**Mystery swirls in death of OB man at Humboldt pot farm**

*By DAVE SCHWAB | THE BEACON*

What’s known for certain is that former Ocean Beach resident Garrett Rodriguez left for what has been dubbed “Murder Mountain” by outsiders in Humboldt County several months ago to become a marijuana farmer.

What is also known is that Rodriguez, 29, never returned.

Rodriguez’s body was discovered at the end of November, his remains recovered from a rural grave site following a tip from an anonymous source.

How and why Rodriguez perished remains a mystery, said officials.

On Nov. 30 at about 5 p.m., the Humboldt County Sheriff’s Office received a call from a citizen who told deputies where to search for a possible grave. On Dec. 1 about 7 a.m., Humboldt County sheriff’s detectives went to the location near Jewitt Ranch Road, where they unearthed human remains and a family that’s made inquiries, which is enough to begin an investigation.*

**PL Optimist Club launches community outreach drive**

*By DAVE SCHWAB | THE BEACON*

For more than 50 years, the Point Loma Optimist Club (PLOC) has supported Point Loma and Ocean Beach youth and the Peninsula community.

In addition to providing annual support to groups fostering musical, athletic and academic achievement, PLOC has been a major contributor to the Peninsula YMCA since its inception.

The service club’s impact has been profound, as evidenced by annual scholarships it gives to graduating Point Loma High School seniors, various sports teams and oratory and essay contests it supports, including the summer gifting stickers and paper registration cards.

With the new year comes a raft of new laws — more than 800 of them in California — that will impact motorists and bicyclists, employers and employees, retailers and consumers throughout San Diego.

The following are some of the highlights of new laws that took effect on Jan. 1, unless otherwise noted.

**New year’s laws: from teen texting to electronic license plates, 2014 ushers in change**

**TRANSPORTATION**

- **Bicycle-parking distance (AB 1371)** — Known as the Three Feet for Safety Act, a vehicle driver passing a bicycle that is traveling in the same direction must maintain a distance of no less than three feet between any part of the vehicle and any part of the bicycle or rider. When these feet is not possible, the motor vehicles are required to slow to a “reasonable and prudent speed” and pass only if there’s no danger to the bicyclist. Failing to do so can incur a fine, regardless of whether a collision results. This law will take effect Sept. 16.

- **Clean-air vehicle decals/HOV stickers (AB 266, SB 246)** — These laws extend sunset dates to Jan. 1, 2019 for single-occupant, low-emission and zero-emission vehicles to operate in high-occupancy vehicle lanes (HOV).

- **DMV vehicle registration pilot program (SB 806)** — This law authorizes the DMV to establish a pilot program to evaluate the use of alternatives to the current stickers, tabs, license plates and registration cards, but will be subject to certain requirements. It will also enable the DMV to experiment with electronic license plates, as well as facilitate the department’s ability to explore cost-effective alternatives to California’s traditional metal license plate, plastic-coated reg.

- **Search warrants: chemical tests (SB 717)** — This amendment to current law authorizes the issuance of a search warrant to a person in a reasonable, medically approved manner, to show that the
27 Tips To Drive up the Sale Price of your Home

SAN DIEGO. 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 sanity. Before you place your home on the market, here is a way to help you to be prepared as possible.

To assist home sellers, 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.

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Phil’s BBQ in Point Loma temporarily closes 6 weeks for $1M renovation

Phil’s BBQ temporarily closed its doors at the Point Loma restaurant Dec. 30 and will remain closed through Feb. 10 for a $1 million kitchen renovation.

In light of the temporary closure, Phil’s is launching a “Shutdown Sweepstakes” to encourage customers to visit its San Diego and San Marcos restaurant locations until the Point Loma store can be reopened on Feb.11. The upgrades to the Point Loma restaurant will include an expansive kitchen remodel, the addition of eight tap handles in the bar area, which will feature some of San Diego’s favorite micro-brewery selections, and the installation of tap handles in the main restaurant, enabling dine-in customers to order beer with their meal.

Additionally, Phil’s BBQ will install a number of water-saving and energy-efficient pieces of equipment, including highly efficient refrigeration units and LED lighting in the kitchen.

