Planners eye alliance to fight development end-around tactics

BY TONY DE GARATE | THE BEACON

Getting little traction in its attempt to halt city-issued variances that allow property owners to build homes larger than prescribed by local zoning, the Ocean Beach Planning Board (OBPB) has decided it’s time to enlist the aid of a potential ally.

The OBPB has scheduled a discussion about how to engage the Community Planning Committee (CPC), a larger group of citywide citizen planners of which the OBPPB is a member. The OBPPB will meet Feb. 1 at 6 p.m. at the Ocean Beach Recreation Center, 4726 Santa Monica Ave.

Like the OBPPB, the CPC has only an advisory role to the San Diego City Council on land-use and quality-of-life issues. But there are sympathetic members at the CPC, and adding that group’s clout could be important strategy, said Landry Watson, the OBPPB’s vice chair.

Sparking the debate is the city’s issuance of three variances to property owners on the west side of the $100 block of West Point Loma Boulevard. Immediately south of the entrance to the Dog Beach parking lot. In each case, the city ruled that because the lot sizes are substandard, a larger percentage of the structure could be allocated for living quarters. In addition, the owners could build open car ports instead of garages.

The designs have been upheld by a San Diego hearing officer, the San Diego Planning Commission and the California Coastal Commission. City Attorney Jan Goldsmith last month, at request of District 2 City Councilman Kevin Faulconer, also issued a statement voicing for their legality.

But the OBPPB maintains the variances are inconsistent with city code and that development can take place without them.

In other OBPPB-related news:
• Faulconer said he is excited about issuance of three variances to property owners to build homes larger than prescribed by local zoning, the

Local officials to consider Dog Beach parking

BY BIANCA KOCH | THE BEACON

Locals have long been wondering when or if the pitted, crater-filled public parking lot on Abbott Street between the main lifeguard tower/public bathrooms and Saratoga Park will get attention from the city’s Park and Recreation Department, which maintains that public area of Ocean Beach.

The answer may bring a sigh of relief to neighbors and visitors alike with new hope from the city that funding may be available for the lot. Those who use the no-cost parking and the convenience of the public bathrooms and Saratoga Park will get attention from the city’s Park and Recreation Department, which maintains that public area of Ocean Beach.

The answer may bring a sigh of relief to neighbors and visitors alike with new hope from the city that funding may be available for the lot. Those who use the no-cost parking and the convenience of the public bathrooms and Saratoga Park will get attention from the city’s Park and Recreation Department, which maintains that public area of Ocean Beach.

The public parking lot on Abbott Street, long the source of frustration for motorists and pedestrians because of its craters, cracks and crevices, is said to be among the city’s funding priorities for Ocean Beach this year.

Despite signs discouraging it, this is a common sight at the seawall, where bands of young panhandlers often sleep in the open. Many of the young panhandlers in Ocean Beach blatantly solicit passersby for money for drugs or alcohol.

The problem

The coveted parking spaces are a magnet for visitors and those who desire safe parking near the disintegrating pavement that dots the lot.

Damaging potholes, some up to a foot deep and up to five feet in diameter, have been surfacing and growing over the last five years. Patch jobs solve the issue temporarily, but they have not been able to withstand the weight of so many vehicles frequenting the beach parking lot daily.

Ocean Beach resident John Spatafino, 46, has been passing through the lot nearly every day for the last 1.2 years. Spatafino drives a Ford F250 pickup truck loaded up with himself, his Labrador, a 10-foot longboard, a bicycle and his skateboards.

Drunk behavior is sometimes more the norm than the exception by the seawall at the intersection of Abbott Street and Newport Avenue.

Unruly behavior, unabashed drug solicitation largely defies solution

BY MARTIN JONES WESTLIN | THE BEACON

Ocean Beach’s latest brush with fame came last fall when Occupy San Diego was making local headlines with its frequent presence downtown, the difference in the neighborhood regulars on TV.

The eats and shelter at the San Diego was making local headlines when it served as a model for how to engage the community.

The city’s MainStreet Association executive director Denny Knox, “we had the beach to ourselves.” But just as Occupy San Diego shut down for the most part in the city center, so too did the regulars return to Ocean Beach. A Dec. 4 stabbing on Newport Avenue, which police said was perpetrated by a homeless man, serves as a case in point. Aggressive behaviors continue to undermine the civic pride that’s overwhelmingly a hallmark of the Ocean Beach neighborhood, according to some locals.

But some merchants are saying the problem may now be on the decline. At the same time, Knox said, the dilemma is a symptom of a problem with national implications.

A man is taken into custody along Newport Avenue and Abbott Street, the epicenter of a long-running problem pitting aggressive, young panhandlers against merchants, residents and visitors to Ocean Beach.

Some of the panhandlers are said to be well known by emergency services crews and are repeatedly treated or arrested.
NEWSBRIEFS

Fight in OB leads to two stabbies

Police investigators are looking into a multiple-stabbing incident in Ocean Beach early on Jan. 8.

