Mission Bay High School graduates 229 students

By DAVE SCHWAB

Mission Bay High School’s Class of 2015 looked ahead — and behind — during graduation ceremonies June 15 in the school’s new $11 million stadium.

Virtually every single one of the 1,600 seats on the home side of the stadium was filled with beaming family and friends of the school’s graduating class of nearly 250 students.

“Giving a speech at my own graduation is pretty awesome,” ASB president Domiciano Villa said, noting his graduating class was “always smiling and laughing.”

“The question right now is: ‘What’s next?’” asked Villa, who signed off with a quote from Benjamin Franklin: “Lost time is never found again.”

SEE GRADS, Page 13

Upscale Baja coastal cuisine coming to PB

Pueblo to open in former China Inn

By DAVE SCHWAB

The former China Inn in Pacific Beach has a new owner, a new name, a new cuisine and a new décor.

Owner Mark Oliver, who was once part of the executive team at George’s La Jolla, has announced more details about his plans for creating a new, more upscale eatery at 877 Horriblend St.

Oliver’s new restaurant will be named Pueblo and will feature Baja coastal cuisine.

Previously involved with Mission Valley’s Randy Jones All American Sports Grill, Oliver is the general partner in the new restaurant venture along with a group of local investors, whom he said “all live within a very short distance” from the property.

SEE PUEBLO, Page 7

Summer fun with Bianca

Giant Dipper turns 90, and new thrills at Belmont Park

By BIANCA WEINSTEIN

When I heard the Giant Dipper at Belmont Park was celebrating its original opening date — 90 years ago on July 4, 1925 — this summer, I knew I had to make a trip to Mission Beach.

As a native San Diegian, I remember exploring Belmont Park and going on the rides with all my friends when I was younger. Now as an adult, it was a new experience entirely.

I walked to the ticket booth and saw they offered individual tickets for $1 apiece, 45 tickets for $40 or an unlimited ride wristband for $28.95 ($17.95 for under 48 inches).

I thought the best deal was the unlimited ride wristband for $28.95 ($17.95 for under 48 inches).

SEE BELMONT, Page 13
CREAM dessert shop opens in Pacific Beach

CREAM, the San Francisco Bay-based dessert franchise that specializes in ice cream sandwiches using homemade cookies and other treats, has brought the nostalgic dessert to Pacific Beach. The new shop, at 1038 Garnet Ave., opened on May 29. The shop boasts a combination of homemade cookies, fresh ice cream and toppings. For information, visit creamnation.com.

WaveHouse celebrates 10 years of barrels with pro flowboarders competition in MB

Mission Beach’s WaveHouse, the iconic 40,000-square-foot beachfront venue at Belmont Park, this week celebrates the 10-year anniversary of its famous wave machines by inviting pro flowboarders from around the globe for a weeklong series of wave shows, big-trick contests and special wave sessions culminating in the U.S. Open of Flowboarding competition awarding $10,000 in cash prizes.

Roasting the FlowRider and the FlowBarrel, WaveHouse’s simulated wave machines have challenged pros and novices, celebrities and tourists alike over the past decade.

The only FlowBarrel in the United States, WaveHouse San Diego’s 10-foot wave machine pumps 100,000 gallons of water a minute over a uniquely shaped ride surface creating an endless barreling wave.

WaveHouse’s commitment to the sport has elevated flowboarding to a competitive sport with worldwide events and an international fan base. WaveHouse’s own Team USA holds the most world champion titles, including current team members Eric Silverman and Sean Silverman.

Silverman said WaveHouse’s flowboarding system is truly unique.

“This is the only big, full barrel running in the United States, though there are other flowriders, smaller ones, all over the world,” he said. “This one allows us to be able to do all our big tricks. If this one weren’t here, we’d have to fly to Singapore, Abu Dhabi or Chile to use one. It’s insane.”

Silverman added that Belmont Park’s Flowrider is “super-safe and super-addicting,” noting the flowboard used is a cross between a skateboard and a wakeboard.

The weeklong schedule of celebratory events includes:

• U.S. Flow Tour: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, June 18, free admission. Flowboarders from around the country battle it out on the FlowRider on stop No. 5 of this annual Flow Tour competition.