“One of the factors that’s been key to the success of our restaurant has been our efforts to give our customers the highest quality of service possible, and that includes our facilities,” said Phil Pace, Phil’s BBQ owner. “We’re committed to re-investing in our restaurants to make sure we continually offer guests the best possible dining experience.”

To offset the inconvenience to diners, Phil’s BBQ is launching a “Shutdown Sweepstakes” where customers 18 years of age or older will have a chance to win one of 34 prizes, including the grand prize of $2,500 in cash, plus a $2,500 gift card to Phil’s BBQ. The sweepstakes subscription period will end date Feb. 9 at 10 p.m.

For a complete list of the Shutdown Sweepstakes rules and prizing, visit www.philssbbq.net/sweepstakes. Phil’s BBQ San Marcos is located at 9816 Mission Gorge Road, (619) 449-7700. Phil’s BBQ San Marcos is at 579 Grand Ave., (760) 759-1400.

For more information about Phil’s BBQ, visit www.philssbbq.net.

—Staff and contributed

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THE PENINSULA BEACON
There’s a new designer in the neighborhood. Sarah Rummelhoff, creator of RumsBeach, launched her design-inspiring business Oct. 4.

Rummelhoff was a teen model when she envisioned her own clothing line and store. An entrepreneur-in-the-making since high school, Rummelhoff will graduate from Point Loma Nazarene University in June with a degree in managerial organization communication.

“I started saving for this in high school and love the freedom of owning my own business,” she said.

Inspired by her world travels — including trips to Bermuda, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Greece, Guatemala, Japan, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Portugal, Spain and Turkey — Rummelhoff’s fashion accessories, clothing and home decor reflect a penchant for unique patterns.

“I have a love for fashion, especially when it is simple, comfortable and loose-fitting, but stylish. People have commented on my beachy-trendy style, so I wanted to share that with the world.”

Creator of the RumsBeach fashion line

Rummelhoff’s plans for the future include taking her business to international clients, as well as opening a traditional storefront near the beach.

“I see my online store as a showroom — complete with a look-book,” she said.

As her business expands, Rummelhoff plans to offer woven rugs and tapestries. Other future plans include a pop-up, or trunk show, so be sure to visit her site often for this upcoming event.

For more information, visit www.shoprumsbeach.com or send an inquiry to info@rumsbeach.com. You may also follow her on Instagram, Facebook and Pinterest.
Man shot by authorities in Point Loma operation

A 44-year-old man was reportedly shot and wounded by police and the U.S. Marshals Service Fugitive Task Force during an operation in Point Loma on Dec. 30. The shooting reportedly happened shortly after 8:30 a.m. as the Marshals Service and San Diego Police Department moved in during a joint operation in the 1600 block of Catalina Street to arrest Joseph Hill, suspected in the 1600 block of Catalina Street to shortly after 8:30 a.m. as the Marshals Force during an operation in Point Loma on Dec. 30.

Grattan was convicted Nov. 6 by a jury in the Jan. 19, 2012 death of Darriin Joseph, 45, whose body was found in some bushes at 4960 North Harbor Drive. Joseph’s abandoned wheelchair was found not far away. Grattan’s sentencing was delayed on Dec. 9 by San Diego Superior Court Judge Amalia Meza to give Grattan’s attorney time to file more court documents. Grattan is expected to get 25 years to life in prison.

Police probe shooting, robbery try of brothers

Two brothers were reportedly approached by three or four suspects who tried to rob them in Point Loma Heights on Dec. 23 around 3:30 p.m., according to police officials. A struggle ensued between the two parties and one of the suspects reportedly shot one of the brothers, a 14-year-old, in the lower stomach, according to police.

The suspects then fled in a vehicle located on Poinsettia Drive. Two of the suspects were eventually arrested in the 1500 block of Browning Street. Although investigators have identified the remaining suspects, who are at large, no identities have yet been publicly released. The shooting victim is expected to survive his injury, according to police.

Anyone with information about the case is encouraged to call Crime Stoppers at (888) 580-8477.

OPTIMISTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

sailing program it sponsors for 40 youngsters in partnership with the San Diego Yacht Club and the Peninsula YMCA.