According to police, a Hispanic man became involved in an altercation with two white males in the 4900 block of Cape May Avenue shortly before 2:30 a.m.

The suspect allegedly stabbed the other two men, sending both to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

The attacker is described a Hispanic man in his early to mid-20s, about six-feet one-inch to six feet four inches tall, with a thin build.

The investigation continues.

Police hunt for identity of "Pigeon-Toed Bandit"

Investigators are working to uncover the identity of a robber who struck the Cabrillo Drug store in Point Loma on Christmas Eve — just one in a series of pharmacy robberies police are tracking.

The robbery series began in July and included three targeted pharmacies in the Point Loma area, one in Pacific Beach and one in East County.

He is being referred to by police as the "Pigeon-Toed Bandit" because of his gait.

The latest case occurred on Dec. 24 at about 10 a.m., when a man wearing a Santa hat entered Cabrillo Drug, located at 959 Catalina Blvd., in the Fleetridge neighborhood. The man walked directly to the back of the store to the pharmacy counter and caught the pharmacist's attention.

He handed the pharmacist a note demanding Oxycodone, Xanax and money. The clerk put some bottles of the generic equivalents of the drugs in a plastic bag from the pharmacy. The suspect walked out of the store and fled north-bound on Catalina Boulevard.

The same suspect is believed to be responsible for pharmacy robberies at Ralph's on Sports Arena Boulevard on July 25, Vons on El Cajon Boulevard on Aug. 12, Ralph's on Mission Boulevard on Aug. 14, Vons on Truxtun Road on Oct. 17 and finally the Christmas Eve job.

The suspect is described as a white male between 30 and 50 years old, five feet six-inches to five feet ten inches tall with a medium build. He wore latex gloves in two of the cases and carried a black bag or backpack in most cases.

Anyone with information concerning this case is asked to contact the San Diego Police Department's Robbery Unit at (619) 531-2399.

Charges dropped against ex-surf shop worker

An embourgeoisment case was dropped Jan. 9 against a former employee of the South Coast Surf Shop in Ocean Beach after he pleaded guilty to robbing two clerks at a jewelry store in an unrelated case.

The surf-shop case against Derek Jacob Patterson, 22, involved the theft of surfboards, embourgeoisment and grand-theft charges, but the case was dropped because Patterson pleaded guilty to two counts of robbery, which are more serious charges, said Deputy District Attorney Dave Williams.

Patterson robbed Zales Jewelry store in Grossmont Center on June 14 after he was no longer working at the surf shop. He pulled out a black semi-automatic handgun and ordered employees to the floor while he took $7,000 in jewelry and other jewelry.

He faces a maximum term of six years in prison, but El Cajon Superior Court Judge John Thompson said he would consider imposing a three-year term.

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Dave Jessen of OB was volunteer and car aficionado

Dave was always so friendly and helpful and loved Ocean Beach. He helped with the anti-graffiti campaign and the Police Officers' Association. The two of them helped keep many a restaurant in the black by putting their money where their mouths were and supporting new and older eateries in town. He will be missed.

In lieu of flowers, friends may donate in his name to the Ocean Beach Community Foundation at www.ventusportob.com.

OtBIRTY

Dave Jessen of OB was volunteer and car aficionado

On Friday morning, Jan. 6, Dave Jessen—one of Ocean Beach's familiar and well-liked citizens—passed away quietly in his home in the arms of his wife, Linda. Dave and Linda were seen regularly at Ocean Beach events and restaurants. I will miss seeing them in their little red Volkswagen, will miss seeing them in their little red Ocean Beach events and restaurants. I

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The Rock Academy High School robotics team is heading into the San Diego F.I.R.S.T. Tech Challenge Championship Qualifying Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 14 in hopes of moving on to the World Championship Tournament in St. Louis.

DIEGO, A new report has just been released which identifies the 6 most common and costly mistakes that homebuyers make before buying a home.

Mortgage regulations have changed significantly over the last few years, making your options wider than ever. Subtle changes in the way you approach mortgage shopping, and even small differences in the way you structure your mortgage, can cost or save you literally thousands of dollars and years of expense.

Whether you are about to buy your first home, or are planning to make a move to your next home, it is critical that you inform yourself about the factors involved before you buy.

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Having the right information beforehand can undoubtedly make a major difference in this critical negotiation.

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You can call anytime, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Call NOW to find out what you need to know before you buy a home.

BRIEFS

Continued From Page 2

San Diego State University ranked in the top 10 percent among public universities in the nation on the 2010 certified public accountant exam, according to a report by the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA). PLNU was No. 1 among private universities, according to the report. PLNU graduates also had the highest average score on the exam.

“I am pleased and proud of our PLNU accounting alumni,” said accounting professor Carl Hammont, “It’s rewarding to see their hard work pay off, so they are able to build valuable careers. It is an honor to teach at a university that recruits this caliber of students.”

