City douses plans to remove fire pits

An anonymous donor has stepped forward to help save the city’s beach fire pits, saving the San Diego tradition of sitting around a warm fire in the sand, but also leaving questions about how to pay for other city services on the chopping block.

City crews started removing the concrete fire pits Wednesday, Dec. 10, before an anonymous donor pledged about $259,500 through the San Diego Foundation to pay for the maintenance of about 186 rings through the next year.

Despite the stormy weather, Mayor Jerry Sanders made the announcement about the donation at the lifeguard station at the foot of Grand Avenue in Pacific Beach on Monday, Dec. 15.

If economic conditions improve, the funding could return, he said. The city has about a year to match the donation to keep the pilots operating past 18 months, he said. The donation saves two city staff positions selected for elimination in the face of a $43 million budget gap the city is working to close.

“It’s still our city employees out there cleaning the [fire pits]. What this does is provide a funding source for that,” Sanders said.

The two-man job requires the use of a front-loader and a dump truck and takes an average of 30 minutes per pit, according to a city

Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, the city’s estimated 186 fire pits have been spared for at least another 18 months. The fire pits in several communities had been slated for removal, including those in Ocean Beach, above.

Military personnel from Naval Base Point Loma (NBPL) work to set up a winter shelter for homeless veterans at a storage lot on NBPL’s Old Town compound recently in a cooperative effort with Veterans Village of San Diego.

---

Navy ramps up winter shelter for veterans

Sailors from Naval Base Point Loma (NBPL) recently assisted Veterans Village of San Diego (VVSD) in erecting its annual winter shelter for homeless veterans.

More than 60 sailors from NBPL, members of NBPL’s Public Works Department and chief petty officers from the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR) volunteered to set up the homeless shelter located on a storage lot of NBPL’s Old Town compound.

The annual event consists of the assembly of materials used to operate a 150-person, all-male shelter facility including bunks, bedding, tables and support equipment.

“It is heartwarming to see so many sailors come together and enthusiastically assist in this noteworthy effort that provides such vital care to our veterans who find themselves on hard times,” said Capt. Paul Marroni, commanding officer of NBPL.

The Navy’s five-year partnership with VVSD and the city to provide the lot for the seasonal shelter enables VVSD to focus on raising contributions to operate the shelter and not search each year for a site to place the shelter.

The winter veterans shelter is not just a place for homeless veterans to sleep and eat but a place to acquire the necessary tools in order to change their lives. Careful attention is paid to each participant to determine their specific needs and homelessness-related issues, according to Navy officials.

Navy officials said once these needs are identified, participants are assigned a specific staff coordinator for their particular case management.

Many of the program’s successful past participants were on hand to assist this year in the operation of the shelter.

The shelter is committed to offering every veteran, regardless of service, an opportunity to become self-sufficient as well as drug and alcohol free. According to the San Diego Regional Task Force on the Homeless, San Diego has an estimated 2,000 homeless veterans.

— From staff and special contribution

---

A story of tidal contrast for local beaches

Monday’s record-breaking storm that dumped an average of an inch of rain — double that in some areas of San Diego — was preceded by extremes in tidal activity in Point Loma and Ocean Beach.

Above, photographer Paul Hansen captured an exceptionally low tide around the Ocean Beach Pier on Thursday, while photographer Jim Grant snapped this shot of the other extreme washing over a sea wall during the weekend.

A second storm drenched the area again Wednesday, flooding streets and snarling traffic.

Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, the city’s estimated 186 fire pits have been spared for at least another 18 months. The fire pits in several communities had been slated for removal, including those in Ocean Beach, above.

---

---
Dual tragedies for PLHS students spur reaction

By SEBASTIAN RUIZ | THE BEACON

The tragic death of three high school students in recent weeks — two of whom were from Point Loma High School (PLHS) — has community members grieving and railing to cope with youth violence and loss.

A car accident on Nov. 29 killed PLHS freshman Prisma Mejia, 15. About a week later, students were again rocked by news of the fatal shooting of 15-year-old freshman basketball player Michael Taylor, school officials said.

Laurie Hurl, a PLHS counselor, said many students knew both victims. School staff and victims' advocacy groups have been consoling students and family since then.

In an event not officially endorsed by the San Diego Unified School District, community members and students from several high schools plan to walk against school violence starting at克莱mentcommunities and ending at City Hall, according to Alexa Da Rosa, Point Loma High School's ASB president.

The walk highlights a grim reality facing PLHS students.

“These kids at our school have had two great tragedies in a row,” Hurl said. “It's been tough.”

The car accident that killed Prisma left her brother Raymond, also a freshman basketball player, and two other PLHS students hospitalized with serious injuries, Hurl said.

Students from High Tech High and San Diego High were also injured in the accident, she said.

To remember Michael, PLHS also established the Michael Taylor Basketball Scholarship. Each June the school now awards a scholarship to a varsity basketball student athlete.

Hurl said. The school also resumed the December 2009 Junior Varsity Dog Pound Tournament as the Michael Taylor Junior Varsity Dog Pound Tournament in his honor. Michael was the victim of a gang-related shooting, police said.

Michael and 17-year-old Lincoln High School student Monique Palmer were shot and killed while walking away from a party after midnight on Saturday, Dec. 6, in a community near the 200 block of San Jacinto Drive, police said.

Police arrested Derelle Oliver, 19, Monday night in connection with the murders. A second man, James Tyler, also 19, was arrested after turning himself in to police Dec. 9.

Tyler has not been charged with the crime, said San Diego Police Department Capt. Jim Collins.

Rockin’ around the clock

Loma Portal Elementary School students had an opportunity to take a step back in history with a 1950s-style sock hop on Dec. 5 in the school auditorium. The event featured the Dana Middle School jazz band, swing dance lessons, ice cream floats, Hula Hoop contest and other activities for the family. Above, from left, 4th-graders Justice Himebaugh, Adrian Torres and Hailie Silva get into the mood of the sock hop.

Right, 2nd-graders Katharine Olcott and Benjamin Blevin show students how it’s done. Below, 2nd-graders Alyssa Miranda and Alyssa Silva demonstrate the meaning of cool.
Killer given death penalty in 2004 slaying of OB liquor store clerk

The convicted killer who shot to death an Ocean Beach liquor store clerk and a University City mortgage broker was ordered Monday to Death Row by a judge who followed the jury’s recommendation of the death penalty.

San Diego Superior Court Judge Michael Wellington signed a death order for Tecumseh Colbert, 25, during a sentencing for the 2004 slayings of Richard Hammes, 45, and Robert McAmey, 32. Wellington reminded the court that death penalty cases are given an automatic appeal before the California Supreme Court.

“It is the judgment and sentence of this court that Tecumseh Colbert shall be put to death,” Wellington said during his ruling.

Hammes was a homeless man who was filling in as a clerk at the Prime Market Liquor store at 4163 Voltaire St. when he was confronted by Colbert, who was wearing a Halloween mask, on Nov. 10, 2004. Hammes didn’t give Colbert any money and instead walked toward Colbert before being shot in the chest. The store’s security camera recorded the sound of the shot but not the actual shooting itself. Colbert walked backward out of the store after shooting Hammes and fled. Colbert is from the North Bay Terrace area.

McAmey, of University City, was shot to death on Oct. 29, 2004. His brother, LaBron McCamey, traveled from Alabama to attend the sentencing.

“I ask the court that whatever is done with this young man here that he never gets the opportunity to do this to anyone else,” said LaBron tearfully.

“Mr. Colbert, find God in your life... because as of right now, that’s all you got left,” LaBron told Colbert in court.

Colbert blamed the “broken” juvenile justice system for helping him become a criminal.

“I was just stuck in a world of my own and I was mentally dead,” said Colbert, who was dressed in a green jail uniform.

The judge fined Colbert $10,000 and ordered him to pay $7,483 in restitution to the McAmey family. A jury in 2007 convicted Colbert of two counts of first-degree murder and conspiracy and found special circumstances that Colbert committed multiple murders during robberies. That same jury deadlocked over his penalty but a second jury recommended on July 7 that Colbert be executed.

A co-defendant, Theron Lee Peters, now 42, of Point Loma, pleaded guilty to both murders, carjacking and robbery in April 2007 and drew two life sentences without the possibility of parole.

There are more than 600 men on Death Row at San Quentin State Prison. It takes about 17 years for a death sentence to be carried out because of the appeals process in both state and federal courts.

There have only been about 12 executions since 1992. Current executions have been halted by the state Supreme Court over questions about whether lethal injections are cruel or painful.
The Mission Bay Park Committee (MBPC) gave the San Diego Humane Society the green light for its annual Walk for Animals at Crown Point Shores, but told Stay Classy to come back with more specifics on their proposed event to help homeless youth. At its Dec. 2 meeting, the MBPC also discussed the status of the Fiesta Island redevelopment project and voted to rename South Shores in honor of longtime park advocate Rose Marie Starns.

"Rose Marie was like a glacer. You couldn’t stop her," said Bill Evans, speaking on behalf of the Mission Bay Park Lessees Association. "No one you know who’s alive today will have as much impact on Mission Bay Park." In 1966, he said, the community had no sense of ownership over the vast island based on the Mission Bay Park Master Plan, an outline for park development that City Council and the California Coastal Commission approved in 1994. That plan does not designate areas for dogs, but public workshops in 2006 and 2007 revealed that dog owners are one of the area’s largest and most vocal user groups.