“We are trying to expand our involvement and philanthropy in the Point Loma community,” said current Optimist Club president Travis S. Jaedtke, who added he’d like to reintroduce the club to the public and indoctrinate the community about all that the club is doing to advance worthy causes within the Peninsula.

“We feel we can do more,” Jaedtke said. “The list of organizations we’ve helped over the years is something we feel not everyone knows about, including who we are, and what we do. If anyone can benefit from our services, we’d just like to put it out there to help the community.”

The mark PLOC has left in the community is clearly evidenced at the Little League fields below the fire station on Catalina Boulevard, named “Optimist Field,” along with the 150/US, flags the club places along a two-mile stretch of Rosecrans Street every Sunday and national holiday.

Chartered in 1954, PLOC is a 501(c)3 nonprofit focused on benefiting youth and community philanthropy. With a membership exceeding 50, the club is poised to grow, expanding its influence.

“Our goal is just to serve the community,” said Jaedtke, an Ocean Beach resident for many years who was intro-duced to the PLOC by a close friend who persuaded him that becoming “optimi-stic” was the best thing he could do to help make the Peninsula community a better place.

Becoming an Optimist is also the ser-vice-minded thing to do, said Jaedtke.

“Just seeing what they do contributes back to the community is a good reason in itself,” he said. “We want to reach out to any and all organizations in the Peninsula to take advantage of the club’s services.

“We (PLOC) want to reach out,” Jaedtke said. “If you have an organization in Point Loma or in the Peninsula, look for us to help contribute. We’re looking to better the community. We felt this was the best way to reach out.”

PLOC meets Tuesday mornings at 7 a.m. at the San Diego Yacht Club, located at 1011 Anchorage Lane. Every meeting includes a guest speaker. During the winter, a monthly steak fry is held at the yacht club on a Monday evening at 5:30 p.m. in lieu of that week’s breakfast meeting.

For information about the Optimist Club of Point Loma visit www.pointlomaoptimist.org.

Old Town San Diego State Historic Park Hosts Blessing of the Animals

Old Town San Diego State Historic Park will host Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, Jan. 19, from noon to 1 p.m. The main event will be the pet blessing between 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Historically, this event has been happening for more than 300 years. In San Diego, the annual Benediction of the Beasts celebrates St. Anthony of Padua, the Patron Saint of Animals and the Beasts.

Activities for both animals and their families make this celebration very enjoyable. For more information, visit www.oldtownmexicanfood.com.
The minimum wage in California has not risen from its $8-an-hour benchmark since 2008. That will change on July 1, when the minimum wage goes to $9 an hour. Another increment occurs on Jan. 1, 2016, when the minimum wage rises to $10 an hour.

Garment manufacturer requirement (AB 1384) — This new law creates a civil penalty for a garment manufacturer’s failure to display his or her name, address and registration number at the front entrance of the premises.

Leave of absence for reserve peace officers/emergency rescue personnel (AB 11) — If you have employees who are also reserve peace officers or emergency rescue personnel, this new law mandates that employers with more than 50 employees must give temporary leaves of absence not only to volunteer firefighters for training but now to reserve peace officers and emergency rescue personnel. A leave of absence can be up to 14 days.

Leave of absence for crime victim (SB 410 and SB 248) — Current law prohibits adverse employment action against an employee who is the victim of domestic violence or sexual assault and needs to take time off to work relief. A new law (SB 400) expands that protection to victims of stalking and also provides that those employees be provided any requested safety while at work. Another new law (SB 288) prohibits employers from retaliating against an employee who is a victim of a crime for taking time off from work to appear in court to testify at related proceedings. This applies only to specific crimes that include solicitation for murder and vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated.

Whistleblower protections (SB 496) — Expands whistleblower protections to include reports alleging a violation of a local rule or regulation. It also protects employees who disclose or who might disclose information regarding alleged violations “to a person with authority over the employee or another employee who has authority to investigate, discover or correct the violation. SB 496 also prohibits retaliation against an employee because the employer “believes the employee disclosed or may disclose information.”

Immigration status (AB 263 and SB 666) — Two new bills protect undocumented workers from retaliation or adverse actions when they file employment-related claims or complaints about wage theft. Employers cannot threaten to contact immigration authorities about a worker’s legal status in the country because of the complaint. A penalty of up to $10,000 per employee can be issued to the employer per violation. In addition, state authorities can pull an employer’s business license for reporting or threatening to report a worker’s immigration status in response to an employee’s wage complaint.