The University of California, Berkeley ranked No. 1 overall with a 66.2 percent pass rate, while UCLA took the second highest pass rate with 58.6 percent. PLNU was just one of the universities that was under the national average of 58.5 percent.

Rounding out the top five were the University of Southern California and Chapman University.

There were 57 schools in California ranked in NASBA's report.

Rock Church robotics team set for SD qualifier

The Rock Academy High School robotics team is heading into the San Diego F.I.R.S.T. Tech Challenge Championship Qualifying Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 14 in hopes of moving on to the World Championship Tournament in St. Louis.

The weekend's round at Madison High School will involve more than 400 participants from 44 teams representing California, Arizona and Nevada, according to officials with The Rock Church on Rosecrans Street in Point Loma.

The team, dubbed The Warriors, will compete to win The Inspire Award after recently winning second place at the Los Angeles Championship Tournament, along with two other awards.

The Rock Academy participates in F.I.R.S.T. Robotics, which is a national robotics program for youth. The mission is to inspire young people to be science and technology leaders, by engaging them in mentor-based programs that build science, engineering and technology.

For more information, visit www.sdrfc.com.

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Winklea, furrier and longtime OB resident, was 94

Millard H. Winklea, our beloved father, grandfather and great-grandfather, passed away peacefully on Jan. 2. He was 94.

Born in Sandusky, Ohio on Dec. 16, 1917, he led an adventurous and productive life. Affectionately known as “Wink,” his generosity of spirit and kind demeanor touched all who met him. He loved music, fishing and most of all, being with his family.

For more than 70 years, he was a resident of Ocean Beach. He was a highly creative person and his work was the perfect vehicle for his skills. He owned and operated Millard’s Fur Service in San Diego for more than 40 years, designing fabulous fur garments.

He shared his beautiful singing voice in church choir, at weddings and funerals, and with all who were lucky enough to hear him sing snippets of songs daily.

He was an active member of the Point Loma United Methodist church for 50 years. Instrumental in organizing many of the 20+ 10 clubs in San Diego in the early 1950s, he was an active member of the Downtown Optimist Club in the 1960s. He is survived by sister, Margaret Reiff; daughters JoEllen Hoobler, Mary Winklea, Deborah Winklea and Martha (Marti) Hess; grandchildren Jenny Suter, David Suter, Sara Heckman, Sonja Baczynski, Annie Larkins, Katie Hess, and Amanda Hess; as well as seven great-grandchildren.

Services will take place at noon on Feb. 10 at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery, with a celebration of life to follow. In lieu of flowers, the family invites you to make a donation to San Diego Hospice in his name.

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PLANNERS
CONTINUED FROM Page 1

his newest assignment at City Hall: a group that could help create jobs in San Diego. Faulconer is a member of the Committee on Economic Development and Strategies, a newly created group that meets for the first time Jan. 30, according to Faulconer aide Michael Patton. Faulconer will continue serving on the council’s Audit Committee and Rules Committee but will leave the Land Use and Housing Committee, Patton said.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony has been tentatively scheduled for the Ocean Beach Entryway on Jan. 20 at 10 a.m., Patton said.

Gibran Maciel, aide to District 76 state Assemblywoman Toni Atkins, introduced himself to OBPB members. He can be reached at gibran-maciel@asm.ca.gov, or by calling (619) 645-3090.

Next month could be important for anyone who’s thought about serving on the OBPB. Annual elections take place in March, so the monthly February meeting represents the last chance for hopefuls to meet a requirement that candidates attend at least one meeting in the year prior to elections. More candidate requirements and information are available at www.oceanbeach-pb.com.

Nearly 90 disadvantaged local families benefited from the generosity of residents who contributed to the Ocean Beach Town Council’s annual Food and Toy Drive this past holiday season, said Watson, who also serves on that Town Council’s board of directors. The proceeds were generated by a whole slew of Town Council-sponsored events during the year, like the restaurant walk, pancake breakfast, craft fairs, auction, parade, T-shirt sales and canned food drive, Watson said.
It’s perfect except for the irritating craters in this lot. They’re messed up.”

Spatafino said he has twisted his ankles in the dark several times over the years.

“Who pays for that?” he asked. “It’s unrideable. I wish, they [the city] would take better care of this beautiful shoreline parks division that oversees the Ocean Beach public parking lot maintenance, provides a promising answer. “We’re anticipating applicable funds to finance and start this important project,” Daneri said. “We’ve been working on that problem for a long time now. Unfortunately, for the past years, we’ve had a problem acquiring funds to accomplish the task. We’ve been limited to temporary patch jobs, only filling in the holes. “In order to provide a proper and safe function for the use of that parking lot,” he continued, “we’re going to have to resurface and restripe the entire lot.”

Daneri expressed concern and sympathy regarding public complaints and frustration. “We’re anticipating applicable funds to finance and start this important project,” Daneri said. “Very, very shortly, I hope, we’ll have the green light. No more patch jobs. The lot will be totally new. Reconstructing the Saratoga Park parking lot is one of the top-two priorities on our list to achieve in Ocean Beach this year.”

