Mayor Gloria signs short-term vacation rental ordinance into law

Four months into his administration, Mayor Todd Gloria on April 14 put to rest an issue that had been unnecessarily difficult for City leaders to solve as he signed into law an ordinance regulating short-term vacation rentals.

“These regulations should have been put in place long ago,” Gloria said. “Thanks to the leadership of Council President Jennifer Campbell, who worked closely with me to get the job done, San Diego finally has a clear set of rules governing short-term vacation rentals. Now, the work turns to thoughtful implementation, faithful enforcement and careful monitoring to enhance the quality of life in our neighborhoods.”

As he signed the ordinance at City Hall, he was joined by Campbell, who shepherded the ordinance to a pair of 8-1 Council votes on Feb. 23 and April 6. The ordinance puts regulations on the books that seek to protect neighborhoods while providing San Diegans with opportunities to rent out their homes, should they choose to do so.

“I’m grateful to the mayor for signing this ordinance, which will end the uncontrolled growth of short-term rentals, return homes back to San Diego’s housing market and bring peace and tranquility back to our neighborhoods,” said Campbell.

Now that the ordinance has been signed into law, City staff will work toward proposing for City Council approval sensible rental license fees and a lottery process for an initial allocation of limited licenses. Staff is also working to establish the systems, personnel and protocol needed to effectively enforce the new regulations.
Residents have mixed views on Slow Streets program in Pacific Beach

By DAVE SCHWAB

Some Pacific Beach neighbors want the brakes put on the Slow Streets pilot program on Diamond Street from Mission Boulevard to Haines Street, claiming it is adversely impacting their neighborhood and is no longer needed.

The Slow Streets pilot program was introduced by former Mayor Kevin Faulconer to make it safer during COVID for San Diegans to walk and bike by creating more space for physical distancing and reducing congested foot traffic at parks, beaches, and outdoor trails. The program involved the City closing select streets to through traffic to optimize pedestrian and cyclist use to prioritize cost-effective transportation for essential workers during a time of economic strain and decreased transit service. This included erecting space for physical distancing and closer parks, beaches, and outdoor trails.

But some PB residents, like Jennifer Sprofera on Diamond Street, argue instead that slow streets are less safe and have displaced people and communities.

“Because [Diamond] was such a high-traffic street, it made no sense to take that from us. It was the east-west route with protected four-way stops at each intersection and a light to cross in. Now drivers using other streets must worry about being T-boned. And on Diamond, when crossing north to south, you must worry about crashing into a bike, scooter, skater or pedestrian in the middle of the road.”

“Slow streets are a way to encourage walking, biking, skating and other people-powered transportation by creating spaces where driving isn’t prioritized,” said Slow Streets supporter and PB resident Katie Machete. “We hope our Slow Street in Pacific Beach will become a model for other neighborhoods as we rethink the best ways to share our roadway space.”

Neighbor Cindy Van Voorhis agreed with Sprofera.

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SCOTT’S PB SPOTLIGHT

This month’s feature: Heather Rabe Worms

Many of you probably already know Heather but for those of you that don’t, she is in charge of the Jr Lifeguard program, is currently on the Site Coordinators Committee at PB Middle, is the past chair of the MB Cluster Board as well as served 5 years on the PB Elementary PTO board as well as past president. In her “free time” she is involved with PTOs and helps with the Blast soccer club and still manages to be a dental hygienist a couple half days a week. Heather lives in North PB with her husband Rob and two kids.

Heather moved here from the Sacramento area to attend UCSD in the early 90’s and never left. Her tenure with the Lifeguard department started in 1996 when she was a summer lifeguard while attending UCSD. In 1998 she became an instructor for the Jr Lifeguard program and last year after the then person in charge retired, she was selected to run the show. Some of her accomplishments include helping found the Jr Lifeguard & Autism Camp in association with Autism Tree, helping start the Grommets program and last year being able to still have one of only 3 Jr Guard programs in the state and the first in the nation due to Covid. When I asked her why she thought she was able to make it work against such daunting circumstances, she and “I really leaned on my amazing staff to accomplish all being able to run the program and without them it wouldn’t have been possible”. That program this year was immediately filled and has over 2,000 people on the waiting list, a testament to how well the program is run.