Attorney fees (SB 462) — A new law states that employers who win wage-claim lawsuits may recover attorneys’ fees and costs from the employee only if a trial court finds that the employee filed the lawsuit in bad faith.

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Excerpts from statements made by Cook & Associates to the Lost Coast Outpost, an online publication found in 1996 in rural Ferndale, about the Rodriguez investigation are as follows:

"On the day after Thanksgiving, private investigators received calls from anonymous sources that an individual had confessed to the murder of Garret Rodriguez ... The sources advised the body would be discovered off of West Road, a general location that had been reported by other confidential sources as early as June 2013. ... The physical size of the property in question made it difficult to search the area without specific directions from someone who knew the spot. It was not until Nov. 30 that the Sheriff’s Office received a more specific location to search that the body was discovered."

Anyone with information related to Rodriguez’s disappearance and murder is urged to contact Chris Cook at Cook & Associates Private Investigations at (707) 839-7422, or by email at pichrscook@msn.com.

Rodriguez family members could not be reached for comment.

Cook & Associates declined further comment on the case, noting it was a private investigation.

FANTASTIC SAMS STYLISTS OFFER EXPERT COLOR CONSULTATION

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Fantastic Sams stylists are offering expert color consultation to clients. Stylists serve as master color artists who have received specialized training and color certification to ensure clients receive the best color with a custom blended, perfect shade. Stylists offer clients an in-depth color consultation focusing on skin tone, eye color, and lifestyle. Stylists provide expertise using a palette collection to ensure a perfect match to the desired color and even coverage. Hair color treatments lock-in color providing a natural, healthy-looking coverage, with a vibrant shine.

Benefits of consulting with a professional: Professional color offers an array of hair color options not available with box products. Clients choose from subtle color change or full color transformation. Stylists create custom shades appealing to the color-shy and fashion-forward clients. Fantastic Sam salons offer a large selection of hair care products to help protect hair and maintain long-lasting color results. The exclusive Fantastic Sam brand includes shampoos, conditioners, and styling aids that are specially formulated with FantasticComplexTM, which strengthens, smooths, and adds shine to hair.

Risks factors with traditional box color treatments: Products offer limited colors, set shades and standard chemical mix. Hair color and chemicals may adversely impact hair texture, style and volume. Hair color results are often inconsistent requiring frequent re-coloring, which can also damage hair. Long-term use can lead to dry, dull looking hair.

To get a free color consultation come into the new location at 3225 Sports Arena Blvd. in the Target/Home Depot Center, they are open 7 days a week at 619-223-952.

About Fantastic Sam: Fantastic Sam has a primary goal to make each customer look and feel fantastic. Salons offer select services, like haircuts and styles, up-dos, straightening, coloring, highlights, and texturizing. Additional services include beard and mustache trims, facial waxing, as well as rejuvenating hair treatments for distressed or damaged hair.

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5046 Newport Ave. • 619-222-5300
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Lucy’s Tavern
4906 Voltaire St. • 619-224-0834
Mother’s Saloon
2228 Bacon St. • 619-221-8100
Pacific Shores
4927 Newport Ave. • 619-223-7549
South Beach Bar & Grill
Sunshine Company Saloon
5028 Newport Ave. • 619-222-0722
sunshineob.com

The Arizona - Bar & Cafe
1925 Bacon St. • 619-223-7381
theazcafe.com
The Harp - Bar/Cafe
4935 Newport Ave. • 619-222-0168
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4935 Newport Ave. • 619-222-0168
The Tilted Stick - Bar/Food
5028 Newport Ave. • 619-222-0506
tinytavernob.com
Tony’s
5034 Newport Ave. • 619-223-0558

Winstons

BARBECUE
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5025 Newport Ave. • 619-222-4311
barbquehouse.com

CALIFORNIA CUISINE
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619-225-3358 wonderlandob.com
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Sessions Public
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Shades
Oceanfront Bistro
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619-222-0501 shadesob.com

The 3rd Corner
Wine Shop & Bistro
2265 Bacon St. • 619-223-2700
the3rdcorner.com
The Pearl Hotel
CANDY STORE