• Night Flight: Around the world edition: 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday, June 18, free admission. The world’s best flowboarders light up the barrel with flips, tricks and big airs wave show.

• AM Chams: U.S. Open qualifier: 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, June 19, free admission. Amateur flowboarders compete for a coveted wildcard entry to the U.S. Open of Flowboarding. Only the top contestant from each division will advance. $40 entry fee. Sign up at belmontpark.com/amchams.

• 10-year anniversary party and U.S. Open of Flowboarding: 2 to 10 p.m. Saturday, June 20, free admission. Celebrate with a WaveHouse party complete with live entertainment from Thurz and Girlboy as the pros throw down in an epic FlowBarrel competition.

• All day Sunday: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday, June 21, $60/day all day ride pass on the FlowBarrel. Located in the heart of Mission Beach, Belmont Park is a one-stop shop for endless entertainment, featuring restaurants, bars, classic rides, attractions, wave machines and a live music stage.
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Plan will upgrade cottages into patio homes, revitalize landscaping, improve amenities and buildings

Wesley Palms, a Front Porch full-service retirement community at 2404 Loring St. on Mt. Soledad, recently announced a redevelopment plan comprising a revitalization of the iconic midcentury main building apartments and amenities and the unveiling of 29 new patio homes in place of existing cottages in the first two phases.

The phased revitalization commenced in April with the intent to preserve the midcentury modern aesthetic of the original construction, which opened in 1962. The revitalization will improve the 35-acre parkland and retain Wesley Palms’ character, serving as an ode to an iconic era in California architecture and a complement to the style of the adjacent neighborhood.

The patio homes in phases one and two will be completed within the first 14 months and are slated to open for residents in the summer of 2016.

The retirement community will continue its current operations throughout the phased revitalization.

Summer House at Wesley Palms memory care neighborhood and Courtyard catered living cottages will continue to accept new residents as the environment, celebrate the individual and attend to the natural aesthetic of form and function.

The community’s revitalization will be the latest endeavor in Front Porch’s mission to create thoughtful and unique environments that are respectful of the environment, celebrate the individual and attend to the natural aesthetic of form and function.

READ MORE ONLINE AT sdnews.com

New HydraFacial skin treatment available at Paradise Point Resort & Spa in Mission Bay

By MICHELLE POVEDA

If you’ve ever wanted to experience the remarkable results of a peel or med spa treatment but are afraid of the harsh chemical affects, Paradise Point Beach & Spa in Mission Bay has something for you: the HydraFacial.

Paradise Point is the only resort in San Diego to offer this unique skin treatment, which has garnered wide acclaim and attention from celebrities and various media outlets. To see what all the fuss was about, I tried it out for myself.

Located just off Ingraham Street, in the middle of Mission Bay, Paradise Point is hidden from the bustle of the city.

It is a 462-room bungalow-style resort, encircled by more than one mile of beach, and includes five swimming pools, lagoons, a golf course, a private marina, beach bonfire pits, five dining venues and an island-themed spa.

The Spa at Paradise Point is a 7,050-square-foot spa, located at the entrance of the resort, and features saunas, a locker room, a relaxation area and a garden courtyard with a private whirlpool for special events. The spa is available to all guests as well as locals looking for a little indulgence. I was part of the latter.

The HydraFacial is an innovative, noninvasive, high-tech resurfacing treatment designed to deliver immediate results for all skin types. Here’s how it works: A machine filled with various solutions goes through a four-step process of cleansing and exfoliating your skin. A pen-like instrument is applied to the skin – which feels like a mini-loofah scrubbing your face – during a 25-, 50- or 80-minute treatment. A traditional facial mask is applied, and extractions also take place inside a dark, calm room with soft music playing overhead. My 80-minute version included enhancements like a lymphatic drainage, LED light and a luxurious neck, hand and foot massage.

On Paradise Point’s decision to become the first resort to introduce the HydraFacial, Spa director Gloria Myers said, “It is cutting edge. This is exactly what our guests are looking for. I think we all love the idea that we can see immediate results, less fine lines and wrinkles and have radiant skin with little to no redness afterwards.”