For more information or to make a comment or suggestion, Daneri said he invites readers to call his main office 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. at (619) 235-5914.
Some locals express a real concern for their families in the face of unruly and aggressive behavior by young panhandlers and transients.

Police say crime statistics associated with some of the young, aggressive transients along the beachfront are often difficult to quantify because of the changing makeup of the group.

**DILEMMA**

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

The group defies statistics, Knox cautioned, because its members rarely commit crimes against persons and thus less law enforcement at a loss for correlating numbers.2011 police department statistics reflect no homicides and 83 armed robberies or aggravated assaults through September in Ocean Beach, a neighborhood of about 28,000 residents.

But the group’s requests for food, cigarettes and money are colored with aggressive language — and Knox said that homelessness, the usual catch-all explanation for such behaviors, may or may not be part of the equation.

“I don’t care to call them ‘homeless,’ Knox said. “It’s not necessarily homeless. It could be, but it’s mostly young guys having it out with each other. It could be to overcrowd or drugs. Usually, they’re too drunk they don’t know what’s going on. We have to call right away and get them emergency services, but sometimes, emergency services come out several times in a week for one guy. Emergency services know their names, and they pick them up over and over and over again. The cost is astronomical.”

Figures on the annual cost of repeat-edly arresting, transporting, jailing and filling out paperwork on Ocean Beach’s offenders are unavailable. A 2009-10 grand jury report says the cost of these procedures for 90 people in the downtown area was about $310,000 at the end of 2010, not counting the cost to city government, which also has to pay end of 2010, not counting the cost to city government, which also has to pay

The cost in aggravation is perhaps considerably more. One Ocean Beach resident said he’s leaving the community, having been “panhandled out” after ¾ years. A bar patron cautioned me to watch my back as I sought more street-level information for this story. And Knox herself, who’s lived in Ocean Beach since 1996, was met with three or four “escorts” on her way to a Christmas lunch at an Ocean Beach restaurant, curious about the package she was carrying and asking for money.

However, two recent walks down Newport Avenue reflected fewer panhandlers than in months past (this reporter is a former Ocean Beach resident who noticed an escalation of the problem two years ago, when the San Diego Police Department started citing “aggressive panhandling” as a neighborhood characteristic). Young people still sit on public side-walks, dotting the landscape with the ubiquitous guitar cases that double as collection plates. But more often than not, they’d begrudgingly obey the nearby merchants’ commands to disperse.

Newport Farms Market sat on the corner of Newport Avenue and Bacon Street, arguably Ocean Beach’s busiest intersection, and near the spot on which the Dec. 4 assault took place. This time, the panhandlers were absent, and, unconventionally, the entrance into the store was unimpeded.

“There aren’t as many of them now,” said a clerk who asked to be identified only as hard. “It’s not like before. Maybe it’s because of the colder weather.”

Spot checks at other shops and restau-rants resulted in a similar response.

“We’re starting to stand up for our-” said Michelle Feirn, a longtime counter worker at Newport Avenue’s landmark Little Chef Chinese restaurant. “They’re starting to get the idea that we’re not going to take this crap anymore.”

Still, the problem lingers. One mer-chant who declined to be identified said she’s met with aggressive requests for food or cigarettes some 15 or 20 times a day as she walks or bikes to work.

“I’m surprised it’s not more than that,” Knox said. “The locals we’ve known for a long time aren’t usually that aggressive, and they usually keep to themselves. But there’s sort of this new younger crew that feels they’re entitled to everything that you have. People want an alternative lifestyle, and that’s fine, but don’t hang on me. I’m in my 60s, and I have two jobs. What’re you doing?”

The Ocean Beach MainStreet Association has met with neighborhood and city officials many times regarding the problem, Knox said, with little result.

“Pretty much,” Knox said, “what comes out of those meetings are requests for showers, bathrooms, safe places to sleep. They can’t even afford those downtown, where there’s a lot more money. That’s kind of where we’re stuck in the above.”

Knox said the charitiess whose hearts are in the right place may be contribut-ing to the problem.

“When the churches come down and feed the hanger-outers,” Knox said, “[the transients] get on the circuit. They go from free feeding to free feeding. They’re not families with children and all the tear-jerker stuff. These are guys who’ve made the decision to be here. They don’t want to have to change their clothes. I don’t know what to do with people like that in a free country.”

“I’m not sure how you effect a change,” said, “It seems like the country hasn’t figured out how to deal with this, especially California.”

The problem, Knox said, is nothing new to Ocean Beach, long known for its generous spirit and commitment to com-munity involvement. But no good deed goes un punished, as in the case of a downtown merchant who’d told Knox that those Occupy San Diego demonstra-tors had made their point. Despite his kindnesses, he lamented, the demonstra-tors’ disruptions might cause him to close his doors.

