal-gray hooded sweatshirt ($36)
- OB 125th anniversary light-gray hooded sweatshirt ($36)
- OB 125th anniversary window decal, 3” ($5)
- OB 125th anniversary window decal, 6” ($8)
- Ocean Beach 125th anniversary ornament ($2.5)
- Ocean Beach 125th anniversary ornament ($25)
- Ocean Beach 125th anniversary pint glass ($5)
- Team Ocean Beach T-shirt, gray ($20)
- Team Ocean Beach T-shirt, Navy ($20)
- Wonderland Ocean Beach cold-drink tumbler ($10)

For more information, visit www.oceanbeachsandiego.com.

— Staff and contribution

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OB Last Minute Gift Guide

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Enter to Win Holiday Cash!
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One of San Diego’s unique residential attractions lies in Point Loma along San Diego Bay. Just a short distance across from Shelter Island is an area of elegant serenity called La Playa. This is a place of beautiful homes and gardens that surround a blue water lagoon with a white sandy beach.

A few boats are tied up to a small well-kept wooden pier with a colorful sign claiming that it belongs to the La Playa Yacht Club. One would assume that this claim of ownership is nothing but a humorous gesture. The reality is that there truly is an organized La Playa Yacht Club, with a membership of more than 200 families. The purpose of the club is to foster interest in yachting and to maintain and preserve the historical pier located in the La Playa neighborhood.

On Aug. 29, this one-of-a-kind club, with simply a pier as a home, came together for its annual bayside barbecue at the Southwestern Yacht Club. Members enjoyed a beautiful summer evening, having dinner, taking care of business and welcoming new members. The highlight of the evening was a few words from Edwina Goddard, the last surviving member of the original La Playa Yacht Club. She shared fond memories of the early days in Point Loma.

In the early days, La Playa Cove was over 100 feet of mud flats at low tide. Launching or accessing a boat during those days was virtually impossible. During the late 1920s, eight families in the area each put in $50 to build a pier at the foot of San Antonio Street that would span the mud flats to a floating platform.

By 1931, the first La Playa Yacht Club was established to maintain and preserve the pier. The membership grew over the years, and eventually the organization became a member of the Yachting Club of America (YCA). Reciprocity for club members is available with other yacht clubs around the world.

Now Open in Liberty Station!

Photo by Mike McCarthy | The Beacon
Biking alternatives for extensive Coastal Rail Trail beginning to roll forward

By DAVE SCHWAB | THE BEACON

Transportation officials gave a comprehensive analysis of seven prospective alternative alignments connecting Gilman Drive on the south with Carmel Valley Road to the north during an update on the Coastal Rail Trail (CRT) Project at a recent community stakeholder working group meeting.

The Oct. 23 meeting at Nobel Recreation Center was a follow-up to a workshop held previously, during which stakeholder groups gave input which helped the city determine which criteria would be used in evaluating the seven proposed alternative CRT alignments. Evaluation criteria ran the gamut from aesthetics to connectivity, public safety, environmental, cost and geographic considerations.

The Coastal Rail Trail is a regional project that will establish a multi-use, north-south trail connecting Oceanside, Del Mar, Carlsbad, Encinitas and Solana Beach with Santa Fe Train Depot in downtown San Diego 40 miles to the south. As its name suggests, much of the proposed trail runs within the coastal rail public right-of-way.

The city portion of the CRT consists of 10 miles of multi-use trails going from Carmel Valley to Gilman Drive in La Jolla. This trail segment will provide important connections between regional employment centers in Sorrento Valley, UCSD and University City and residential communities to the north and south, linking them up with the Sorrento Valley Coaster station and a future trolley line in the project area.

The Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project will extend light-rail transit service from the Old Town Transit Center to UCSD campus and surrounding University City. Construction is expected to begin in mid-2015 with full operation to begin in 2018.

“We’re not trying to get to a singular (CRT route) alternative (tonight). We’re trying to say what would be the appropriate two or three alternatives to carry forth into environmental review so that they can be studied and analyzed in more detail,” said Mark Carpenter, consultant with KTU+A, an environmental planning and landscape consulting firm. “Tonight’s objective isn’t to cancel six out of seven and say, ‘That’s the one.’ It’s to say, When you look at all of them, are there two or three that rise to the top and make the most sense to carry forward?”