Introduced May 13, this special facial is slowly picking up in popularity. Brides, conference attendees and locals looking for quick skin results have been the primary consumers of the treatment thus far.

While personally I felt relaxed and rejuvenated post-treatment, whether it’s worth the investment ($150 to $250 a session) is a decision you’ll have to make for yourself.

Michelle Poveda is a freelance writer in San Diego whose work has been featured in lifestyle magazines. Contact her at michellespoveda@gmail.com.
Crown Point Junior Music Academy in Pacific Beach earns national award

By DAVE SCHWAB

Crown Point Junior Music Academy recently earned the SupportMusic Merit Award from The National Association of Music Merchants Foundation.

That should come as no surprise to those familiar with the Pacific Beach neighborhood music magnet school, which is working its way toward loftier goals.

The SupportMusic Merit Award is given to individual schools that demonstrate outstanding achievement in efforts to provide music access and education to all students. Crown Point is one of 120 schools nationwide and 18 schools in California being recognized by the foundation for their school-based music education programs. This is the first time Crown Point has received this award.

Crown Point is known for its focus on strong academics through music education. Following their motto, “Music Opens Minds,” teachers at Crown Point focus on integrating music into their entire curriculum, which helps improve students’ intellectual development and musical skill.

“Crown Point is a small school with a big vision,” said Principal Muriel Bartolini. “All stakeholders involved in the school believe music to be a vital part of a child’s education, and because of that, our teachers work hard at incorporating music in all they do within the students’ day. Receiving this award has honored our vision.”

The music almost ended at Crown Point with the 2008 recession and school district budget cuts that curtailed several of the school’s programs, which are now, slowly, returning.

“I’ve always been a supporter of the arts because I know there are so many children, if given the opportunity with different mediums, that they would be able to bring out that gift,” said Bartolini. “So when I came here last year as the new principal, I had a sidewalk painted with notes and had music murals put in on school walls to show the community what we are in here.”

Bartolini said her goal is to turn Crown Point into “a state-of-the-art music academy.”

“That’s my vision,” she said, adding, “There’s a ways to go.”

Elementary school assistant Catalina Valenzuela noted Crown Point’s music program starts out with its school’s transitional kindergarten class and culminates with its Suzuki violin program, wherein both parents and students learn to play the violin together.

“The Suzuki method is a big parent-involvement program,” said Valenzuela, noting the parent becomes the child’s “coach.”

Kristen Churchill, a Crown Point parent, said the school’s music program is wonderfully involving for families. She added performances by young people can “take your breath away,” with songs performed by children making you want to “tap your feet and get goosebumps.”

Noting Crown Point was “a very small school before the music program,” Valenzuela pointed out the school’s population has more than doubled, from about 150 students a few years ago to 390 today.

Valenzuela added music is even a major part of after-school and student club programs.

“We have a lot of after-school clubs provided free,” Valenzuela said. “Kids learn how to play guitar and other instruments. They go out and perform at the Pacific Beach Library and at events like PB Beachfest and the annual Gator By the Bay festival.”

For more information, visit www.sandi.net/crownpoint.

Senior Lifestyle

Right Choice Senior Living

Established in early 2008, Joan Brooks (UCSD Graduate) and Todd Brooks (Air Force Veteran, US Air Force Academy Graduate) had the desire to develop Assisted Living Care Homes and Services for seniors that are cut above the rest at fair & competitive rates. Right Choice Senior Living has Residential Care Homes located in highly desirable neighborhoods close to UCSD, La Jolla, Pacific Beach, Clairemont (Mount Street area) medical facilities and the beach. Come see us today before making your final choice. Make the Right Choice Today. For more information call (619) 246-2002 or go to the website at rightchoiceseniorliving.org.

Autumn Villas

Autumn Villas is a six-bed residential home located in University City servicing seniors who can no longer live alone. The hallways have been widened for wheelchair access, a roll-in shower and a walk-in bathtub are featured in the main bath, high quality foam mattresses with adjustable beds exist for most beds, many different common areas are established to relax and play in and nutritious, delicious and well-balanced meals are served. The care is warm and friendly.