“I had to lay off Knox said. “I told him that our panhandler problem makes us go through that every day.”

Police say crime statistics associated with some of the young, aggressive transients along the beachfront are often difficult to quantify because of the changing makeup of the group.

With the “live and let live” philosophy of Ocean Beach, some panhandlers are anything but shy about what they want and how to go about getting it.
The Peninsula Beacon | Thursday, January 12, 2012 | Page 7

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The Ocean Beach Entertainment and Lodging Group (OBREL) was created by local business owners under the umbrella of OBMA to promote and support local businesses in the Ocean Beach area that provide food, lodging and entertainment. Our mission is to work collectively, as a group, to provide the community with the best we can offer to locals and visitors.

To get listed please visit www.oceanbeachsandiego.com/obrel or call (619) 224-4906

Ocean Beach Restaurant, Lodging and Entertainment Directory

AMERICAN
Day Break
2296 Bacon St. • 619-222-0406
Hodad's
5010 Newport Ave. • 619-224-4623
hodadsexperts.com
Old Townhouse
Restaurant
4941 Newport Ave. • 619-222-1880
oldtownhouserestaurant.com
Tower Two Beach Cafe
5083 Santa Monica Ave. • 619-224-4059
O.B. Kanobe's
4976 Newport Ave. • 619-621-7553
Raglan Public House
1831 Bacon Street.
Village Kitchen
Restaurant
W.O.W. Cafe
"On the OB Pier" • 619-224-3474
BAKERY
Azucar
C.J.'s Catering & Specialty Baking
European Cake Gallery

BAR
Cheswick's West
Gallagher's Irish Pub
Lucy's Tavern
Pacific Shores
South Beach Bar & Grill
Sunshine Company Saloon
The Arizona - Bar & Café
The Harp - Bar/Café
The Titled Stick - Bar/Food
Tiny's Tavern
Sports Bar & Grill
4745 Voltaire St. • 619-523-1002
tonysharbor.com
Tony's
5034 Newport Ave. • 619-223-0550
Winstons

BAR-B-CUE
Bar-b-que House
5025 Newport Ave. • 619-222-4311
barbecuehouse.com

CALIFORNIA CUISINE
Nick's at the Pier
5083 Santa Monica Ave., Ste. 2B
619-222-7437
nicksatthepier.com
O'Bistro Cafe
4934 Voltaire St. 619-621-2202
obistrocafe.com
Sessions Public
Shades
Oceanfront Bistro
5083 Santa Monica Ave., Ste. 1F
619-222-0550
ShadesOB.com

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

CANDY STORE
Beach Sweets
5022 Newport Ave. • 619-222-3122
oceanbeachsweets.com

CATERERS
Surfside Cuisine
Hodad's Jr. Catering
5010 Newport Ave. • 619-818-2243
hodadies.com/jrcatering.html

CHINESE
Little Chef Chinese to Go
COFFEE HOUSE
Cafe Bella
4964 Voltaire St. • 619-222-8559


Happy New Year!
Head to O.B. and treat yourself to some great food and fun.
The newest hot spot on Newport Avenue, The Joint Sushi & Tapas Bar, is a welcome edition to the neighborhood. Originally opened at the end of May 2011, they closed 2 short months later for kitchen upgrades and to develop an even better menu.

With the reopening in November, fabulous new chef Eric Riffe brought his French training, combined with southern upbringing and worldly culinary experiences, to the table. The menu was reworked to showcase his talents, and includes such delectable items as shrimp & grits with applewood smoked bacon, mussels Catalina, pbr braised spare ribs, and Peruvian style ceviche.

So roll on over and check out their upgrades. Enjoy the expanded menu, along with their out of the box sushi, 20+ draft beers, and a nice wine and sake collection. They are open daily at 11:30 and serve their entire menu until 11pm Sun-Thurs, and midnight on the weekend.
NEWPORT PIZZA & ALE HOUSE

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in this special section call:

619-546-5390 or WWW.OBPIZZASHOP.COM

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ITALIAN (CONT.)
The Venetian 3660 Voltaire St. • 619-223-8197 venetian955.com
JAPANESE
Sapporo Japanese Restaurant
The Joint 4902 Newport Ave. • 619-222-8272
OB Sushi Sushi
MEXICAN
Blue Parrot, The 4993 Naippera • 619-222-1722 blueparrotbarandgrill.com
Bravo’s Mexican Bistro & Cantina 5001 Newport Ave. • 619-222-6633
El Rodeo Taco Shop
Liticker’s Liquor & Fresh Mexican Grill
Livingston’s Chicken Kitchen & Mexican Grill
Margarita’s Restaurant
Nati’s Mexican Restaurant 1852 Bacon St. • 619-224-3369 natisandiegan.com
Nico’s Mexican Food
Ortega’s Cocina
Ranchos Cocina
PIZZA
Pizza Port Brewing Co.
O.B. Delivery Service
RESTAURANT DELIVERY
SOUTHERN CUISINE
Mississippi Fish Fry 4927 Newport Ave., (located within the Newport Quik Stop) 619-222-3337
THAI
Thai Time Bistro
VIETNAMESE
OB Noodle House & Sake Bar