Beach Sweets
5032 Newport Ave. • 619-222-3322
beachsweets.com

CATERERS
Surfside Cuisine
Hodad’s Jr. Catering
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hodad.com/jrcatering.html

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Little Chef Chinese to Go
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Jungle Java
Lazy Hummingbird
Coffee & Tea House
4876 Santa Monica Ave. • 619-200-5016
lazyhummingbird.com

Dee’s Newbreak
Coffee Co. & Cafe
1830-D Sunset Cliffs Blvd.
619-226-6477 newbreakcafe.com

Newbreak
Coffee Co. & Cafe
1959 Abbott St. • 619-226-7777
newbreakcafe.com

Newport Avenue Antique
Center & Coffee House
Pirates Cove Tiki Port
4906 Voltaire St. • 619-212-3942

Starbucks
Te Mana Cafe
5025 Voltaire St. • 619-225-9233
www.temanacafe.com

OBREL is changing its name to Ocean Beach Hospitality Group

The Ocean Beach Restaurant, Entertainment and Lodging Group is changing its name to Ocean Beach Hospitality Group. The Group will still be under the umbrella of OBMA and will continue to promote and support local businesses in the Ocean Beach area that provide food, lodging and entertainment. Their mission continues to be to work collectively as a group to provide the community with the best in hospitality services to locals and visitors. To get listed please visit:

oceanbeachsandiego.com/obrel or call (619) 224-4906

The NFL Plans Here

The Group will still be under the umbrella of OBMA and will continue to promote and support local businesses in the Ocean Beach area that provide food, lodging and entertainment. Their mission continues to be to work collectively as a group to provide the community with the best in hospitality services to locals and visitors. To get listed please visit:

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The Peninsula Beacon | Friday, January 3, 2014 | Page 9
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Danny and the Tramp continues to make inroads in beach communities

By BART MENDOZA | The Beacon

San Diego’s burgeoning music community continues to draw musicians from all over the world. Perhaps it’s the cold winters, but a lot of East Coast musicians seem to end up here, like the founding members of local indie rockers group Danny and the Tramp.

Appearing at Soda Bar on Jan. 3, the band is based around the core of Pennsylvania high school friends Danny Tatulli (bass) and John Langan (guitar), now with West Coast additions drummer Branden Josefosky and pianist Ezekiel Parnow, the impetus for coming to San Diego in 2009 was simply the need for change.

“Take a trip to Pennsylvania in December if you want to see why we didn’t stay there,” Tatulli joked. “John hit pretty much every city in the U.S., and San Diego was his favorite. From what I’ve seen, I’d have to agree.”

The pair had a band in Pennsylvania.

“Just there’s a time in every kid’s life, or at least in ours, when you say, ‘OK, I can do what everyone else in this town does,’” he said. “Get a job that I can eventually complain myself I like, find someone who doesn’t find me too annoying and perpetuate the human race. Or I can take a gamble. I can go against the grain and have an adventure.”

Meanwhile, musical partner Langan said he had his heart set on the second path. Almost immediately after graduating from Penn State, he hit the road with no real end goal outside of heading west.

At the same time, Tatulli was knee deep in the first path.

“I had a cushy job, was a family man,” he said. “When John called preaching the good news about San Diego, I went with the red pill. Long story short, the beach towns have been our stomping grounds — more specifically Pacific Beach and Ocean Beach.”

He admits there was a bit of culture shock in the relocation. It wasn’t musical, though.

“Californians can’t drive,” he said. “No offense guys, but if you have trouble believing this statement, take a ride on the Interstate 8 or State Route 163 during rush hour. Other than that, it’s been great.”

He said it was difficult finding no connections and starting from the ground when they first arrived, “But the friendliness of the locals has made it a lot easier on us.”

Though it wasn’t a factor in his move, Tatulli’s earliest musical influence was his father, a drummer, so he always had that urge to tap my foot to any beat,” he said. “I thought that was why bass was perfect, for its rhythmic purposes. I really started listening to music in my early teens. Blink 1-8-2 played a huge role in it. From there, I picked up a bass and it just felt right. Later in life, I started branching out of the pop punk scene into bands like Blink 182 bassist Mark Hoppus.