Studentss at Crown Point Junior Music Academy play some of their instruments. PHOTO BY DAVE SCHWAB

27 Fast and easy fix up tips to get the best price for your home.

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

To assist home sellers, a new industry report has just been released called “27 Valuable Tips That You Should Know To Get Your Home Sold Fast and For Top Dollar.” It tackles the important issues you need to know to make your home competitive in today’s tough, aggressive marketplace.

In this report you’ll discover how to avoid financial disaster when selling your home. Using a common-sense approach you will get straight facts about what can make or break the sale of your home. You owe it to yourself to learn how these important tips will give you the competitive edge to get your home sold fast and for the most amount of money.

To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this report, call toll-free 1-800-276-0763 and enter 1023. You can call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Get your free special report NOW.

Contact Muriel Bartolini, Principal, at (760) 642-0982 or mbartolini@chasenet.org.

EDUCATION NOTEBOOK

Earlier start date for school year

The San Diego Unified School District voted June 9 to move the start date of the 2016-17 school year to a pre-Labor Day start.

Next year, there will be the traditional post-Labor Day start, but in the following year, classes will begin one week earlier, on Aug. 29.

The Mission Bay Cluster would like to sincerely thank the many parents, staff and community members who sent emails, shared concerns at the cluster meetings, responded to the surveys and spoke at the board of education meetings to share their opinions.

The cluster had many concerns about the calendar committee process, the rationale for change and, most importantly, the negative impact of heat indexes in the classrooms with the earlier start date. The cluster appreciated its board of education representative, Michael McQuary, for expressing those concerns on the cluster’s behalf on June 9 and voting against the calendar change.

The cluster will be putting together a plan to insist that the district address the heat issue in schools. The cluster will also strongly urge the district to relook at their committee processes in regard to transparency and inclusion.

Crown Point Junior Music Academy

Crown Point Junior Music Academy won a two-day residency on the John Lennon Education Tour Bus. The John Lennon Education Tour Bus is a battle-proven HD video recording and production facility.

The assistance of three on-board engineers, students learn how to write, perform, record and produce original songs, produce and shoot music videos and documentaries and complete a broadcast quality music video - all in one day!

The academy has been named one of the Campaign for Business & Education Excellence honor roll schools for 2014. Each year, the campaign presents this award to individual schools and to districts that have excelled in raising students’ achievement and closing achievement gaps.

Workshop dates are as follows:

- Developing Strings: Wednesday, July 8, 15, 22 and 29 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.;
- Upper Strings: Wednesday, July 8, 15, 22 and 29 from 10:30 a.m. to noon;
- Developing Band: Thursday, July 9, 16, 23 and 30 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. and 10:30 to 3 p.m.
- Upper Band: Thursday, July 9, 16, 23 and 30 from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

Contact jodonnell@sandi.net for more information.
Miss Mission Beach pageant this Friday

The 2015 Miss Mission Beach pageant, benefiting adaptive sports events throughout San Diego County, will take place at 7 p.m. Friday, June 19, in the Bay View Room at the Marina Village Conference Center in Mission Beach.

Anyone interested in attending may visit missmissionbeach.org or FaceBook.com/mmbsandiego for more information.

Miss Mission Beach San Diego was organized for the purpose of bringing awareness to the adaptive sports community of San Diego County. Each year, hundreds of physically challenged children and adults are in need of support in order to remain active and live healthy, happy lives.

Miss Mission Beach will make various appearances during the year at various adaptive sports events, the St. Patrick’s Day Parade and other events. These events will be scheduled to help promote the Miss Mission Beach title and the mission of the Miss Mission Beach Organization.

Miss Mission Beach was designed to raise funds through events and sponsorships to allow donations to a variety of organizations throughout the county.

Get toasted with fresh sandwiches at Cheba Hut

If you like your subs toasted, there’s just the place for you in Pacific Beach: Cheba Hut.

Open since November of 2014, Cheba Hut, at 4651 Mission Blvd., which started in Arizona in 1998, is a southwestern “transplant” that’s really taking root in San Diego.

Co-owners Ryan Snyder and Jordan Robinson talked about what they’re bringing to the table with their franchised sub shop.

“We specialize in all fresh ingredients; our distributors are local,” said Snyder.