Transportation planner Chris Carter-ette with the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), the region’s transportation planning agency, said the CRT is part of SANDAG’s regional bike plan intended to “provide a bicycling environment that is convenient and safe and encourages people to choose to ride a bike in lieu of a private automobile trip.”

After that final workshop, Abi Palaseyed said three or four of the seven prospective CRT alignments will be forward sometime early next year for environmental analysis. In the end, he said, a best preferred alternative among the three or four finalist alignments will be chosen. “We city staff will make the recommendation,” said Palaseyed. “But ultimately, the City Council has the choice.”

Health BRIEFS >>

Certified Organic Stands for Commitment at OB Peoples Organic Food Market

“Organic” refers to the way agriculture— including foods and fibers—are grown and processed. Organic farmers, in general, use no synthetic chemical fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides or defoliants, and use only natural pesticides on their crops when absolutely necessary.

The “certified organic” label stands for a commitment to a system of agriculture that strives for balance with nature. When you buy certified organic food, your choice protects the health of future generations, yourself, and farm workers by keeping cancer-causing pesticides and herbicides off of plates and out of farm environments. This choice also protects water quality by supporting farms that do not contribute to petrochemical runoff; preserves topsoil because organic farmers build soil using natural amities rather than synthetic fertilizers; helps support small family farms; preserves biodiversity through the cultivation of heirloom varieties; and provides you and your family with better tasting fruits and vegetables.

For the best selection of organic produce and grocery items in San Diego stop by Ocean Beach People’s Cooperative at 4765 30th Street, Voltaire Street. Open Daily from 8 a.m. – 9 p.m. call us at (619) 224-1387 or visit us on the web at www.obpeoplesfood.coop
Skaters of all ages joined in a free demonstration of a brand-new kind of roller-skating experience called Cardiff Skates at the basketball court at the corner of Cushing and Farragut streets in Liberty Station on Dec. 7 at 10 a.m.

“With the invention of the personal computer there was a movement for things to be easier and quicker,” inventor Brian Green said of the desire to recreate the best of the old and bring it into the future. “I wanted something new and improved that would be a new experience for kids and still be a fun way to skate that is easy and fun.”

Inventor Brian Green, who lives in Point Loma with his wife, Shanen, and dogs Art and Charlie. Green’s skates are a convenient cross between in-line skates and the classic strap-on roller skates.

“One of the most difficult things we have to deal with is how we can make sure the product is comfortable, but also durable and safe,” Green said. “What we have done is create a binding system and restyle the configuration to a group of experienced skate engineers in Munich, Germany, who helped fine-tune the function of the automatic size adjustment, wheel configuration and braking system to be stable enough for all ability levels.

“Now we have a beautiful shoe that could be used by anyone,” Green said. “We just launched a new product and have been receiving a lot of positive feedback. We have been able to create a market-ready product.”

This year, Green and Pollack formed Cardiff Skates, located in Cardiff by the Sea, with Pollack as CEO and Green as VP of products. They hired a team of experienced professionals to refine the design and branding into a market-ready product.

“Cardiff Skates are so convenient to use that our company’s tagline is: ‘Step on, strap in, skate away,’” Green said. “We are looking for everyone to skate, making them perfect for transportation, recreation or just to cruise around.”

Cardiff Skates are available online at cardiffskate.com or in select Brookstone stores in California, including Fashion Valley Mall and all 53 Sports Chalet Stores, as well as in theSharper Image fall catalogue and at the UCSD bookstore.

Jenn David Connolly, owner and founder of the award-winning graphic design studio Jenn David Design (www.jenndavid.com), recently tasked herself to significantly expand her business. Her motivation: A better life balance with her family, which includes two small children.

Her five-year plan, which she set at the end of 2012, included moving her studio out of her home, building a team and ensuring that the business could run more efficiently and effectively. Of course, all of this would not happen without sacrificing or compromising work quality, customer service or new business.

Six months later, Connolly accomplished her goals. She’s brought on a talented team, and moved into a bright, sunlit studio just blocks from her home in Ocean Beach. Not only did she fill the positions she was looking for, but she also added an intern position at her studio — something she’s always wanted to do as a means of giving back to the design community. She and her new team are maintaining the creativity and excellence for which the design firm is known.