MBPC makes recommendations to City Council and the California Coastal Commission. "No one you know who’s alive today will have as much impact on Mission Bay Park." In 1966, he said, the community had no sense of ownership over the vast island based on the Mission Bay Park Master Plan, an outline for park development that City Council and the California Coastal Commission approved in 1994. That plan does not designate areas for dogs, but public workshops in 2006 and 2007 revealed that dog owners are one of the area’s largest and most vocal user groups.

MBPC made several recommendations to City Council and the California Coastal Commission. "No one you know who’s alive today will have as much impact on Mission Bay Park." In 1966, he said, the community had no sense of ownership over the vast island based on the Mission Bay Park Master Plan, an outline for park development that City Council and the California Coastal Commission approved in 1994. That plan does not designate areas for dogs, but public workshops in 2006 and 2007 revealed that dog owners are one of the area’s largest and most vocal user groups.

MBPC made several recommendations to City Council and the California Coastal Commission. "No one you know who’s alive today will have as much impact on Mission Bay Park." In 1966, he said, the community had no sense of ownership over the vast island based on the Mission Bay Park Master Plan, an outline for park development that City Council and the California Coastal Commission approved in 1994. That plan does not designate areas for dogs, but public workshops in 2006 and 2007 revealed that dog owners are one of the area’s largest and most vocal user groups.

MBPC made several recommendations to City Council and the California Coastal Commission. "No one you know who’s alive today will have as much impact on Mission Bay Park." In 1966, he said, the community had no sense of ownership over the vast island based on the Mission Bay Park Master Plan, an outline for park development that City Council and the California Coastal Commission approved in 1994. That plan does not designate areas for dogs, but public workshops in 2006 and 2007 revealed that dog owners are one of the area’s largest and most vocal user groups.

MBPC made several recommendations to City Council and the California Coastal Commission. "No one you know who’s alive today will have as much impact on Mission Bay Park." In 1966, he said, the community had no sense of ownership over the vast island based on the Mission Bay Park Master Plan, an outline for park development that City Council and the California Coastal Commission approved in 1994. That plan does not designate areas for dogs, but public workshops in 2006 and 2007 revealed that dog owners are one of the area’s largest and most vocal user groups.

MBPC made several recommendations to City Council and the California Coastal Commission. "No one you know who’s alive today will have as much impact on Mission Bay Park." In 1966, he said, the community had no sense of ownership over the vast island based on the Mission Bay Park Master Plan, an outline for park development that City Council and the California Coastal Commission approved in 1994. That plan does not designate areas for dogs, but public workshops in 2006 and 2007 revealed that dog owners are one of the area’s largest and most vocal user groups.

MBPC made several recommendations to City Council and the California Coastal Commission. "No one you know who’s alive today will have as much impact on Mission Bay Park." In 1966, he said, the community had no sense of ownership over the vast island based on the Mission Bay Park Master Plan, an outline for park development that City Council and the California Coastal Commission approved in 1994. That plan does not designate areas for dogs, but public workshops in 2006 and 2007 revealed that dog owners are one of the area’s largest and most vocal user groups.

MBPC made several recommendations to City Council and the California Coastal Commission. "No one you know who’s alive today will have as much impact on Mission Bay Park." In 1966, he said, the community had no sense of ownership over the vast island based on the Mission Bay Park Master Plan, an outline for park development that City Council and the California Coastal Commission approved in 1994. That plan does not designate areas for dogs, but public workshops in 2006 and 2007 revealed that dog owners are one of the area’s largest and most vocal user groups.

MBPC made several recommendations to City Council and the California Coastal Commission. "No one you know who’s alive today will have as much impact on Mission Bay Park." In 1966, he said, the community had no sense of ownership over the vast island based on the Mission Bay Park Master Plan, an outline for park development that City Council and the California Coastal Commission approved in 1994. That plan does not designate areas for dogs, but public workshops in 2006 and 2007 revealed that dog owners are one of the area’s largest and most vocal user groups.

MBPC made several recommendations to City Council and the California Coastal Commission. "No one you know who’s alive today will have as much impact on Mission Bay Park." In 1966, he said, the community had no sense of ownership over the vast island based on the Mission Bay Park Master Plan, an outline for park development that City Council and the California Coastal Commission approved in 1994. That plan does not designate areas for dogs, but public workshops in 2006 and 2007 revealed that dog owners are one of the area’s largest and most vocal user groups.

MBPC made several recommendations to City Council and the California Coastal Commission. "No one you know who’s alive today will have as much impact on Mission Bay Park." In 1966, he said, the community had no sense of ownership over the vast island based on the Mission Bay Park Master Plan, an outline for park development that City Council and the California Coastal Commission approved in 1994. That plan does not designate areas for dogs, but public workshops in 2006 and 2007 revealed that dog owners are one of the area’s largest and most vocal user groups.

MBPC made several recommendations to City Council and the California Coastal Commission. "No one you know who’s alive today will have as much impact on Mission Bay Park." In 1966, he said, the community had no sense of ownership over the vast island based on the Mission Bay Park Master Plan, an outline for park development that City Council and the California Coastal Commission approved in 1994. That plan does not designate areas for dogs, but public workshops in 2006 and 2007 revealed that dog owners are one of the area’s largest and most vocal user groups.

MBPC made several recommendations to City Council and the California Coastal Commission. "No one you know who’s alive today will have as much impact on Mission Bay Park." In 1966, he said, the community had no sense of ownership over the vast island based on the Mission Bay Park Master Plan, an outline for park development that City Council and the California Coastal Commission approved in 1994. That plan does not designate areas for dogs, but public workshops in 2006 and 2007 revealed that dog owners are one of the area’s largest and most vocal user groups.

MBPC made several recommendations to City Council and the California Coastal Commission. "No one you know who’s alive today will have as much impact on Mission Bay Park." In 1966, he said, the community had no sense of ownership over the vast island based on the Mission Bay Park Master Plan, an outline for park development that City Council and the California Coastal Commission approved in 1994. That plan does not designate areas for dogs, but public workshops in 2006 and 2007 revealed that dog owners are one of the area’s largest and most vocal user groups.

MBPC made several recommendations to City Council and the California Coastal Commission. "No one you know who’s alive today will have as much impact on Mission Bay Park." In 1966, he said, the community had no sense of ownership over the vast island based on the Mission Bay Park Master Plan, an outline for park development that City Council and the California Coastal Commission approved in 1994. That plan does not designate areas for dogs, but public workshops in 2006 and 2007 revealed that dog owners are one of the area’s largest and most vocal user groups.
Apollo 8 crew: NASA, you have a problem

Retired Navy Capt. James "Jim" Lovell, the central figure in one of the nation's most harrowing space-program dramas to date, has a word of counsel to count on to 10. He hits 5 without missing a beat and thenitas the call of duty intervenes. A sound tech's voice-check request is thus satis-fied, just not quite in the way he expected.

"5-4-3-2-1. I'm an old astro-naut," Lovell deadpanned.

What can he say, y'know? Come to think of it, Lovell, 80, doesn't have to say anything ever again, at least certainly not in his own defense. He's an American hero dozens of times over, with a list of accomplishments that stretch across the galaxy back and back. As chief of the fateful Apollo 13 mission in 1972, he and crewmembers Jack Swigert and Fred Haise drifted between here and eternity, frantically trading their crippled command module for a clunky lunar vessel never designed as a rescue craft. His plaintive "Houston, we have a problem" signaled a four-day, seat-of-the-pants trek home and an avalanche of fervent prayer from a speechless Earth.

In fact, if it weren't for the crew's heroism, last Dec. 11 might have marked the end of the Apollo program with its 18th mission in July of 1975, when NASA was a child of 17, and featured a docking with a craft carrying two Soviet cosmonauts. Budget constraints would spawn various reshufflings and flight cancellations along the way. And while NASA has triumphed in many respects since then and has spawned lots of creative and controversial space programs, the Apollo program would set the stage for, "Pete" Conrad Jr. became the first man to hit a golf ball and dance on the moon. The Apollo program would end with its 18th mission in July of 1975, when NASA was a child of 17, and featured a docking with a craft carrying two Soviet cosmonauts.

Budget constraints would spawn various reshufflings and flight cancellations along the way. And while NASA has triumphed in many respects since then and has spawned lots of creative and controversial space programs, the Apollo program would set the stage for, "Pete" Conrad Jr. became the first man to hit a golf ball and dance on the moon. The Apollo program would end with its 18th mission in July of 1975, when NASA was a child of 17, and featured a docking with a craft carrying two Soviet cosmonauts.