“My father was a drummer, so I always had that urge to tap my foot to any beat,” he said. “I think that’s why bass was perfect, for its rhythmic purposes. I really started listening to music in my early teens. Blink 1-8-2 played a huge role in it. From there, I picked up a bass and it just felt right. Later in life, I started branching out of the pop punk scene into bands like Blink 182 bassist Mark Hoppus.”

The band released its debut album, “All In.”

“Earlier this year, with a wish list for 2014 that includes touring, a music video and ‘radio play in places besides San Diego,” said Tatulli. “We’re not quite sure on how all of this will be happening, but that’s what the new year is all about.”

The past year saw the band release its debut album, as well as play major venues such as the Casbah and Belly Up.

“We’re looking to ride that momentum into 2014 and keep chugging along,” Tatulli said. “As long as we are having fun, that’s all that matters.”

He said there are also side projects like the Ezekiel Jay Band, which will also keep band members busy.

Happy in his new home on the West Coast, Tatulli said he appreciates his positive experiences, but considers the journey to that gig or album release more important than the success of it.

“John and I were actually talking about this the other day,” Tatulli said. “It’s all about the chase. And by that, we are talking about the whole process of creating a song and all of the term all that goes along with it. To finally get the finished product out and to have people thoroughly enjoy it, that’s just icing on the cake.”

• Danny and the Tramp: performs at 8:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 3 at Soda Bar, 1615 El Cajon Blvd. 21 and up. $7. www.sodabarmusic.com
Health BRIEFS >>

Make a “Good Health” resolution to eat more nutrientously

A natural, organic diet can make a world of difference when it comes to keeping yourself and your planet healthy. Ocean Beach People’s Organic Food Co-op is the perfect place to explore all the elements of a healthy lifestyle. Many of us make New Year’s resolutions that are abandoned by the end of the first month. When you make the resolution for good health and eat more nutrientously, you feel the benefits immediately and are more inclined to keep your “good health” resolution. Take simple steps to nutrition by adding whole grains, fresh fruits and vegetables to your New Year’s diet.

Quick and wholesome snacks include crisp and crunchy apple slices dipped in almond butter; mixed salad greens wrapped in a whole grain tortilla with humus dip; diced avocado mixed with chopped roma tomatoes and a drizzle of olive oil—spread on a rice cracker or eaten with blue corn chips. Keep your snacking simple and you’re more apt to make it, thus keeping you safe from the fast calorie-choking burger.

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This year make a resolution to check out Ocean Beach People’s Organic Food Co-op, where “everyone is welcome and anyone can join.” People’s Co-op is open daily from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. at 4765 Voltaire Street. Please call (619) 224-1387 or visit us online at www.obpeoplesfood.coop for more information.

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MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Please join us for the quarterly meeting of the Airport Noise Advisory Committee
San Diego International Airport

Wednesday, January 15, 2014
4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Airport Noise Room at the Commuter Terminal
3225 N. Harbor Dr.
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3225 N. Harbor Dr.
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“This honor is a testament to the enduring strength of our firm values, our trade offs and our partnership,” said Managing Partner Jim Weddle. “We are guided by a clear mission to serve the serious, long-term individual investor and to provide the best career-long opportunity for financial advisors who take pride in their work and appreciate the importance of the work we do.”

Edward Jones financial advisors gave the firm some of the highest scores in the training and categorization, scoring high above the other five firms in every sub-category which includes the quality of technology, clarity and online access of client account statements and ongoing training.

According to WealthManagement.com, between Oct. 7 and Nov. 7, 2013, invitations were emailed to print subscribers and advisors from various firms in the Meridian-AQ database requesting participation in an online survey. By Nov. 7, 2,333 completed responses were received. Financial Advisors rated their current employers on 33 items related to their satisfaction. Ratings are based on a 1-10 scale, with 10 representing the highest satisfaction level.

Edward Jones provides financial services for individual investors in the United States and, through its affiliate, in Canada. Every aspect of the firm’s business, from the types of investment options offered to the location of branch offices, is designed to cater to individual investors in the communities in which they live and work. The firm’s 12,000-plus financial advisors work directly with nearly 7 million clients to understand their personal goals – from college savings to retirement planning – and provide tailored solutions that emphasize a well-balanced portfolio strategy.