“I truly felt my goal was at least five years off due to my kids still being so young (2 and 4 at the time), and also not having the savings built up,” Connolly said. “Now I’m excited about our determination and inspiration.”

Jenn David Design has earned a national reputation in packaging design, but also offers a complete package of design services to ensure consistent branding across all channels including: packaging design, corporate identity and branding, marketing collateral, websites and more. Connolly also serves as communications director for the San Diego chapter of AIGA, the professional association for design.

For more information, visit www.jenndavid.com.
With a growing chill in the air, don’t hesitate to rummage through your closets for that favorite holiday sweater to help others!

Mark your calendars for Thursday, Dec. 12 from 7 to 11 p.m. for Raglan Public House’s second annual Amazingly Ugly Yet Strikingly Beautiful Christmas Sweater Party. Raglan is also participating in the Marine Corps’ Toys for Tots Foundation drive, so be sure to buy a cool toy (or two) to brighten a child’s holiday season.

“We like to do something for the community every single year, and this is something we’re really looking forward to,” said managing partner Mike Zouroudis. “We want you to have fun and celebrate by doing something that makes a difference. For every new toy you donate, you’ll receive a free drink ticket.”

Need a toy shopping tip?

“Buy something you would want to play with if you were a kid,” Zouroudis said.

If you’re thinking about buying jacks or a set of Legos®, however, it goes without saying that this means one ticket per set. You could bring your own children along their expert advice. The more the merrier, so you could also bring your nieces, nephews and friends’ children. It could be an excellent way to teach generosity and create meaningful traditions.

Raglan will award “greatest Sweaters” prizes and offer all-night drink specials with their usual menu. It also plans to create a signature eggnog drink to celebrate this occasion and the season. So bring friends and family—and as far donning that sweater—“The uglier, the better,” said Zouroudis.

The Raglan Public House is located in Ocean Beach at 1851 Bacon St. (on the corner of Bacon Street and Niagara Avenue).

For more information about their beverages, menu items and upcoming events, call (619) 794-2304, or visit Raglanpublichouse.com or “like” them at www.facebook.com/raglanpublichouse.

The Ocean Beach Food and Toy Drive is sponsored by the Ocean Beach Town Council, and will continue through mid-December. If you’re unable to attend Raglan’s event, Claudia Jack of the Ocean Beach MainStreet Association said toys can be dropped off at the following locations: Details Salon Spa; Dr. Michele Yamada’s Ocean Dental Care; Margarita’s; Pruett Realty; the Farmer’s Market; The OB Quickstop; The Temptress; Union Bank; U.S. Bank; and Wonderland. For more information, call (619) 846-6269.

Folks at the Raglan Public House mix fun with holiday spirit as a fundraiser is set for Dec. 12 to help benefit the Marine Corps’ Toys-for-Tots campaign, as well as other charities.

Folks at the Raglan Public House mix fun with holiday spirit as a fundraiser is set for Dec. 12 to help benefit the Marine Corps’ Toys-for-Tots campaign, as well as other charities.

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**Cedar Center Chorus and Pacificaires Present Two Free Concerts**

Candlelight, Angel Light
Classical & Holiday Favorites

Donations will be collected for DirectRelief.org to benefit victims of Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines, in memory of Adelina deJesus.

**December 14, 2013, 2 pm**
College Ave. Baptist Church
4737 College Avenue
San Diego, CA 92115

**December 15, 2013, 4 pm**
Christ Ev. Lutheran Church
4761 Cass Street
San Diego, CA 92109

**By Terrie Leigh Relf**

**THE PENINSULA BEACON**
Rock and Roll San Diego continues to incubate, churn out future talent

BY BART MENDOZA | THE BEACON

There are many things that make the holiday season a wonderful time of year, but near the top of the list is music and the magical effect the last month of the year has on children. It’s no secret that music can teach children many skills needed later in life, whether performing becomes a career choice or not.

From logic and teamwork to discipline and thinking outside the box, music adds a lot of skills to a person’s resume.

There are many places to learn music in San Diego, but nothing is quite on the level of Rock and Roll San Diego. The music school in Point Loma also includes rehearsal rooms, recording studios, repair shops, equipment sales, a booking agency, record labels and more, with a world-class roster of instructors, including the likes of jazz/R&B vocalist, Stellita Lindgren and blues guitarist, Johnny “V” Vernazza, who has worked with the likes of Elvin Bishop and Van Morrison.