Budget constraints would spawn various reshufflings and flight cancellations along the way. And while NASA has triumphed in many respects since then and has spawned lots of creative and controversial space programs, the Apollo program would set the stage for, "Pete" Conrad Jr. became the first man to hit a golf ball and dance on the moon. The Apollo program would end with its 18th mission in July of 1975, when NASA was a child of 17, and featured a docking with a craft carrying two Soviet cosmonauts. Budget constraints would spawn various reshufflings and flight cancellations along the way. And while NASA has triumphed in many respects since then and has spawned lots of creative and controversial space programs, the Apollo program would set the stage for

The decades have sealed the Apollo astronauts Frank Borman, William Anders and James Lovell became in 1968 the first men to orbit the moon and to observe an earthrise. The crew's heroism, last Dec. 11 may have named them its "Men of the Year" but the more lasting impact, or things about whose earthrise picture has, "One of my lines," the Grossmont High School grad quipped, "is [President] Clinton only went to Canada. We went all the way to the moon." Truth is, Bill was going to school in Great Britain at the time and opted for student deferments. He'd return to the U.S. in 1970, not long after Apollo 12's Charles "Pete" Conrad Jr. became the first man to hit a golf ball and dance on the moon. The Apollo program would end with its 18th mission in July of 1975, when NASA was a child of 17, and featured a docking with a craft carrying two Soviet cosmonauts. Budget constraints would spawn various reshufflings and flight cancellations along the way. And while NASA has triumphed in many respects since then and has spawned lots of creative and controversial space programs, the Apollo program would set the stage for

"One of my lines," the Grossmont High School grad quipped, "is [President] Clinton only went to Canada. We went all the way to the moon." Truth is, Bill was going to school in Great Britain at the time and opted for student deferments. He'd return to the U.S. in 1970, not long after Apollo 12's Charles "Pete" Conrad Jr. became the first man to hit a golf ball and dance on the moon. The Apollo program would end with its 18th mission in July of 1975, when NASA was a child of 17, and featured a docking with a craft carrying two Soviet cosmonauts. Budget constraints would spawn various reshufflings and flight cancellations along the way. And while NASA has triumphed in many respects since then and has spawned lots of creative and controversial space programs, the Apollo program would set the stage for

"One of my lines," the Grossmont High School grad quipped, "is [President] Clinton only went to Canada. We went all the way to the moon." Truth is, Bill was going to school in Great Britain at the time and opted for student deferments. He'd return to the U.S. in 1970, not long after Apollo 12's Charles "Pete" Conrad Jr. became the first man to hit a golf ball and dance on the moon. The Apollo program would end with its 18th mission in July of 1975, when NASA was a child of 17, and featured a docking with a craft carrying two Soviet cosmonauts. Budget constraints would spawn various reshufflings and flight cancellations along the way. And while NASA has triumphed in many respects since then and has spawned lots of creative and controversial space programs, the Apollo program would set the stage for

"One of my lines," the Grossmont High School grad quipped, "is [President] Clinton only went to Canada. We went all the way to the moon." Truth is, Bill was going to school in Great Britain at the time and opted for student deferments. He'd return to the U.S. in 1970, not long after Apollo 12's Charles "Pete" Conrad Jr. became the first man to hit a golf ball and dance on the moon. The Apollo program would end with its 18th mission in July of 1975, when NASA was a child of 17, and featured a docking with a craft carrying two Soviet cosmonauts. Budget constraints would spawn various reshufflings and flight cancellations along the way. And while NASA has triumphed in many respects since then and has spawned lots of creative and controversial space programs, the Apollo program would set the stage for

"One of my lines," the Grossmont High School grad quipped, "is [President] Clinton only went to Canada. We went all the way to the moon." Truth is, Bill was going to school in Great Britain at the time and opted for student deferments. He'd return to the U.S. in 1970, not long after Apollo 12's Charles "Pete" Conrad Jr. became the first man to hit a golf ball and dance on the moon. The Apollo program would end with its 18th mission in July of 1975, when NASA was a child of 17, and featured a docking with a craft carrying two Soviet cosmonauts. Budget constraints would spawn various reshufflings and flight cancellations along the way. And while NASA has triumphed in many respects since then and has spawned lots of creative and controversial space programs, the Apollo program would set the stage for
Destination Lindbergh is designed to answer the question “What is the ultimate buildout for Lindbergh?” while also minimizing traffic impacts to adjacent communities, improving intermodal access and considering the airport as a potential regional transportation hub. At 66.1 acres, San Diego International Airport is one of the smallest, busiest commercial airports in the country. The constraint of land space demands thinking outside the box and creatively identifying workable solutions to meet the needs of the passionately devoted.

We are working with our sister agencies on a daily basis, including the city of San Diego and the San Diego Association of Governments ( SANDAG), representatives of the city of the county of San Diego, Metropolitan Transit System, North County Transit District and the U.S. Department of Defense.

Destination Lindbergh is a series of related planning efforts that will result in a long-term plan for the airport that will analyze and consider economic and environmental sustainability, maximize operational efficiency and integrate multiple modes of transportation. Initial results from this study are expected in February 2009.

For more information go to www.sandplan.com and click on Destination Lindbergh.

By THELIA F. BOWENS
President/CEO of the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority

Destination Lindbergh: The Ultimate Buildout

and concerns will then be forwarded to and addressed by the Airport Authority in an effort to stimulate one-on-one conversations with the community.

The following are the top 10 hazards identified by trauma experts:

- Potpourri pets and pods (Children are attracted to the fragrant scent and can try to eat the ingredients. Potpourri choking hazard.)

- Candles (Many times lit candles are placed on decorative runners during the holidays. Children can pull the runner and be burned by hot wax or, worse, start a fire.)

- Alcohol (Even though it tastes good, children will drink it. Can cause poisoning.)

- Cleaning supplies (Kids can get under the sink in a guest’s home and find toxic cleaners that look like apple juice and sports drinks.)

- Vitamins and medications (Children vitamins are often colorful and taste like candy. Too much of a good thing can be dangerous.)

- Purses and handbags (Visitors, like grandma, can leave their purse open to curious kids who might find her medicine heart health.

- Tiny traps (Despite warnings and advisories, some toy makers still manufacture toys with parts that can cause a child to choke.)

- Tree ornaments (The shiny objects attract attention from little ones. The ornaments can break and cut a child, or a child can choke on them.)

- Small batteries (Another choking hazard. Batteries for games, like watches, are often present under the tree.)

- Stuffed animal parts (Many times the plastic eyes or nose of a stuffed animal can pop off, posing a choking hazard.)

A toilet paper roll can be your best asset to prevent a child from choking if the item is through the hole, the sting is enough to choke a child.

Provided as a public service announcement by Rady Children’s Hospital-San Diego.

The Grinch who almost stole the city’s fire pits

Whose bright idea was it to remove all the fire pits in San Diego? Why? What is the problem that is so big that they have to resort to this? Was it a drinking problem? No. There were already curfews in place even before the new prohibition. Is it a pollution issue? No, although a large scale clean up that should have been done. No, it is “save money.” For what, pray tell?

Given that nothing has changed, why all of a sudden does the city need to “save money?” What’s next? Why not pull all the trash cans? Certainly people can take out what they brought in. That makes sense. How about we quit mowing and watering the lawn? We can play on dirt and weeds just as well as grass. Another small sacrifice so the city can save even more money. That should save lots of money. Hey, let’s quizzing the beach sand. And who needs lifeguards with all their expensive toys? If you can’t handle the water, stay out of it. What a rational concept. Why not have the firemen maintain the fire pits during their majority of down time? I can think of lots of absurd and unreasonable ways to save money. How about a pay-per-flame plan? Have little lock-boxes that you squish dollar bills into slots like the parking lots, or at campground. Why not the city has saved all the money by eliminating fire rings, ending yet another form of family fun like some kind of tea-tasting grinch, what is their plan for it? A tax reprieve? Highly doubtful. America’s Finest City. No fun allowed.

— Footnote from letterwriter: Just a couple of days after this was written, an anonymous donor supplied enough funds to support the fire pits for 18 months. Fantastical? I wonder what happens after that? Furthermore, why can’t the city afford the measly $12,650 a year to keep them? Fire a city councilman or two and use their salary to cover it. Preferably in particular the Grinch, whose best thinking or two and use their salary to cover it. Preferably in particular the Grinch, whose best thinking or two and use their salary to cover it. Preferably in particular the Grinch, whose best thinking or two and use their salary to cover it.

Ben Harness San Diego

Rady identifies top 10 holiday hazards for kids

The city need to “save money”? What’s next? Why not pull all the trash cans? Certainly people can take out what they brought in. That makes sense. How about we quit mowing and watering the lawn? We can play on dirt and weeds just as well as grass. Another small sacrifice so the city can save even more money. That should save lots of money. Hey, let’s quizzing the beach sand. And who needs lifeguards with all their expensive toys? If you can’t handle the water, stay out of it. What a rational concept. Why not have the firemen maintain the fire pits during their majority of down time? I can think of lots of absurd and unreasonable ways to save money. How about a pay-per-flame plan? Have little lock-boxes that you squish dollar bills into slots like the parking lots, or at campgrounds. Why not the city has saved all the money by eliminating fire rings, ending yet another form of family fun like some kind of tea-tasting grinch, what is their plan for it? A tax reprieve? Highly doubtful. America’s Finest City. No fun allowed.

— Footnote from letterwriter: Just a couple of days after this was written, an anonymous donor supplied enough funds to support the fire pits for 18 months. Fantastical? I wonder what happens after that? Furthermore, why can’t the city afford the measly $12,650 a year to keep them? Fire a city councilman or two and use their salary to cover it. Preferably in particular the Grinch, whose best thinking or two and use their salary to cover it. Preferably in particular the Grinch, whose best thinking or two and use their salary to cover it. Preferably in particular the Grinch, whose best thinking or two and use their salary to cover it.
statement. Each pit weighs nearly a ton and needs to be lifted before the ash and debris is scooped, cleaned and taken to Fiesta Island.

Park and Recreation Director Stacy LaMedico said the city has already started replacing the fire pits that were hauled away last week.

The private donation raises the question of using private funds to pay for publicly owned city services, as libraries and park maintenance, but whether it leads to more private dollars used for public services hasn’t been determined yet, Councilman Kevin Faulconer said.