“Every store is unique,” noted Robinson. “The only thing the same is the product. It tastes the same everywhere you go. You know you’re getting quality products and fresh ingredients.”

“All the stores have kind of a beach feel,” said Snyder. “Ours has a cool bamboo façade. It feels like you’re sitting in a little hut.”

“That’s what’s cool,” added Robinson. “Even though it’s a franchise, each store is individual. It looks nothing like the next one.”

The owners revealed their favorite choices on the eatery’s extensive sandwich menu, served at lunch and dinner.

“The top seller, my favorite, is Call Mist,” said Snyder. “It’s turkey, bacon, avocado, fresh jalapeños that we make in-house with pepper jack cheese, lightly toasted,” said Snyder.

The White Widow is Robinson’s favorite menu item.

“It’s chicken, bacon, ranch, mushrooms and pueblo cheese,” he said. “That sandwich is our most popular. The ranch we make from scratch.”

“All our sauces are proprietary to us; they’re all made from scratch,” added Snyder, noting, “All our bread is made specifically for us. All our meats and cheeses are sliced in-house.”

A San Diego native, Robinson went to school in Flagstaff, Ariz., where he met Snyder. Both were budding restaurateurs.

“I owned a coffee shop in Arizona, sold it and had a little extra money,” said Snyder.

“I had a local, mom-and-pop sandwich shop,” said Robinson.

“We wanted to do something that fit us, something that we’d love,” said Snyder.

The appeal of Cheba Hut is universal, though the college crowd is a mainstay, with Snyder’s and Robinson’s two eateries at SDSU and PB serving students from all over.

“We cater to everybody,” said Robinson. “It’s all about the food. If the food wasn’t good, people wouldn’t come. We get children, elderly people, the military.”

“Basically, it’s just anyone who wants to get a sandwich,” said Snyder.

In Cheba Hut’s case, it’s toasted sandwiches.

Why toasting?

“There’s not a whole lot of places that do it,” said Robinson.

Which is why toasting has to be done right, noted Snyder.

“You’ve got to do it so that it’s not overly crispy to where it hurts your mouth,” he said. “With ours, just the top layer is crispy, but it’s still squishy on the bottom. It heats the meat and melts the cheese.”

“You get a nice contrast from crispy to hot with cold veggies on at the end,” added Robinson.

Are more Cheba Huts in San Diego’s future?

“We’re not trying to put one on every corner; that would take away from the coolness factor,” said Robinson.

For the full article, please visit the website of your local newspaper.
Spreading the love with flowers in PB

By JENNIFER GREEN

Nicknamed “April Flowers” or “Flower Girl” by her clients, April Thorp is spreading more than just love with her new open-air flower shop on the boardwalk called Spreading the Love PB.

She believes that everyone has love in them; her mission is to bring it to the surface, in part with flowers and floral arrangements.

Thorp grew up on a farm in upstate New York. Her dad grew flowers, and when a local woman taught her and her sister flower arranging, she was hooked.

Thorp got a degree in something called ornamental horticulture floriculture merchandising and worked for a New York florist for seven years before relocating in California to follow her two passions: flowers and running.

“In New York, there’s lots of snow,” Thorp said. “When asked how long she plans to stay, it’s obvious she’s here to stay.” Thorp is spreading more than just love to the people of Pacific Beach.

“Flower Girl” by her clients, April Thorp at her flower shop, which is where Hornblend Street ends at the boardwalk in Pacific Beach.

PHOTO BY JENNIFER GREEN

Why Pueblo as the name? Because it’s historic — and something San Diegans can relate to, Oliver said.

“The Spanish plan for the colonization of California,” he noted, “contained a civil format for the establishment of communities called pueblos. Other translations of ‘pueblo’ are used to define a ‘gathering place’ and to refer to a design style of North America’s southwestern architecture that is ‘flat roofed.’ Our concept will relate to each of these meanings.”

The restaurateur said Pueblo will feature “traditional Baja foods that can be found along the coastal communities of Baja, using ingredients that are regional to Baja.”