On Dec. 14, Rock and Roll San Diego is hosting a “Rockcital,” showcasing its students in 183-seat capacity Jimi Hendrix Hall. Soloists and duos will open up the program, with a short break followed by group performances. Guests can expect a bit of everything in the program, from jazz to classical to rock ‘n’ roll.

For the students it’s a chance to perform in front of an appreciative audience, with state of the art gear. For parents and music fans, it’s a heartwarming chance to see an all ages group of future artists taking their first musical steps. You never know, one of those performing in Hendrix Hall this night, could actually go on to be the next Hendrix.

Diego owner Mark Langford, music lessons like these students are taking can be an important part of a child’s development.

“Giving the gift of music helps, because what you’re giving is confidence, creativity, teamwork and leadership skills to the individual that they can use, as well as mental well being,” he said. “You’re teaching them attention to detail. In order to play music you have to have attention to detail.

“From one note to another has to be thought and analyzed through,” he said. “So these thought processes that we use are useful to any job throughout our entire lives. Learning to communicate through music helps you communicate as a person as well.”

He said students have ranged in age from 2 to 80 years old. His reasons for opening up the music school are based in his own career.

“I have skills that I have learned over many years of my life in music that I can pass on,” Langford said. “And I know that I have experiences and techniques that I have learned from masters, not only in guitar, but also working with major and international talent.

He’s clearly motivated by the opportunity to help musicians take their skills to the next level, while having a lot of fun.

“These are experiences that I can pass on to others that many people won’t have and they won’t get at a local music store,” he said.

“The real-life experience you get from these people who have actually done it is so valuable. They’re instructing you in what they’ve learned so, hopefully, you can avoid pitfalls and you can elevate yourself quicker through their experiences, becoming a better person and a better musician in the process,” he said.

Rock and Roll San Diego prides itself in particular on its teaching staff.

“It’s more than just being a good talent, teaching is another art in itself,” Langford said. “Not all great musicians have that. It’s important to find teachers who not only are great quality musicians and performers, but who also have the character to do this and people skills.”

With the school now heading into its third year in business, Langford is looking forward to the school’s recital, and is thrilled with progress at Rock and Roll San Diego thus far.

“I’m happy to have created an environment that people can come to and feel safe and be creative in, while learning and connecting with other musicians,” he said. “I take joy in the fact that I’ve seen people come in, could barely do anything, and now they’re doing amazing things with their music. I’ve found a joy in nurturing talent. That’s the biggest joy for me.”

• Rockcital: Saturday, Dec. 14, at Rock and Roll San Diego, 3360 Sports Arena Blvd. 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. No cover. All ages.

Now in its third year, Rock and Roll San Diego continues to teach, strengthen and mold future musical talent at its venue at 3360 Sports Arena Blvd.
On vacation with The Peninsula Beacon

It's vacation time! Peninsula Beacon readers are heading out of town and taking their favorite hometown paper with them! Don't pass up your chance to have your name and face published in The Beacon. Take us with you to whatever corner of the world you may be visiting and share your trip with other readers. Tell us your name and/or the names of your family members in the photo and give us a brief description of where the shot was taken. Email the photo and the information to beacon@sdnews.com. It's that easy! Photos are published based on space constraints and in the order in which they are submitted.

Dave and Rhonda Pitta, Brad and Judy Bergman, and Kevin and Jill O’Beirne take their Beacon on a snorkeling trip in Cabo San Lucas in front of the famous arch.

The Harvey family and friends visited Miami to watch the Chargers lose to the Dolphins with Point Loma High alum Jimmy Wilson playing in the defensive backfield.

Andy Roder, a junior at Point Loma High, takes the Beacon on his Make-a-Wish cruise to Cozumel, Mexico. He is shown with his aunt and cousin, Barbara and Andy Roder, a junior at Point Loma High, takes the Beacon on his Make-a-Wish cruise to Cozumel, Mexico. He is shown with his aunt and cousin, Barbara and

Recent Ocean Beach home-buying neighbors, Laura Penneke and Denise Maggard, brought their favorite newspaper onboard their November Princess Cruise to Puerto Vallarta.