Lodging
Elshree House “A Beach Bed & Breakfast” 5054 Narragansett Ave. 619-224-4113 elshreehouse.com
Hostelling International - Point Loma
Inn at Sunset Cliffs 3370 Sunset Cliffs Blvd. 619-222-7901 hostelunioncliffs.com
Ocean Beach Hotel 5080 Newport Ave. • 619-223-7191 obhotel.com
Ocean Beach International Hostel
Ocean Villa Inn
Our Place on the Beach
Watermark Vacations

clubs, bars & music scene

Monday

Happy Hour 4-7pm Everyday!

Happy Hour 6-9pm Everyday! $3 food, wine, well drinks, 1/2 price pitchers.
Mon-Thurs 8 sliders and a pitcher of domestic beer for $19.00

every day: happy hour 4:30-6:30pm $3 food, wine, well drinks, 1/2 price pitchers. Mon-Thurs 8 sliders and a pitcher of domestic beer for $19.00

Tuesdays

Happy Hour 4-7pm Everyday!

Happy Hour 4-7pm Everyday! $3 food, wine, well drinks, 1/2 price pitchers. Mon-Thurs 8 sliders and a pitcher of domestic beer for $19.00

Wednesday

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Thursday

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Friday

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Saturday

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Sunday

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If laughter is the best medicine, then Ocean Beach residents are fortunate to have one of the best comedy spots in San Diego — Winston’s Beach Club — in their midst. Although the club is best known as one of the area’s top music venues, for the last six years it’s also been comedy central for a growing group of performers.

“Ocean Beach Comedy Night” takes place every Friday at 6 p.m., with a special Wednesday night “Off Comedy Competition” at 6 p.m. that takes place weekly from Jan. 1 through April 4. The contest will ultimately determine the funniest person in Ocean Beach, with a cash prize and the title of “OB’s Funniest Person” among the spoils for the winner.

While comedy venues have not always met with great success in San Diego, comedian Jesse Egan, one of the event’s founders and a mainstay of local comedy alongside booker Jeff Polden, says that the venue’s location is partially responsible for this particular event’s longevity.

“I think it’s a great town for comedy,” Egan said. He said the audiences are diverse. “A lot of comedians come and they expect it to be a low-brow, stoner audience, but actually, more obscure references and intellectual comedy, which sometimes doesn’t work at other venues, seem to work really well at Winston’s,” Egan said. “It’s a mixed bag. It’s sort of like, if you do well at Winston’s, you’ve really got something.”

Egan said there is a big difference between Winston’s and most comedy venues. “It’s a bar and it can be a little bit daunting for the comedian who has to keep the attention of an audience when they’re sitting far back at the bar, as opposed to up close and listening attentively like they would in a comedy club,” he said.

The club’s website includes a note about this night not being “your average comedy show” and boasting “no timid crowds” or “cookie-cutter comics.”

“The warning might be more ominous than it needs to be,” Egan said. “Basically, we just try to have a funny show and hope that the audience has an open mind. We were just trying to let people know that it’s completely uncensored comedy. We don’t censor the comedians, so they shouldn’t expect necessarily ‘G-rated’ material. We get a lot of variety.”

He said the club’s changing formats are also a part of the reason for the event’s long run. “We keep evolving it,” Egan said. “We keep trying to do something new and something fresh for comedy.”

He cites a “lightning round” section of the show as an example of making people laugh. Considered something of a class clown as a youngster, comedy has always been something he gravitated toward.

“My parents would play old tapes of Mel Brooks and his ‘2000 Year Old Man,’ as well as Bill Cosby,” he recalled. “I listened to a lot of Richard Pryor and artists like that when I was growing up. So it all finally sunk in. And now I get to do it.”

Egan said he is thrilled with the way “Ocean Beach Comedy Night” has been embraced by the community, but he’s also happy to be living a lifelong dream of making people laugh. “I think it’s a great town for comedy,” he said. “It’s a mixed bag. It’s sort of like, if you do well at Winston’s, you’ve really got something.”

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New Pointers weight room beginning to emerge after delays

By SCOTT HOPKINS / THE BEACON

Another new structure at Point Loma High School (PLHS) is nearing completion after many delays and difficulties that may now, ironically enough, be turning out best for students.

There won’t be any textbooks used in this building, and it’s likely no science experiments or historical debates will take place within its walls. Numbers, however, will play a key role as Pointer students do something else: sweat.

The school’s new weight room, a key component in interscholastic sports success, but also in everyday physical education classes, is quickly taking shape in the southwest corner of Pete Rosecrans Street west of the bleachers.

But, as The Beatles sang, the project has followed “(A) Long and Winding Road” since its proposal four years ago.