Oliver added Pueblo’s cuisine will be “contemporary and ever-changing” and be subject to the chef’s interpretation and imagination. “The menu will lean favorably toward seafood and consequently offer lighter, healthier and fresher options than found in a typical Mexican restaurant,” he said, adding, “Completely newly created menu items can also be presented, as long as they honor the essence of Baja cuisine in some way — like the product utilized or the use of a specific cooking method. Guests will probably come to identify us as being a seafood restaurant as much as a Mexican restaurant.”

Without revealing the name of Pueblo’s new chef, Oliver said only that “we do have one identified and committed.” He added the new chef is preparing by “immersing himself in the travel and study of Baja California, especially that of the food culture.”

A fan of outdoor dining, Oliver said the restaurant’s layout “will try to seamlessly blend the indoors and the outdoors, with much of the seating being in an open courtyard or on a rooftop deck.”
Bird’s surf scoop

What’s that old board really worth?

Having been in the surfing world for more than 50 years now, I have learned a thing or two about surfboards. Bird’s Surf SHED now houses more than 1,000 surfboards and counting. It has grown so large that I need an additional location as a clearinghouse to view boards before I can decide if they will be made into the SHED itself.

Although all boards have some value, expectations are often much larger than what the board is really worth. This is most often the case when an uneducated friend or salesperson pumps them up or when a personal attachment is involved. Read on if you care to see how I have come to place values on boards.

There are many ways to achieve an appraisal request, depending upon the client’s needs and how detailed the appraisal required. Due to surfing's limited appeal, there are no licensed appraisers that I am aware of. The few of us that do this are often different in their approaches. Most work off a basic book value comparing auction results and sales trends, et cetera. I take that into consideration – but since I personally appraise and sell boards on a daily basis, I work off a current value in today’s market.

To keep things cost effective, I can work off decent photos (I have worked this way often for property settlements). A hands-on appraisal, wherein I physically handle each board individually, can be called for at times too. It really depends on how detailed the client needs the information to be.

Time spent is a factor as well. For a board to be valued at a high dollar amount, it will take some serious research to fairly establish values. You’ll be dealing not only with the board itself but also with the historical value and the importance and status that comes along with the prior owner’s or builder’s reputation in the surf community.

Overall condition and availability of inventory plays a large part in a board’s value, as does the location the board was built in and where it is now located. Finding a decent-priced board on the East Coast may seem great until you factor in shipping and trying to judge the item off of eBay or craigslist photos. A physical viewing is always the best way to establish a fair market value.

As with most things people collect, you should enjoy owning the item more that just thinking of what the dollar value is or someday may be.

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San Diego's P.O.D. to release new album, sets tour dates

San Diego's own hard rock heroes, P.O.D. have returned with a new single, the aptly titled "This Is For You," from the album "The Awakening," set to be released Aug. 21. The band, which crushed it with a performance at Party in the Park last Friday before the Padres game at Petco Park on June 19, has just kicked off a round of touring in advance of the disc that will have all necessary adds to any blues fans collection. But make sure to see him live, where his wit and energy match his musical skills for as how that's second to none.

Billy Watson: Friday, June 19, Tio Leo's, 5302 Napa St. 9 p.m. 21 and up. Cover TBD. www.tioleos.com.

This is a wonderful opportunity for local music fans to do a good deed while dancing to live music at one of the top nightspots in Pacific Beach, only steps from the water.

Funk Junkies: Saturday, June 20 at the 710 Beach Club, 710 Garnet Ave. 8 p.m. 21 and up. www.710bc.com.

For fans of progressive rock, it doesn’t get any better than Astra, who perform at Brick by Brick on Sunday, June 21. They haven’t released anything since their 2012 opus, “The Black Chord,” but anyone who enjoys the sonic space between Pink Floyd and Yes will love every second of their albums and performances.

This is amazing stuff that really does draw favorable comparison with the bands they revere – they didn’t just get the sounds right, they’ve crafted really good music. Hopefully sometime before “This Will Be Played” is released, the band will perform in San Diego.

This Father’s Day, treat dad to a day at the beach and cruise to Belmont Park for the park’s second annual Car Show, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, June 21 at 3146 Ocean Front Walk. The first 100 fathers at the show will receive a free branded beer chalice to pair with the event brunch.