The Slaughter Encarnacion family (Brian, Deirdre, Shea, Lilianne and Mayal) of Ocean Beach take their favorite hometown newspaper to the Watson lighthouse in Santa Cruz.

Birds, Squirrels and Owls...adjacent to Point Loma Park...Eucalyptus trees provide a screen of privacy, peacefulness and an enchanting view of nature’s vistas. A ‘rocking-chair’ front porch invites you in the front door to a single level free flowing floor plan. Living areas open onto a spacious covered patio - easy for entertaining any sized group. Lovingly maintained this 3 bedroom 2.5 bath home boasts gleaming hardwood floors, a snuggly fireplace (gas), tons of built-ins.

$895,000

Enjoy sunsets and ocean breezes with gorgeous views. Updated kitchen with new custom cabinetry, granite counters, new tile floors & stainless steel appliances. Master Suite features his & hers closets, new dual sinks with new cabinetry, large shower with custom tile work. Turnkey and ready for move in!
Barnes & Noble hosts a bookfair benefiting Friends of the Ocean Beach Library. Barnes & Noble staff will wrap your holiday purchases Dec. 14-15. The event takes place at Barnes & Noble Hazard Center at 7610 Hazard Center Drive. A percentage of purchases will benefit the Ocean Beach Library. If you are unable to get to the bookfair, you can purchase online at bn.com/bookfairs. Enter bookfair ID #11090966 at checkout.

SATURDAY, Dec. 14
• The Ocean Beach Craft Fair takes place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Veterans’ Plaza at the foot of Newport Avenue. For more information, call (619) 846-6269 or (619) 515-4400.
• Santa pays a visit with youngsters at the foot of Newport Avenue. For more information, call (619) 846-6269 or (619) 515-4400.
• The Rock Church’s motorcycle ministry in Point Loma is riding to collect toys for the 17th annual Toys for Joy. Each biker will bring one unwrapped toy as registration for the Toys for Joy toy drive. Toys For Joy will take place at Abrahim Lincoln High School. More than 12,000 people are expected to attend the free distribution where families in need will receive toys, food, clothing and groceries in time for the holidays. The event formally begins on Saturday, Dec. 7 with registration at 9 a.m. and riders taking to the road at 10 a.m. The route will begin at Sweetwater Harley Davidson, 3201 Hoover Ave. in National City and end at the Rock Church in Point Loma at 2277 Rosecrans St. For more information, visit www.toys-for-joys.org.

SUNDAY, Dec. 15
The San Diego First Church of the Nazarene at Point Loma Nazarene University will present “Joyful Sounds of Christmas” at 6 p.m. on campus at 801 Lomaland Drive. Choir, handbells, orchestra and carol singing will all be a part of this night of celebration. Dessert will be sold to support mission trip scholarships for teens in the First Church Youth Group at 5:30 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call (619) 849-3100.

MONDAY, Dec. 16
The Ocean Beach Town Council hosts its annual Holiday Homes Decoration Contest. The best-dressed 92107 holiday homes will be judged. For more information, call (619) 316-3403.

Dec. 16, 17 and 19
The Ocean Beach Town Council will host its annual Food & Toy Drive for local disadvantaged families and children from 5 to 7:30 p.m. each night at the Point Loma United Methodist Church, located at 1984 Sunset Cliffs Blvd. Union Bank will sponsor an Angel Tree for food and toy dropoffs. Chase Bank will host a Teddy Bear Tree dropoff; and US Bank will sponsor a Child or Teenage Book Tree dropoff. Residents can donate any canned or boxed items or a new, unwrapped toy. For more information, call (619) 846-6269 or (619) 515-4400. Alliance Group Real Estate Services has partnered with the Ocean Beach Town Council and Ocean Beach Community Foundation to collect toys and food for local families in need. People in the 92106 or 92017 ZIP codes. For more information, visit www.mypointloma.com/FoodDrive.

FREE PRESENTATION
Wednesday, Jan. 8
Free presentation by speaker C.E. Foreman, who will discuss his fifth novel, “Learning by Drowning.” The work is an acutely intelligent, psychological thriller involving a volatile bond between two brothers and the mysterious woman who consumes their lives. The presentation takes place at 6:30 p.m. at the library, 3701 Voltaire St. For more information, call (619) 515-1359.