“This is something we need to pursue from a city services (perspective), to explore avenues and possibilities,” Faulconer said. “Libraries are always one of the most used facilities.”

Faulconer said he’s willing to look to private donations as a way to augment budgets needed to keep libraries and recreation centers close their doors in November. City council moved to keep the libraries, recreation centers and fire department services fully operating. This leaves the city with an estimated $53 million budget gap to tackle early next year.

Sponsors said private foundation dollars already help support public services, such as police and fire departments, where the money helps pay for costs like the Fire and Rescue Department helicopter, he said.

Jim Heaton, a La Jolla Shores Association board member, had concerns that removing the fire pits along the north end of La Jolla Shores would result in illegal dumping of coals on the sand.

Although he said members of the La Jolla Shores Association had been working to develop a program to replace the fire pits, the identity of the anonymous benefactor remains a mystery. The city had as many as 450 fire pits in the early 1990s, but has reduced the number over the years because of complaints, city officials said.

By 2004, the city had eliminated about 66 percent of the concrete fire pits, leaving about 150 at city beaches and Mission Bay Park.

Since the city has replaced some pits, leaving about 186 to maintain.

According to records, the city maintains nine fire pits in Ocean Beach alone.
Kennedy (Space) Center today anyway," Borman said, "because of the environmental impact. [The contractors] went down to Florida and cleaned it out and I'm sure killed alligators, and they got it done. Now, you can't even build over here in Ramona without putting radio collars on rats! It's nuts!"

Today's NASA, Anders said, faces the biggest impediment of all -- a diminished level of public endorsement.

"Forty years ago," he explained, "the farmer in Iowa was willing to put his tax money into heaving those dirty Commies. He didn't really care that much about the money and the science. Now, even if the tax expenditure were adjusted for inflation, we couldn't go to the moon again because of the congressional view on the budget and the lack of public support."

But in 2004, the Bush administra- tion hawked the idea of a return to the moon, with George himself advocating a lunar land- ing by 2015.

"In my view," Anders said, "President Bush doesn't really know what he's talking about. Somebody's got him to use the moon as a steppingstone to go on to Mars, if that's even possible. And he's not funding it, so to me, it's a hollow promise. And he's not allowing the budget and the lack of competitive world."

Sobering talk from the agency that put men on the moon, under- mined Venus' persistent cloud cover, put two cantankerous little rovers on Mars and in effect charted man's path to interstellar travel. But Jim Lovell, Frank Bor- man and Bill Anders are part of history in spite of it all. The world stopped in its tracks amid their Christmas eve readings from The Book of Genesis during lunar orbit; it covets the breathtaking unsteady. You'll notice mine cap- tures a lot more light and color."

"That picture I took," Borman trumpeted, "is one of the most famous in memory." "Little dark," Anders quietly shot back. "Little unsteady. You’ll notice mine cap- tures a lot more light and color and vastness, the sheer vastness of space. A lot."

And they're off. "Weren't [Nowak] a Navy astro- man?" Borman quipped, prompt- ing Navy man Lovell to pull an imaginary trigger in Borman's direction. "I don't believe in UFOs, and I never saw one in space; that's a buncha crap," he churred, again squelching the rumor that he'd run across one during a Gemini flight in 1965.

"Frank had to go to marriage counseling before [8]." Anders deadpanned. "I call him Frank, but he can call me 'sir'" "Go ahead and call him 'dip- shit,'" Borman snorted, waving dismissively in Anders' direction. "That's what we all do."

"Would you record that, little flap about the pics' places in our consciousness. Bor- man took the first photo, in black and white, with the Earth peeking over the lunar horizon, Anders followed with a color shot of a much more prominent home planet. "That picture I took," Borman trumpeted, "is one of the most famous in memory." "Little dark," Anders quietly shot back. "Little unsteady. You’ll notice mine cap- tures a lot more light and color and vastness, the sheer vastness of space. A lot."

And they're off. "Weren't [Nowak] a Navy astro- man?" Borman quipped, prompt- ing Navy man Lovell to pull an imaginary trigger in Borman's direction. "I don't believe in UFOs, and I never saw one in space; that's a buncha crap," he churred, again squelching the rumour that he’d run across one during a Gemini flight in 1965.

"Frank had to go to marriage counseling before [8]." Anders deadpanned. "I call him Frank, but he can call me 'sir'" "Go ahead and call him 'dip- shit,'" Borman snorted, waving dismissively in Anders' direction. "That's what we all do."

"Would you record that, please?" Lovell chimed in. Anders just smiled. Sort of.
PLHS hoopsters hope to overcome early adversity

By KEITH ANTIGIOVANNI | The Beacon

Despite double tragedies involving two of its players recently, the Point Loma High School (PLHS) Pointers boys basketball team is focused on hope and giving a strong effort in 2008-09.

Team member Michael Taylor was shot to death Dec. 6 on the way home from a party in Valenciapark. Raymundo Mejia was involved in a traffic accident on Nov. 29, leaving him with severe injuries.

“The losses of Michael Taylor and Raymundo Mejia have rocked our team, so we’ll see how we respond this season,” said PLHS head basketball coach Chris Brisco. “Our thoughts and prayers are with them and their families.”

The Pointers are off to a 2-3 start after they participated in the Hilltop Tournament last week. Point Loma won the first two contests 53-49 and 52-40 over Chula Vista High and Helix High, respectively, then dropped the next three games to Hilltop, Crawford and Monte Vista by scores of 45-36, 78-67 and 41-39, respectively.

Coming into this season, Brisco had solid expectations the program would improve on its 5-20 season last year with the additions of three transfers: 6’7” junior forward Jon Gaymond from Bishop’s, 6’2” senior forward Channing Jones from Bishop’s. “This is the deepest team that we’ve had in a while.” Brisco said, “The expectations are high coming into this year. I’m trying to get this team to gel together and get rid of the old way of thinking.”

Point Loma’s basketball squad has not made a CIF Section title game appearance in 10 years. Brisco has been with the basketball program for four previous years as an assistant with the varsity team and the head coach of the junior varsity team and in his first year as varsity head coach after Dave Aros stepped down following last season.

He played basketball for two years at Point Loma Nazarene University (PLNU) before graduating in 1990. He also spent time at the Cabrillo Recreation Center coaching basketball, football and coaching football, basketball and weight training. He graduated with a degree in physical education and has worked in the fitness field for 17 years. He was named PLHS head basketball coach in 2005.

“The expectations are high coming into this year. I’m trying to get this team to gel together and get rid of the old way of thinking.”

The Pointers are off to a 2-3 start after they participated in the Hilltop Tournament last week. Point Loma won the first two contests 53-49 and 52-40 over Chula Vista High and Helix High, respectively, then dropped the next three games to Hilltop, Crawford and Monte Vista by scores of 45-36, 78-67 and 41-39, respectively.

Coming into this season, Brisco had solid expectations the program would improve on its 5-20 season last year with the additions of three transfers: 6’7” junior forward Jon Gaymond from Bishop’s, 6’2” senior forward Channing Jones from Bishop’s. “This is the deepest team that we’ve had in a while.” Brisco said, “The expectations are high coming into this year. I’m trying to get this team to gel together and get rid of the old way of thinking.”

Point Loma’s basketball squad has not made a CIF Section title game appearance in 10 years. Brisco has been with the basketball program for four previous years as an assistant with the varsity team and the head coach of the junior varsity team and in his first year as varsity head coach after Dave Aros stepped down following last season.

He played basketball for two years at Point Loma Nazarene University (PLNU) before graduating in 1990. He also spent time at the Cabrillo Recreation Center coaching basketball, football and coaching football, basketball and weight training. He graduated with a degree in physical education and has worked in the fitness field for 17 years. He was named PLHS head basketball coach in 2005.

“The expectations are high coming into this year. I’m trying to get this team to gel together and get rid of the old way of thinking.”
We are looking forward to the challenge and know it will be a very tough battle for our team.

CHRIS PETERSON
HEAD COACH, BOISE STATE

We are looking forward to the challenge and know it will be a very tough battle for our team.

CHRIS PETERSON
HEAD COACH, BOISE STATE

Don’t look for much defense when the Poinsettia Bowl kicks off on Tuesday, Dec. 23 at 5 p.m. at Qualcomm Stadium. In fact, get ready for what could be a long game.

Two of the nation’s more prolific offenses will take the field when unbeaten Boise State University (12-0) tangles with twice-beaten Texas Christian University (10-2) in the fourth annual San Diego County Credit Union Poinsettia Bowl. The contest will be televised nationally on ESPN.

Best known for the home-blue turf that adorns their field, the Broncos under head coach Chris Petersen finished with a perfect 12-0 regular-season record for the second time in three seasons.

In 2006, Boise State put the exclamation point on an undefeated season with a 43-42 victory over the Oklahoma Sooners in the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl.

“We are very excited about making our first trip to the San Diego County Credit Union Poinsettia Bowl to face a very talented TCU team,” said Petersen. “Gary Patterson (TCU head coach) and his staff have done another outstanding job with their team this year. We believe we are in contention for a league championship this year but it will be tough,” Brisco said.