Edward Jones embraces the importance of building long-term, face-to-face relationships with clients, helping them to understand and make sense of the investment options available today.

Headquartered in St. Louis, Edward Jones ranked No. 8 overall in the 220 FINRA magazine’s 2013 100 Best Companies to Work For ranking. Visit our website at www.edwardjones.com and our recruiting website at www.careers.edwardjones.com. Follow us on Twitter @EdwardJones. Member SIPC. FORTUNE® and Time Inc. are not affiliated with and do not endorse Edward Jones products or services.
Peninsula-area events, Jan. 8-March 26

**WEDNESDAY, Jan. 8**

The Point Loma/Hervey Branch Library will host a free presentation by speaker C.E. Poverman, 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, located at 3701 Voltaire St. For more information, call (619) 531-1539.

**WEDNESDAY, Jan. 15**

• Regular meeting of the Naval Base Point Loma’s Restoration Advisory Board to discuss relevant issues. The meeting takes place at the Southwestern Yacht Club, 2702 Qualtrough St. and is open to the public. For more information, call (619) 556-0193.

• Voices for Children (VFC) and Point Loma-based Makua and the Friends of Voices for Children will present VFC’s speakers panel from 6 to 7:30 p.m. involving current and former foster youth. The presentation takes place at the Point Loma/Hervey Branch Library, located at 3701 Voltaire St. Children, ages 16 to 22, will share their experiences in foster care, as well as how court-appointed special advocates (CASAs) have made a positive impact on their lives. The event is free but RSVPs are requested at voices4children.ejoinme.org/?tabid=-508179. For more information, visit www.speakupnow.org/real-word.

**WEDNESDAY, Feb. 12**

The Point Loma/Hervey Branch Library will host a free presentation by speaker Sam Halpern, who will discuss “A Far Piece to Canaan,” in which he recalls his childhood memories of growing up in Georgetown, Ky. in a family of sharecroppers to tell the story of his central figure, Samuel Zelinsky. The presentation takes place at the library, located at 3701 Voltaire St., at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call (619) 531-1539.

**WEDNESDAY, March 26**

The Point Loma/Hervey Branch Library will host a free presentation by Road Scholar Ambassador Jull Swaim, who will discuss the world’s leading non-profit educational travel organization. Road Scholar is the name for programs created by Elderhostel, Inc. The presentation takes place at the library, located at 3701 Voltaire St., at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call (619) 531-1539.

**WHAT’S AHEAD?**

Peninsula-area events, Jan. 8-March 26

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**IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD**

Natalie Gibbins, certified personal trainer and owner of The Private Gym in Ocean Beach, is seeking 10 individuals to participate in an upcoming weight-loss study.

The goal of the study is to verify the effectiveness of the Momenta program, a UK-based program which is being jointly piloted in the U.S. in conjunction with The American Council On Exercise, designed to help participants lose a clinically significant amount of weight, said Gibbins. The study consists of 12 weekly, one-hour meetings delivered in a warm, supportive, small group setting.

The causes of obesity, now considered a disease by the American Medical Association, are many and varied. But in the vast majority of cases, the Momenta program can be an extremely effective and appropriate intervention for otherwise healthy overweight or obese individuals before more aggressive and risky options like pharmaceutical or surgical interventions are considered, Gibbins said.

The program uses fun, educational and stimulating activities to help participants discover the true dynamics of their nutrition and physical activity choices. Participants discover unconscious habits and automatic behaviors, which may be the root cause of their weight management challenge.

A unique and individual action plan is developed and implemented over the course of the 12 weeks, which is designed to lead to life-long weight management success with all of its attendant benefits. No exercise is involved during the sessions, but participants are encouraged to incorporate enjoyable physical activities outside of the sessions.

To be eligible for consideration, participants must:

• have a body mass index of 25-40;
• be 18 years of age or older;
• be healthy;
• commit to attending all 12 consecutive sessions;
• be willing to be weighed (privacy and anonymity strictly enforced);
• and be willing to keep a journal (privacy and anonymity strictly enforced).

A free information session about the study will be held at The Private Gym, located at 4895 Voltaire St. The program is scheduled to begin in January.

For more information, call Gibbins at (619) 223-6666.