The fare includes more than 75 cars from 1980 and older, including a selection of restored classic autos. Raffle tickets will be sold for exciting prizes, such as SeaWorld tickets, where guests will dine with Shamu; Belmont Park passes; passes to ride waves at the Wave House; and so much more.

Belmont Park celebrates Father’s Day with sailing over Belmont Park on the new Zip Line or play in the new surf and sand with a wide variety of craft beers. Come and cruise to Belmont Park for the park’s second annual Car Show, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, June 21 at 3146 Ocean Front Walk. The first 100 fathers at the show will receive a free branded beer chalice to pair with the event brunch.

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Red crab invasion

Red crabs, also called tuna crabs, are a type of squat lobster usually found off the coast of Baja and to the south. When the Pacific Ocean warms up due to the El Niño effect, red crabs will migrate north and at times wash ashore - as they did at Tourmaline Beach in Pacific Beach on Saturday.

PHOTO BY THOMAS MEUSVILLE
wristband. The rides are open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Sundays. I was going to enjoy myself for the entire day.

As I looked over the rides they had, I noticed a few new additions to the park – Zip Line, Leap of Faith, Rock Wall, and the Lazer Maze. It was too hard to stay away from these new adventures.

As I began to walk through the park, I immediately saw the famous Giant Dipper roller coaster and knew that that would be a perfect start.

This historical wooden roller coaster was built in 1925 and restored in 1990; it has provided joy to a number of riders throughout its years. As I took my seat, I knew it was going to be a wild ride. This coaster has a special charm and character to it that is unlike any other. The Giant Dipper passed through a dark tunnel before making its way up the first incline. Once at the top, I knew it was a matter of seconds until my stomach would drop from that first hill. From there, it was full speed through all the hills and turns for the 1-minute and 45-second duration of the ride. Finally, we made it back to the beginning, and all I wanted to do was ride it again.

After another ride on the Giant Dipper, I made my way to the Liberty Carousel, which brought me feelings of nostalgia. Next, I went on the Crazy Submarine, the Tilt-A-Whirl, both classic Belmont Park rides. After that, I went on the Beach Blaster, where I had one of the most thrilling experiences of the day. This machine took me swinging 60 feet in the air, swinging 1.20 degrees like a pendulum. Once I had gone on most of the attractions, I decided to take a little break and explore the arcade. It has classic vintage games such as Pac-Man and Donkey Kong mixed with modern arcade games as well. After a fun arcade break, I just had to check out some of the new attractions.

I headed over to the new Zip Line first ($10 per person for two zips). I suited up and made my way up the stairs to the descent. This adrenaline filled adventure was definitely one for the books. Then I went for the Sky Climb Rock Wall ($6 per person), where I had to choose a rock wall based on difficulty. I opted for the medium difficulty and climbed 30 feet to the top. Right next to the Rock Wall was the Speedwall ($6 per person), where you can race a friend in some friendly competition.

Though I was too scared to take the Leap of Faith, the newest free-falling attraction, it is one to get your adrenaline pumping. Last, I tested my skills in the Lazer Maze ($3 per person or $10 unlimited play). This is a “Mission Impossible”-style timed course and has players ducking, diving, and rolling to navigate the obstacles as quickly as possible to complete the objective without breaking the laser.

Even though I did not go on a few of the rides (I was a little too big), I saw that the little kids who did enjoyed themselves very much. Full of fun and adventure, Belmont Park is a great way to spend the day, and I’m sure to be coming back this summer.

BELMONT CONT. FROM PG. 1

and happiness and joy will live on.”

"The Class of ’15 has officially made it,” Lobato concluded.

Principal Ernest Remillard, who previously was principal at Pacific Beach Middle School, is the first principal to preside over a graduating class in the high school’s new stadium. He told graduates, “I’m so proud to be your principal.”

Pointing out how much those he new previously in middle school have grown during their “rigorous 12-plus years of education,” Remillard added, “Now is time for that next step. Many of you have plans to continue your education, join the military or start a career. Whichever path you take, please remember the experiences that you had here at Mission Bay.

“Remember the staff sharing the gift of knowledge and the coaches who challenged you on the field, the court or the pool. Remember the friends who shared in these experiences and the times you turned to one another in support. I know you will be successful.”

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