Point Loma will have almost a month to get ready for league play when they begin as host to Christian on Jan. 6.
Happy Holidays
Rose and Fruit Tree Pruning - Gift Certificates Available

coastalsage.com
3685 Voltaire St. 619 223 5229

Join Us Friday Dec 19th
From 1-7 pm: Salon Open House
Champagne, Appetizers, Complimentary Makeup,
Cuts. Quick styles for your Holiday Parties as well as special deals on Aveda!!!
Let us help you finish your Holiday Shopping...
Paul, Lynne, Cheryle, Debby, Suey, Amanda G, Ameer, Stephanie, Michelle R, Mary, Maria, Amanda, Lisa H, Jen, Michelle M, Kelsi, Nikki, Lisa, Tiffany, April, & Vida thank-you for your business in 2008 !!!

We wish everyone a Happy Holiday season and Happy New Year !!!

San Diego CITYBEAT SALON OF THE YEAR 2005-2008
THE ELECTRIC CHAIR SALON
4944 Newport Ave. #A Ocean Beach • 619-223-1112
electricchairsalon.com • myspace/electricchairsalon.com

Feliz Navidad and Happy Holidays From Nati’s Planning a Party?
Banquet Room Available for your Holiday Luncheons
Take-out Is Available for Small or Large Groups
Dinner by Candlelight or Lunch on our Heated Patio Serving the Peninsula for over 48 years!
Nati’s Mexican Restaurant
1852 Bacon Street • 619-224-3369

Out of the blue and into...THE BLACK
The most unusual novelties in San Diego.
• Pipes • Tobacco • Cigars • Jewelry • Books
• Clothes • Posters • Beads • A Music Center
All major credit cards are accepted.

CALLING OB MUSICIANS: Ocean Beach wants YOU!!!
Ocean Beach Musicians are invited to be part of the premier issue of “WAVES - The Sound of OB Vol.1.”
For consideration you must live in 92107, & submit an original song/composition about Ocean Beach, CA.
For criteria & information visit: OceanBeachSanDiego.com myspace.com/BeachMusicalia

Looking for something special? We have Great Last Minute GIFT IDEAS
SAFFRAN PACKAGING
Pack & Ship
www.saffranpackaging.com

 куду Понедельник
все разберем.
все прозрачно.
не переживай,
тебя не обманут.
он не честен.
но-честен.
он не честен.
но-честен.
он не честен.
но-честен.
A Peaceful Ocean Beach Christmas

Congratulations to all the winners of the 92107 zip code Holiday Home Decoration Contest December 14-16, 2008. Winners are as follows:

Photos Courtesy of Joe Ewing

Most Original Decorations – 1752 Redondo

Judges Choice – Most Over All Creativity
2076 Cable Street – Cristie Burg

Best Use of Lighting – Lots of lights
4720 Del Monte Ave.

Honorable Mention
2136 Froude Street

Always Accurate
Income Tax & Bookkeeping

• Year-round Tax Service • Notary Public
• Bookkeeping & Payroll

Stacey Thayer
(619) 225-9571
4869 SANTA MONICA AVENUE, SUITE C
SAN DIEGO, CA 92107
Next to the Post Office

Ob Farmer’s Market

In observance of the Holidays, the market will be closed December 24th & 31st

Happy Holidays!
Weekly Market will resume January 7th

4900 block Newport Ave. Ocean Beach • (619) 224-4906
www.OceanBeachSanDiego.com

Ob Beach Dog Wash

Do-it-yourself washing, drying & grooming with top quality products
Jingle-bell collars, paw stockings, and holiday bandanas for Hanukkah, Christmas and Kwanzaa
Wide selection of canine floating toys, holiday squeakers, soft cuddly toys, and plenty of ropes and chews
Unique gifts for dog lovers such as games, puzzles, T-shirts & Pet Blinkers

4933 Voltaire Street, Ocean Beach
619-523-1700
www.dogwash.com

HOURS: 7am to 9pm, 7 days a week
Open Christmas: 8 am to 1 pm

Gary Gilmore Goldsmith

Custom Jewelry Design

4857 Newport Ave.
619-225-1137
www.GGGoldsmith.com

We’re Open!

J.O.E.’s Coffee Co.

$1 Off All Lattes & Mochas

Every Day Specials
Joe’s Burger Basket with Fries & Cheese $4.95

3788 Voltaire St., Pt. Loma • 619-501-6194
In Stump’s Pizza
Locally Owned and Operated by Ordinary J.O.E’s, LLC

Open Daily at 7am • COMING SOON • J.O.E’s at Night
OB musicians put heads together for compilation
De BART MENDOZA | THE BEACON

Throughout the ‘70s, San Diego boasted a cool local music compila-
tion series called “Homegrown.” More than a random col-
lection of music, the albums featured songs by regional and flamboy-
ent artists about the area. While the quality of the tracks varied (as did the
genres), the albums created a buzz within the local music com-
munity, and there increased civic pride in general.
The series ended in the early ‘80s, but the idea of having artists put
their love of a community in song will be resurrected in 2009, though
with a tighter focus. Ocean Beach. Tired for a release to coincide with the 30th anniver-
sary of the Ocean Beach Street Fair & Chili Cook-Off Festival on June 27, “Waves: A Compilation Featuring Songs About, For, and Of The People of ‘92107” will cele-
brate the variety and quality of fare by musicians residing within that zip code.
Produced by Chuck Schiele and the Ocean Beach MainStreet Association, the project is taking submissions until midnight Jan.
Although Schiele is known as a large promoter and producer of local music, the initial idea for this project didn’t stem from him.
“We’re always looking for new ways to promote the area, and this was a concept that had been brought up before, but we weren’t in a position to be able to do it,” said Denny Knox, execu-
tive director of the Ocean Beach MainStreet Association. She con-
siders Schiele to be the missing piece of the puzzle. “He really
knows music and the promotion of it. When the idea of a local compilation came up this year, he was the perfect person to run with it.”
Despite the similarity in theme, Schiele notes that the “Home-
grown” albums were not a direct influence.
“I was really motivated by the fact that we are so musical down here,” he said. “‘Homegrown’ his-
tory or not, we’d still do it.”
Ocean Beach has indeed long been considered musician-friend-
ly, and Schiele would like to pro-
mote that fact. “Ocean Beach considers music to be among its
most important cultural resources. Hands down, we have more musicians per capita than any-
where else in town.”
The idea of a compilation to coincide with the Chili Cook-Off’s 30th anniversary proved to be a natural tie-in to Ocean Beach, which features dozens of bands each year. “I just thought it would be cool if our neighborhood had
its own CD,” Schiele said. “That idea solid, so we upped, to event organizers before I finished expressing it. And right there, we decided to start documenting our music culture.”
He takes particular pride in the diversity in the local music. “We have it all down here,” he remarked. “We’re noted for jam bands and reggae, but that’s
it and sharing the fine food and family atmosphere are essential. The party is free and open to one
and all. “It’s my Christmas gift to every-
one for their patronage and the plain sake of Christmas, to put everyone in the holiday spirit,” explained Maria. She added that the party is for all, no matter what holiday they celebrate. She encourages people who haven’t yet visited her café to join the fun.

Maria’s Café to serve up holiday cheer with party
By NICOLE SOURS LARSON | THE BEACON

Wrap up a gift for a numbered
gift exchange and come celebrate the holidays with Maria and John Yakkey and their staff and family.
Maria’s Café is hosting the
Christmas Appreciation Party, on Saturday, Dec. 20 from 6 to 10 p.m., located at Sunroad Resort Marina on east Harbor Island.
The gift exchange is voluntary, but enjoyment of the holiday spir-
alling is great. “It’s my Christmas gift to everyone for their patronage and the plain sake of Christmas, to put everyone in the holiday spirit,” explained Maria. She added that the party is for all, no matter what holiday they celebrate. She encourages people who haven’t yet visited her café to join the fun.

Maria’s Café to serve up holiday cheer with party
By NICOLE SOURS LARSON | THE BEACON

Wrap up a gift for a numbered
gift exchange and come celebrate the holidays with Maria and John Yakkey and their staff and family.
Maria’s Café is hosting the
Christmas Appreciation Party, on Saturday, Dec. 20 from 6 to 10 p.m., located at Sunroad Resort Marina on east Harbor Island.
The gift exchange is voluntary, but enjoyment of the holiday spir-
alling is great. “It’s my Christmas gift to everyone for their patronage and the plain sake of Christmas, to put everyone in the holiday spirit,” explained Maria. She added that the party is for all, no matter what holiday they celebrate. She encourages people who haven’t yet visited her café to join the fun.

Maria’s Café to serve up holiday cheer with party
By NICOLE SOURS LARSON | THE BEACON

Wrap up a gift for a numbered
gift exchange and come celebrate the holidays with Maria and John Yakkey and their staff and family.
Maria’s Café is hosting the
Christmas Appreciation Party, on Saturday, Dec. 20 from 6 to 10 p.m., located at Sunroad Resort Marina on east Harbor Island.
The gift exchange is voluntary, but enjoyment of the holiday spir-
alling is great. “It’s my Christmas gift to everyone for their patronage and the plain sake of Christmas, to put everyone in the holiday spirit,” explained Maria. She added that the party is for all, no matter what holiday they celebrate. She encourages people who haven’t yet visited her café to join the fun.

Maria’s Café to serve up holiday cheer with party
By NICOLE SOURS LARSON | THE BEACON

Wrap up a gift for a numbered
gift exchange and come celebrate the holidays with Maria and John Yakkey and their staff and family.
Maria’s Café is hosting the
Christmas Appreciation Party, on Saturday, Dec. 20 from 6 to 10 p.m., located at Sunroad Resort Marina on east Harbor Island.
The gift exchange is voluntary, but enjoyment of the holiday spir-
alling is great. “It’s my Christmas gift to everyone for their patronage and the plain sake of Christmas, to put everyone in the holiday spirit,” explained Maria. She added that the party is for all, no matter what holiday they celebrate. She encourages people who haven’t yet visited her café to join the fun.