The road included a funding grant, disputes among parents, school district demands and concessions — plus unforeseen construction issues.

When construction finally began several months ago, several problems were encountered including the discovery of massive concrete footings from a long-ago structure, that drove the cost above original estimates, said John Murphy, PLHS athletic director.

The project’s fortunes took a big positive turn recently when the San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD) agreed to allow use of PLHS’s discretionary Proposition S bond money to pay for increased costs above those previously allocated under the ballot measure.

With the building’s costs covered, the original seed money for the project, a grant from the Jimmy Johnson (of NASCAR fame) Foundation two years ago, will now be used to equip the building with top-quality weight training and workout equipment.

Head football coach Mike Hastings has been poring over brochures and catalogs while he and Murphy meet with representatives of various suppliers to select the best components and stretch their budget to benefit the students.

After opening in the coming months, school officials expect the weight room to provide a modern, comfortable facility for many years that will help students improve their physiques and gain strength.

The school’s former weight room was housed in two portable classrooms at the same location, but the dilapidated buildings were condemned by inspectors and ordered demolished.

When officials at PLHS were surveyed for Proposition S site needs, the weight room was listed and included on the planned improvements at the school. However, it was not scheduled to be built until 2014.

In 2009, parent Lisa Tumbilo applied to the Jimmy Johnson Foundation for funding that is given out annually for worthwhile projects at local schools. Johnson’s “Keep the Box for Education” group, founded in 2006, donates to San Diego County schools. Johnson grew up in El Cajon.

The PLHS application, which included a video produced by then-school ASB President Josh Morse, was personally reviewed by Johnson. The foundation approved a grant of $90,000 to help replace the facilities and invited PLHS leaders and parents to appear with Johnson at a “Homecoming Rally” at the Lowe’s store in El Cajon.

Originally it was hoped a basic weight room could be built by parents for $185,000, but conflicts among those in nursing facilities.

Research continues to show a correlation between oral health and overall health. If you or your loved one is no longer able to physically go to the dental office because of medical problems, dental hygiene will now come to you!

My company provides dental hygiene care with mobile dental hygiene equipment in the comfort of your home.

For dental problems beyond our scope of practice, we will provide you with a referral to a dentist to help with your dental needs.

We accept insurance and Dentti-Cal may be accepted.

Rose M. Hall, RDHAP #357
619-997-3895


* * *

In girls’ basketball, new head coach Dave Arco and his squad won their Central League-opener Jan. 6 with a 37-32 victory over Crawford.

In non-league action, the Lady Pointers moved to 3-1 on the season with a 59-48 victory against High Tech San Diego (51-18) and High Tech Chula Vista (52-24).

Point Loma High School spring sports programs, visit us online at www.sdshesw.com and click on the Peninsula Beacon’s sports link.

In Pacific Beach for 22 years. Now he has opened his own clinic.

The Anderson Medical Center is located at 1945 Garnet Avenue. The clinic will feature the latest in technology including digital x-rays and electronic health records.

Patients will be seen on a walk-in basis. This allows easy access with the exception of sports medicine 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. during the week and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekends and holidays.

The Anderson Medical Center is equipped to handle minor emergencies such as suturing and casting. It is designed to take care of patients of all ages as their primary care physicians. Physical therapy will also be available on a scheduled basis.

Most insurance will be accepted. For more information you can call 858-224-7877 or visit their website at Andersonmedicalcenter.com.

* * *

Mobile Dental Hygiene Care

RDHAP’s provide dental hygiene services for homebound patients and those in nursing facilities.

Research continues to show a correlation between oral health and overall health. If you or your loved one is no longer able to physically go to the dental office because of medical problems, dental hygiene will now come to you!

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Theräpie Day Spa partners with the 3rd Corner to bring Ocean Beach a remarkable spa experience!

Since Theräpie Day Spa opened its doors for business last March, they wasted no time making waves in the Ocean Beach Community. Always known for their top-notch services, Theräpie has taken top honors as the best facial in San Diego, as well as being honored with a Sunflower Award for interior design. As a Certified member of The Green Spa Network, Theräpie is committed to providing clients with results-driven therapies in an environmentally conscious manner. Theräpie Day Spa matches their commitment to excellence with their nurturing and individualized treatments to create an unforgettable spa experience.

Theräpie Day Spa has partnered with The 3rd Corner Wine Shop and Bistro, Theräpie Day Spa is proud to announce a spa day like no other. This package is known as “A Perfect Pairing,” and includes a Swedish massage, signature facial and a delicious lunch with hand-selected wine pairing from The 3rd Corner. And at just $89, it is priced for frequent indulgences. For more information about booking an appointment, please call 619.780.8700 or visit www.therapiedayspa.com.
MEET A FRIEND. HEAD DOWN TO THE BOARDWALK. TAKE A QUICK COFFEE BREAK. RUN BACK TO THE OFFICE. CHECK OUT A MUSEUM AT BALBOA. GO TO THE DOCTOR’S APPOINTMENT. GET TO A MEETING. STOP BY THE BANK. WORK ON YOUR BICEPS. DROP OFF THE LAUNDRY. TAKE A STROLL AROUND THE GASLAMP.