Maria’s Café to serve up holiday cheer with party
By NICOLE SOURS LARSON | THE BEACON

Wrap up a gift for a numbered
gift exchange and come celebrate the holidays with Maria and John Yakkey and their staff and family.
Maria’s Café is hosting the
Christmas Appreciation Party, on Saturday, Dec. 20 from 6 to 10 p.m., located at Sunroad Resort Marina on east Harbor Island.
The gift exchange is voluntary, but enjoyment of the holiday spir-
alling is great. “It’s my Christmas gift to everyone for their patronage and the plain sake of Christmas, to put everyone in the holiday spirit,” explained Maria. She added that the party is for all, no matter what holiday they celebrate. She encourages people who haven’t yet visited her café to join the fun.

Maria’s Café to serve up holiday cheer with party
By NICOLE SOURS LARSON | THE BEACON

Wrap up a gift for a numbered
gift exchange and come celebrate the holidays with Maria and John Yakkey and their staff and family.
Maria’s Café is hosting the
Christmas Appreciation Party, on Saturday, Dec. 20 from 6 to 10 p.m., located at Sunroad Resort Marina on east Harbor Island.
The gift exchange is voluntary, but enjoyment of the holiday spir-
alling is great. “It’s my Christmas gift to everyone for their patronage and the plain sake of Christmas, to put everyone in the holiday spirit,” explained Maria. She added that the party is for all, no matter what holiday they celebrate. She encourages people who haven’t yet visited her café to join the fun.

Maria’s Café to serve up holiday cheer with party
By NICOLE SOURS LARSON | THE BEACON

Wrap up a gift for a numbered
gift exchange and come celebrate the holidays with Maria and John Yakkey and their staff and family.
Maria’s Café is hosting the
Christmas Appreciation Party, on Saturday, Dec. 20 from 6 to 10 p.m., located at Sunroad Resort Marina on east Harbor Island.
The gift exchange is voluntary, but enjoyment of the holiday spir-
alling is great. “It’s my Christmas gift to everyone for their patronage and the plain sake of Christmas, to put everyone in the holiday spirit,” explained Maria. She added that the party is for all, no matter what holiday they celebrate. She encourages people who haven’t yet visited her café to join the fun.

Maria’s Café to serve up holiday cheer with party
By NICOLE SOURS LARSON | THE BEACON

Wrap up a gift for a numbered
gift exchange and come celebrate the holidays with Maria and John Yakkey and their staff and family.
Maria’s Café is hosting the
Christmas Appreciation Party, on Saturday, Dec. 20 from 6 to 10 p.m., located at Sunroad Resort Marina on east Harbor Island.
The gift exchange is voluntary, but enjoyment of the holiday spir-
alling is great. “It’s my Christmas gift to everyone for their patronage and the plain sake of Christmas, to put everyone in the holiday spirit,” explained Maria. She added that the party is for all, no matter what holiday they celebrate. She encourages people who haven’t yet visited her café to join the fun.

Maria’s Café to serve up holiday cheer with party
By NICOLE SOURS LARSON | THE BEACON

Wrap up a gift for a numbered
gift exchange and come celebrate the holidays with Maria and John Yakkey and their staff and family.
Maria’s Café is hosting the
Christmas Appreciation Party, on Saturday, Dec. 20 from 6 to 10 p.m., located at Sunroad Resort Marina on east Harbor Island.
The gift exchange is voluntary, but enjoyment of the holiday spir-
alling is great. “It’s my Christmas gift to everyone for their patronage and the plain sake of Christmas, to put everyone in the holiday spirit,” explained Maria. She added that the party is for all, no matter what holiday they celebrate. She encourages people who haven’t yet visited her café to join the fun.
San Diego has been fortunate to have many well-known musical artists live within its borders. While a few have climbed higher in the charts, none has captured the public’s imagination quite in the same way as hard-rockin’ Ratt.

Boyd knows that although San Diego had a wealth of well-known musicians at the time, Ratt stood out.

“Ratt was around before the explosion of Hollywood and the glam, hair, and MTV,” Boyd said. “They had their own sound. They had their own thing. They were real to the music. And no one else had the same hairstyle as their frontman, Stephen Pearcy,” Boyd said.

Ratt is rounded out by singer Chris Jericho, bassist Tom Lyons and guitarist Doug Perrett. While the band strives to get every detail in the music right, the look is more of an approximation.

“I believe that the sound should always come first,” Boyd said.

“However, being a tribute band, the overall look is important as that helps people get into the groove,” said Boyd.

Boyd says that since Ratt opened their doors on Aug. 1, thanks to the hard work, determination, and the construction talents of her family, who volunteered their labor. She hired a staff of students with a passion for cooking and learning the business and taught them techniques, recipes and restaurant survival skills.

Among them is recently promoted sous chef, Prices, who, along with varsity head chef — Maria, a former Barona Casino and restaurant restaurant, Maria spent 40 years in kitchens and restaurants, starting as a kitchen worker.

Among them is recently promoted sous chef, Prices, who, along with varsity head chef — Maria, a former Barona Casino and restaurant restaurant, Maria spent 40 years in kitchens and restaurants, starting as a kitchen worker.

Among them is recently promoted sous chef, Prices, who, along with varsity head chef — Maria, a former Barona Casino and restaurant restaurant, Maria spent 40 years in kitchens and restaurants, starting as a kitchen worker.

Among them is recently promoted sous chef, Prices, who, along with varsity head chef — Maria, a former Barona Casino and restaurant restaurant, Maria spent 40 years in kitchens and restaurants, starting as a kitchen worker.

Among them is recently promoted sous chef, Prices, who, along with varsity head chef — Maria, a former Barona Casino and restaurant restaurant, Maria spent 40 years in kitchens and restaurants, starting as a kitchen worker.

Among them is recently promoted sous chef, Prices, who, along with varsity head chef — Maria, a former Barona Casino and restaurant restaurant, Maria spent 40 years in kitchens and restaurants, starting as a kitchen worker.

Among them is recently promoted sous chef, Prices, who, along with varsity head chef — Maria, a former Barona Casino and restaurant restaurant, Maria spent 40 years in kitchens and restaurants, starting as a kitchen worker.

Among them is recently promoted sous chef, Prices, who, along with varsity head chef — Maria, a former Barona Casino and restaurant restaurant, Maria spent 40 years in kitchens and restaurants, starting as a kitchen worker.

Among them is recently promoted sous chef, Prices, who, along with varsity head chef — Maria, a former Barona Casino and restaurant restaurant, Maria spent 40 years in kitchens and restaurants, starting as a kitchen worker.

Among them is recently promoted sous chef, Prices, who, along with varsity head chef — Maria, a former Barona Casino and restaurant restaurant, Maria spent 40 years in kitchens and restaurants, starting as a kitchen worker.

Among them is recently promoted sous chef, Prices, who, along with varsity head chef — Maria, a former Barona Casino and restaurant restaurant, Maria spent 40 years in kitchens and restaurants, starting as a kitchen worker.

Among them is recently promoted sous chef, Prices, who, along with varsity head chef — Maria, a former Barona Casino and restaurant restaurant, Maria spent 40 years in kitchens and restaurants, starting as a kitchen worker.

Among them is recently promoted sous chef, Prices, who, along with varsity head chef — Maria, a former Barona Casino and restaurant restaurant, Maria spent 40 years in kitchens and restaurants, starting as a kitchen worker.

Among them is recently promoted sous chef, Prices, who, along with varsity head chef — Maria, a former Barona Casino and restaurant restaurant, Maria spent 40 years in kitchens and restaurants, starting as a kitchen worker.

Among them is recently promoted sous chef, Prices, who, along with varsity head chef — Maria, a former Barona Casino and restaurant restaurant, Maria spent 40 years in kitchens and restaurants, starting as a kitchen worker.

Among them is recently promoted sous chef, Prices, who, along with varsity head chef — Maria, a former Barona Casino and restaurant restaurant, Maria spent 40 years in kitchens and restaurants, starting as a kitchen worker.
towards the mid-'80s look they had on their 'Reach for the Sky' album.

Boyd said Ratt's hard-rock lineup has included drug and alcohol problems as well as well-publicized feuds among band members, has cemented their legendary band status for some. However, he also feels this side of the group sometimes overshadows the music.

"For us fans who watched them and read about them, we have a bigger picture to base our judgment on," he said. "But the younger crowd is looking at this band as the new 'celebrity rehab Dr. Phil show.' And that prevents a lot of people or kids from really opening up to another form of music."

RodenTT is flexible enough to vary the set list depending on the crowd at hand, occasionally trading a hits-oriented set for deeper catalog tunes.

"We like to play all of the songs, it is just how much time do we have on stage," Boyd said. "It all depends on our singer. He puts a lot of effort into sounding like Peary on the records. If it is mainly guy, we are not going to play power ballads like 'Closer to my Heart' or 'One Step Away,'" he said.

While the band is only playing tunes in concert originally performed by Ratt, anyone showing up early might catch a bit of '80s New Wave.

"We sometimes jam a rocked-out version of 'Hungry Like the Wolf' from Duran Duran for a sound check," he said.