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Must be 18 years or older to register. Must have valid U.S. driver’s license.
For more information, call (818) 229-8880, or visit www.vpss.com.

* The Music on the Point series features a concert by pianist Jacqueline Schwab at 4 p.m. The event takes place at All Souls’ Episcopal Church, located at 1474 Catalina Blvd. A donation of $6 is requested. A reception follows. For more information, call (818) 229-6934, ext.13, or visit www.allsouls.com.

**MONDAY, Feb. 6**

A benefit concert for the Westminster Community Garden starts at 7 p.m. at the Westminster Presbyterian Church, located at 3598 Talbot St. Features will be the Schubert Octet, performed by Alyze Dreiling and Joan Zelikman, violins; Robert Zelikman, clarinet; Jeannette Schramm, flute; Robert Tschann, horn; Leyla Zamora, bassoon; Jane Lam, Horn and Margaret Zamora, viola; Robert Wiechman, viola; Rebecca Campbell, viola; Glen Campbell, cello; Loyola Zamora, bassoon; Jane Lam, Horn and Margaret Johnston, bass. Tickets are $10 at the door. For more information, call (818) 229-3193 or visit www.westminnaturals.com.

**TUESDAY, Feb. 7**

Sharp Memorial Hospital’s Senior Resource Center will host a free blood pressure checks. No appointment necessary and the public is welcome from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at St. Agnes Catholic Church, located at 1145 Evergreen St. For more information, call (800) 827-4277, or visit www.sharp.com.

**THURSDAY, Jan. 12**

Point Loma High School will host an informational meeting for prospective students and their parents at 6 p.m. The event will offer an opportunity for new students and parents to meet the school’s administrators, coaches, counselors, current students and parents, and teachers at Point Loma High. The event takes place in the school’s gymnasium, located at 2355 Chatsworth Blvd. The event includes an overview of the various programs, clubs and music opportunities at the school and the course-selection process and enrollment process for ninth-grade courses. For more information, call the PHS counseling office at (818) 229-3121, ext. 1129.

**FRIDAY, Jan. 13**

Free presentation called “Shifting into the Real World: Preparing You for Humanity’s Shift out of the Substitute World and into the Real World.” As the old, unevolved structures the world has been based on are crumbling around us, the world is quickly seeing into a new experience of reality. Learn how to be a part of this shift, rather than at the mercy of it, with intuitive and transformational counselor, teacher and author Jane Ilene Cohen. The free event takes place from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Ocean Beach People’s Co-Op community room, 4765 Victoria St. The event is limited to 18 people. To RSVP, call (760) 753-0739 or visit www.JaneCohenCounseling.com.

**SATURDAY, Jan. 14**

Friends of Famosa Slough will host a work party to care for California native plants and remove invasive plants. The event takes place from 9 a.m. to noon. Participants are asked to meet at the southeast corner of W. Point Loma and Famosa boulevards. For more information, call (619) 224-4591.

**MONDAY, Jan. 18**

Naval Base Point Loma’s Restoration Advisory Board meets from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Southwestern Yacht Club, located at 2702 Qualtrough St. The public is welcome to attend.

**THURSDAY, Jan. 19**

The Ocean Beach Historical Society hosts local photographer Joe Ewing, whose topic will be “The Sequel.” Ewing returns for the second consecutive year as he showcases some of his spectacular shots of Ocean Beach beaches, pets and the community at large. The event takes place at the Point Loma United Methodist Church, 1984 Sunset Cliffs Blvd at 7 p.m. For more information, call (818) 353-0190.

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**IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD**

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Naval Base Point Loma’s Restoration Advisory Board meets from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Southwestern Yacht Club, located at 2702 Qualtrough St. The public is welcome to attend.

**THURSDAY, Jan. 19**

The Ocean Beach Historical Society hosts local photographer Joe Ewing, whose topic will be “The Sequel.” Ewing returns for the second consecutive year as he showcases some of his spectacular shots of Ocean Beach beaches, pets and the community at large. The event takes place at the Point Loma United Methodist Church, 1984 Sunset Cliffs Blvd at 7 p.m. For more information, call (818) 353-0190.

**MONDAY, Feb. 6**

Naval Base Point Loma’s Restoration Advisory Board meets from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Southwestern Yacht Club, located at 2702 Qualtrough St. The public is welcome to attend.

**TUESDAY, Feb. 7**

Sharp Memorial Hospital’s Senior Resource Center will host a free blood pressure checks. No appointment necessary and the public is welcome from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at the Peninsula Family YMCA, located at 4390 Vista St. For more information, call (800) 827-4277, or visit www.sharp.com.

**IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD**

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**SATURDAY, Jan. 14**

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