While many tribute acts take themselves too seriously, for the guys in RodenTT, it's all about having fun and playing some of their favorite songs.

"We all know that we are not Ratt," Boyd said. "We just like to play their music. Every song we play brings me back to my youth."

Looking back on the local scene he experienced as a teenager, Boyd is reflective.

"For the younger crowd, I hope we pique their interest on what the '80s was about."

RodenTT performs on Friday, Dec. 19 at Dream Street, 2228 Bacon St. at 9 p.m. The show is for those 21 and older. For more information, visit www.myspace.com/sdrodentt.
This year’s holiday season will feature a plethora of fun and memorable events. Mark your calendar with some of these activities that are sure to add fun to your holiday season. There should be something for everyone!

Through Dec. 24
- The world’s largest LEGO Christmas tree lights up LEGOLAND California, followed by nightly tree lightings. Call (760) 918-LEGO or visit www.legoland.com.

Through Dec. 27
- Compass Theatre’s “A Tuna Christmas,” the sequel to “Greater Tuna.” Tickets: (619) 688-9210; information www.compasstheatre.com.

Through Dec. 28
- Lamb’s Players Theatre brings back the “Angel’s Arms” installment of its holiday play cycle. Tickets at the LPT box office, (619) 437-0600, or online www.lambsplayers.org.

Through Dec. 28
- Cygnet Theatre Company presents “It’s a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play,” based on the Frank Capra film and adapted for the stage by Joe Landry.

Through Jan. 4
- Del Mar Fairgrounds’ 14th annual Holiday of Lights, a spectacular 1.5-mile light show with more than 400 lighted and animated scenes. Information: www.holidayoflights.com.

Saturday, Dec. 20
- Ocean Beach Craft Fair, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., on the Veteran’s Plaza lawn. From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Santa Claus visits OB at the end of Newport Ave.

Dec. 18-21

Friday, Dec. 19
- Mercy Hospital Foundation presents a special evening with “The Nutcracker” to benefit Scripps Cancer Center. Exclusive VIP reception at the Westgate Hotel followed by the performance at the San Diego Civic Theatre. Tickets: (858) 678-6393.

Monday, Dec. 29
- Big Bay Balloon Parade takes over Harbor Drive at 9 a.m. with more than 20 giant balloons, 16 marching bands and 22 specialty units. Information: www.thebigbay.com/index.html.

Wednesday, Dec. 31
- La Jolla Playhouse hosts a New Year’s Eve event to celebrate the run of its musical comedy “Xanadu.” Performance and dance party from 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Information: www.lajollaplayhouse.org or (858) 550-1010.

Jan. 1

This holiday season, why get a video game when you can give the real thing? Children 7+ can explore piano, guitar, and drums in this unique introductory class. No need to own an instrument, just show up and have fun! Winter session runs Jan 5 – Mar 22.

More music lovers on your list? Sign them up for classes, too!
- Music for Little Mozarts™ (Ages 4+)
- Play Piano in a Flash™ (Adults)

Oceanafront views, fresh ingredients, the friendly appeal of neighborhood hospitality and a fun wine list make this local restaurant the perfect spot for a festive holiday celebration with friends, family and co-workers. Join us in December for special events and seasonal offerings.

Wrap up the Season
Join us for lunch or dinner before December 23rd and we will wrap up to 2 gifts while you dine.

Seasonal Wine Flights
Experience a selection of 4 wines featuring sparkling, red, white and dessert wines. $18. Offered during December.

Christmas Eve
Special a la Carte Holiday Menu, 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Christmas Day
Holiday Buffet, 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. $41 per person (tax, gratuity & beverages not included)
Special a la Carte Holiday Menu, 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.

New Year’s Eve
Four-Course Menu, 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. $75 per person (tax, gratuity & beverages not included)
Today, Dec. 18, 6-7 p.m., student art exhibition.

Wednesday, Dec. 24, 7 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church presents "A Christmas Festival in December" featuring the San Diego School for the Creative & Performing Arts choir. The free event takes place at the chapel, 2801 Roseville Road. For more information, call (619) 479-3902, ext. 0, or visit www.thenorthchapel.com.

From Dec. 22-Jan. 5, Christmas break — no classes.

Classes resume Jan. 5.

Winter concert.

Dent art exhibition.

Lessons" candlelight service at the church, 3598 Talbot St. in the sanctuary, call (619) 222-2240.

For more information, call (619) 222-2240 or visit www.thenorthchapel.com.

Through Dec. 20, varying dates, 8 p.m., Point Loma Actors Workshop presents "Romantic Fools," a comedy examining love, lust, dating and romance. Show dates are Friday, Dec. 19 and Saturday, Dec. 20. Tickets are $10 for general admission, $8 for students and military and reservations are recommended. The show takes place at the Point Loma Assembly, 3015 Falls St.

For more information, call (619) 225-0044 or visit www.pointlomactors.com.

Through Jan. 4, Quilt Visions Gallery at Liberty Station presents “A Christmas Festival in December” featuring John Cochran performing "A Christmas Story" Donations welcomed. The free event takes place at the chapel, 2801 Roseville Road. For more information, call (619) 573-9306, or visit www.thenorthchapel.com.

Saturday, Dec. 20, 1 p.m., the historic North Chapel at Liberty Station presents “A Christmas Festival in December" featuring a Capeoira Brazilian dance performance. Donations welcomed. The event takes place at the chapel, 2801 Roseville Road. For more information, call (619) 573-9306, or visit www.thenorthchapel.com.

Saturday, Dec. 20, 7 p.m., the historic North Chapel at Liberty Station presents "A Christmas Festival in December" featuring the San Diego School for the Creative & Performing Arts choir. The free event takes place at the chapel, 2801 Roseville Road. For more information, call (619) 479-3902, ext. 0, or visit www.thenorthchapel.com.

Through Dec. 20, varying dates, 8 p.m., Point Loma Actors Workshop presents "Romantic Fools," a comedy examining love, lust, dating and romance. Show dates are Friday, Dec. 19 and Saturday, Dec. 20. Tickets are $10 for general admission, $8 for students and military and reservations are recommended. The show takes place at the Point Loma Assembly, 3015 Falls St.

For more information, call (619) 225-0044 or visit www.pointlomactors.com.

Through Jan. 4, Quilt Visions Gallery at Liberty Station presents “A Christmas Festival in December" featuring John Cochran performing "A Christmas Story" Donations welcomed. The free event takes place at the chapel, 2801 Roseville Road. For more information, call (619) 573-9306, or visit www.thenorthchapel.com.

Saturday, Dec. 20, 1 p.m., the historic North Chapel at Liberty Station presents “A Christmas Festival in December" featuring a Capeoira Brazilian dance performance. Donations welcomed. The event takes place at the chapel, 2801 Roseville Road. For more information, call (619) 573-9306, or visit www.thenorthchapel.com.

Saturday, Dec. 20, 7 p.m., the historic North Chapel at Liberty Station presents "A Christmas Festival in December" featuring the San Diego School for the Creative & Performing Arts choir. The free event takes place at the chapel, 2801 Roseville Road. For more information, call (619) 479-3902, ext. 0, or visit www.thenorthchapel.com.

Through Dec. 20, varying dates, 8 p.m., Point Loma Actors Workshop presents "Romantic Fools," a comedy examining love, lust, dating and romance. Show dates are Friday, Dec. 19 and Saturday, Dec. 20. Tickets are $10 for general admission, $8 for students and military and reservations are recommended. The show takes place at the Point Loma Assembly, 3015 Falls St.

For more information, call (619) 225-0044 or visit www.pointlomactors.com.

Through Jan. 4, Quilt Visions Gallery at Liberty Station presents “A Christmas Festival in December" featuring John Cochran performing "A Christmas Story" Donations welcomed. The free event takes place at the chapel, 2801 Roseville Road. For more information, call (619) 573-9306, or visit www.thenorthchapel.com.

Saturday, Dec. 20, 1 p.m., the historic North Chapel at Liberty Station presents “A Christmas Festival in December" featuring a Capeoira Brazilian dance performance. Donations welcomed. The event takes place at the chapel, 2801 Roseville Road. For more information, call (619) 573-9306, or visit www.thenorthchapel.com.

Saturday, Dec. 20, 7 p.m., the historic North Chapel at Liberty Station presents "A Christmas Festival in December" featuring the San Diego School for the Creative & Performing Arts choir. The free event takes place at the chapel, 2801 Roseville Road. For more information, call (619) 479-3902, ext. 0, or visit www.thenorthchapel.com.

Through Dec. 20, varying dates, 8 p.m., Point Loma Actors Workshop presents "Romantic Fools," a comedy examining love, lust, dating and romance. Show dates are Friday, Dec. 19 and Saturday, Dec. 20. Tickets are $10 for general admission, $8 for students and military and reservations are recommended. The show takes place at the Point Loma Assembly, 3015 Falls St.

For more information, call (619) 225-0044 or visit www.pointlomactors.com.

Through Jan. 4, Quilt Visions Gallery at Liberty Station presents “A Christmas Festival in December" featuring John Cochran performing "A Christmas Story" Donations welcomed. The free event takes place at the chapel, 2801 Roseville Road. For more information, call (619) 573-9306, or visit www.thenorthchapel.com.

Saturday, Dec. 20, 1 p.m., the historic North Chapel at Liberty Station presents “A Christmas Festival in December" featuring a Capeoira Brazilian dance performance. Donations welcomed. The event takes place at the chapel, 2801 Roseville Road. For more information, call (619) 573-9306, or visit www.thenorthchapel.com.

Saturday, Dec. 20, 7 p.m., the historic North Chapel at Liberty Station presents "A Christmas Festival in December" featuring the San Diego School for the Creative & Performing Arts choir. The free event takes place at the chapel, 2801 Roseville Road. For more information, call (619) 479-3902, ext. 0, or visit www.thenorthchapel.com.

Through Dec. 20, varying dates, 8 p.m., Point Loma Actors Workshop presents "Romantic Fools," a comedy examining love, lust, dating and romance. Show dates are Friday, Dec. 19 and Saturday, Dec. 20. Tickets are $10 for general admission, $8 for students and military and reservations are recommended. The show takes place at the Point Loma Assembly, 3015 Falls St.

For more information, call (619) 225-0044 or visit www.pointlomactors.com.

Through Jan. 4, Quilt Visions Gallery at Liberty Station presents “A Christmas Festival in December" featuring John Cochran performing "A Christmas Story" Donations welcomed. The free event takes place at the chapel, 2801 Roseville Road. For more information, call (619) 573-9306, or visit www.thenorthchapel.com.

Saturday, Dec. 20, 1 p.m., the historic North Chapel at Liberty Station presents “A Christmas Festival in December" featuring a Capeoira Brazilian dance performance. Donations welcomed. The event takes place at the chapel, 2801 Roseville Road. For more information, call (619) 573-9306, or visit www.thenorthchapel.com.

Saturday, Dec. 20, 7 p.m., the historic North Chapel at Liberty Station presents "A Christmas Festival in December" featuring the San Diego School for the Creative & Performing Arts choir. The free event takes place at the chapel, 2801 Roseville Road.
Pacific paradise
North Pacific Beach home with Grassy Flat (and Ocean Views!)

FANTASTIC LOCATION IN NORTH PB. THE 4/1/2 BED HOME HAS AN OPEN FLOOR PLAN, TASTEFUL DECOR, HARDWOOD FLOORS, TERRACE AND DECKS. 600 SF GRASSY FLAT OVER 2 CAR GARAGE AND PERM, HAS OWN DECK AND OWN VIEWS. 2 ADDITIONAL PARKING SPACES. REDUCED TO: $898,000

Kathy Evans 858.488.7353 or Kathy@lisevans.com

Why Work with Lisa Blankenship?

In this tough market you need an experienced agent that feels strongly and acts for her real estate. Licensed since 1987 with a 10-year mortgage background, Call and interview Lisa today.

619-807-9966

Current Rate
5.1%
5% for 5 years
Guaranteed for
premium amounts
of $100,000 or more

Annually set long-term financial products intended for the accumulation of assets for retirement needs. Subject to a 1-year increasing surrender charge period. Rates shown are subject to change (with notice) and may vary with a 6-month notice. Guarantees are backed by the financial strength and claims paying ability of Allianz Life Insurance Company of North America. Guarantees are issued by Allianz Life Insurance Company of North America. Insurance Lic #OB10727

The Dominator fixed annuity from Allianz Life Insurance Company of North America. The rate changes weekly and varies with market conditions. For more information, and the rate for the current period, please call your independent agent or 1-877-277-0401.

Your Home?

Kathy Evans
858.488.SELL

For a listing, call us today at:
858.270.3103

SOSna
Bernie

LINDA NELSON
1030 costa Escondida, San Diego 92133 (619) 807-9566 

Lisa brought the buyer to this owner and can do the same for you too.

Lisa Blankenship

10176 BEVERLY STREET, NORTH PB $859,000

Complete remodel. 3 bd, 3 ba, 1218 sq of corner lot. 4 blocks to the beach. Don’t miss this one!

ALSO JUST SOLD

1140 OPAL STREET, PB $1,155,000

JUST SOLD. NOT On MARKET.

Your Home?

Lisa Blankenship

10176 BEVERLY STREET, NORTH PB $859,000

Complete remodel. 3 bd, 3 ba, 1218 sq of corner lot. 4 blocks to the beach. Don’t miss this one!

ALSO JUST SOLD

1140 OPAL STREET, PB $1,155,000

JUST SOLD. NOT On MARKET.

Lisa brought the buyer to this owner and can do the same for you too.

Lisa Blankenship

10176 BEVERLY STREET, NORTH PB $859,000

Complete remodel. 3 bd, 3 ba, 1218 sq of corner lot. 4 blocks to the beach. Don’t miss this one!

ALSO JUST SOLD

1140 OPAL STREET, PB $1,155,000

JUST SOLD. NOT On MARKET.

Lisa brought the buyer to this owner and can do the same for you too.

Lisa Blankenship

10176 BEVERLY STREET, NORTH PB $859,000

Complete remodel. 3 bd, 3 ba, 1218 sq of corner lot. 4 blocks to the beach. Don’t miss this one!

ALSO JUST SOLD

1140 OPAL STREET, PB $1,155,000

JUST SOLD. NOT On MARKET.

Lisa brought the buyer to this owner and can do the same for you too.

Lisa Blankenship

10176 BEVERLY STREET, NORTH PB $859,000

Complete remodel. 3 bd, 3 ba, 1218 sq of corner lot. 4 blocks to the beach. Don’t miss this one!

ALSO JUST SOLD

1140 OPAL STREET, PB $1,155,000

JUST SOLD. NOT On MARKET.

Lisa brought the buyer to this owner and can do the same for you too.

Lisa Blankenship

10176 BEVERLY STREET, NORTH PB $859,000

Complete remodel. 3 bd, 3 ba, 1218 sq of corner lot. 4 blocks to the beach. Don’t miss this one!

ALSO JUST SOLD

1140 OPAL STREET, PB $1,155,000

JUST SOLD. NOT On MARKET.

Lisa brought the buyer to this owner and can do the same for you too.

Lisa Blankenship

10176 BEVERLY STREET, NORTH PB $859,000

Complete remodel. 3 bd, 3 ba, 1218 sq of corner lot. 4 blocks to the beach. Don’t miss this one!

ALSO JUST SOLD

1140 OPAL STREET, PB $1,155,000

JUST SOLD. NOT On MARKET.

Lisa brought the buyer to this owner and can do the same for you too.

Lisa Blankenship

10176 BEVERLY STREET, NORTH PB $859,000

Complete remodel. 3 bd, 3 ba, 1218 sq of corner lot. 4 blocks to the beach. Don’t miss this one!

ALSO JUST SOLD

1140 OPAL STREET, PB $1,155,000

JUST SOLD. NOT On MARKET.

Lisa brought the buyer to this owner and can do the same for you too.

Lisa Blankenship

10176 BEVERLY STREET, NORTH PB $859,000

Complete remodel. 3 bd, 3 ba, 1218 sq of corner lot. 4 blocks to the beach. Don’t miss this one!

ALSO JUST SOLD

1140 OPAL STREET, PB $1,155,000

JUST SOLD. NOT On MARKET.

Lisa brought the buyer to this owner and can do the same for you too.

Lisa Blankenship

10176 BEVERLY STREET, NORTH PB $859,000

Complete remodel. 3 bd, 3 ba, 1218 sq of corner lot. 4 blocks to the beach. Don’t miss this one!

ALSO JUST SOLD

1140 OPAL STREET, PB $1,155,000

JUST SOLD. NOT On MARKET.

Lisa brought the buyer to this owner and can do the same for you too.

Lisa Blankenship

10176 BEVERLY STREET, NORTH PB $859,000

Complete remodel. 3 bd, 3 ba, 1218 sq of corner lot. 4 blocks to the beach. Don’t miss this one!

ALSO JUST SOLD

1140 OPAL STREET, PB $1,155,000

JUST SOLD. NOT On MARKET.

Lisa brought the buyer to this owner and can do the same for you too.

Lisa Blankenship

10176 BEVERLY STREET, NORTH PB $859,000

Complete remodel. 3 bd, 3 ba, 1218 sq of corner lot. 4 blocks to the beach. Don’t miss this one!

ALSO JUST SOLD

1140 OPAL STREET, PB $1,155,000

JUST SOLD. NOT On MARKET.

Lisa brought the buyer to this owner and can do the same for you too.

Lisa Blankenship

10176 BEVERLY STREET, NORTH PB $859,000

Complete remodel. 3 bd, 3 ba, 1218 sq of corner lot. 4 blocks to the beach. Don’t miss this one!

ALSO JUST SOLD

1140 OPAL STREET, PB $1,155,000

JUST SOLD. NOT On MARKET.

Lisa brought the buyer to this owner and can do the same for you too.

Lisa Blankenship

10176 BEVERLY STREET, NORTH PB $859,000

Complete remodel. 3 bd, 3 ba, 1218 sq of corner lot. 4 blocks to the beach. Don’t miss this one!

ALSO JUST SOLD

1140 OPAL STREET, PB $1,155,000

JUST SOLD. NOT On MARKET.

Lisa brought the buyer to this owner and can do the same for you too.

Lisa Blankenship

10176 BEVERLY STREET, NORTH PB $859,000

Complete remodel. 3 bd, 3 ba, 1218 sq of corner lot. 4 blocks to the beach. Don’t miss this one!

ALSO JUST SOLD

1140 OPAL STREET, PB $1,155,000

JUST SOLD. NOT On MARKET.

Lisa brought the buyer to this owner and can do the same for you too.