Heather’s involvement with the schools and school boards here in PB has seen a LOT of accomplishments. As she pointed out to me, she was very lucky that when her and her copresenter Amanda Morato took the reins of the PTO board at PB, that “the people before us had done such a good job setting the stage for us to succeed and do well and we were surrounded by tons of other parent volunteers that contributed so much to the school, programs and fundraising”. Some of those accomplishments are the creation and funding of a science program, funding a continued PE program and music program, increased fundraising, much more community involvement and an overall elevation of the student’s enrichment. Her involvement at PTO lead to her involvement with the MB Cluster and involvement with PBMS where she has been involved with the new later school start times as well as funding a continued PE program and music program, increased fundraising, much more community involvement and do well and we were surrounded by tons of other parent volunteers that contributed so much to the school, programs and fundraising. Some of those accomplishments are the creation and funding of a science program, funding a continued PE program and music program, increased fundraising, much more community involvement and an overall elevation of the student’s enrichment. 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City Council approves curfews at three Pacific Beach parks
By DAVE SCHWAB
Increasing crime in parts of Pacific Beach during the evening- and early-morning hours has prompted the beach community to recommend curfews at Fannuel Park, Pacific Beach Library grounds, and Mission Bay Youth Fields.
That recommendation was approved by an April 6 full City Council vote.
“The park curfews will go into effect 30 days after the mayor signs the ordinance, and signage will go up by that time,” said Brian White, past president of Pacific Beach Town Council.
“This initiative is the result of a nearly two-year-long process, starting with a petition circulated in July 2019 that gathered 504 signatures in two months. Over the past two years, this proposal has been heard by numerous park advisory groups, commissions, and community groups. ”
“I’m glad to see the park curfews nearing the final steps toward implementation,” said Teran. “Residents and police have experienced elevated levels of crime during nighttime hours, and these curfews will be an added tool for residents and police to make the areas safer.”
The following nighttime curfews are now designated: PB Library, 5 p.m.-8 a.m.; Mission Bay Youth Fields, 11 p.m.-6 a.m.; and Fannuel Park, 10 p.m.-5 a.m.
Fannuel Park, which is heavily used during the day especially on weekends, needs further approval from the Coastal Commission, which may take longer to initiate.
“Also due to City budget shortfalls, local volunteer nonprofit Pacific Beach Town Council is paying for signage costs,” added White.
Parks and Rec on the details.
Phyllis Teran, PB Library coordinator, said what he finds mornings when he arrives:
“Bike parts, shopping carts, and other stolen items left behind.”
“What this means is I spend a great deal of time dealing with this, which means I have less time to work on the fields,” noted Teran.
“We have spent hundreds of dollars fixing things that were broken overnight, which is money that could have been used on the kids. This is the crux of the complaint. It’s a field for kids. And it’s not safe,” Teran said.
Silver shared one example. “Our games often start at 8 a.m. which means the kids arrive at 7 a.m.” he said. “I was the first one to arrive on a Saturday at 6:30 a.m. and found a man had broken the lock to the dugout and was inside ‘sleeping’ with a needle still stuck in his arm. When I woke him up he went berserk and chased me away (I led him away from where the kids were arriving). Like many of the things that have happened at the fields, it wasn’t reported to the police because the man got on his bike and rode off. But I know we have called the police many times, too.”
Another PB volunteer, Marcella Teran, addressed her public support for a nighttime curfew at PB Library Park.
“Our community’s crime rates are growing each year,” Teran said. “We are experiencing increasing crime especially in certain areas of Pacific Beach during the evening and early morning hours. Three parks that are particularly impacted by criminal activity are Fannuel Park, Pacific Beach Library Park, and Mission Bay Youth Fields.
“Many people in the nearby neighborhoods have told me they are afraid to walk, jog, or visit their dogs in or close to these parks during the evening and early morning hours. I know this to be true. The night-time curfew is a subtle way to help reduce crime, and help people feel safer,” Teran said.

Obituary: Dr. John Westwood, DDS
Dr. John Westwood, DDS, passed away peacefully March 28, 2022 surrounded by his wife and three children at Scripps Memorial Hospital from Parkinson’s complications. An adventurous, kind and generous soul, John shared his talents, time, love, friends, family and community.
No one was a stranger to “Dr. John.”
He grew up on the shores of Mission Beach, graduating from Mission Bay High school in 1960, attended BYU then served an LDS mission to Northern California. He transferred to SDSU majoring in Zoology where he earned a varsity letter in volleyball. Creative match making by his mother, Betty Westwood, led to a beautiful marriage of over 53 years to Darice (Tippets).
In 1967, John and Darice moved to Los Angeles to attend USC Dental School. After graduation, John returned to San Diego with his young family. Initially working alongside his father, Dr. John T. Westwood, John enjoyed connecting with his patients for over 37 years. As a member of Flying Samaritans, he provided free dental care to remote villages in Baja California. In 1982, he opened a second dental practice in Pacific Beach. John continued to serve his patients and the community. He was President of the PTA at Pacific Beach Middle School.

Obituary continued...
Couple leads tours to ‘quirky hidden spots’ in San Diego
Team building events, scavenger hunts, and wellness walks offered

By DAVE SCHWAB

Darylne and Marc Menkin migrated from the East Coast to San Diego to re-establish themselves and ended up becoming tour guides, something neither of them had ever considered.

Darylne Reyes Menkin was working in broadcast news and her husband Marc had been busy discovering “quirky hidden spots” exploring the shores of North Pacific Beach and Bird Rock.

“He would come home and tell me about all the really cool places he’d found,” said Darylne. “Finally he said to me, ‘I think I want to do this tour guide thing.’ I said, ‘Ok, we’ll go for it.’ I’ll help you as much as I can.”

The couple started doing walking tours on weekends for fun and enjoyed it so much they began to figure out how to earn a living from it.

“Then a company called us asking if we’d be willing to help them put together a team-building project,” noted Darylne, “That’s how it started.”

Now the pair own two sister companies, Out Of The Ordinary Group Adventures for team building, and Where You Want To Be Tours covering guided walking and bicycling tours, which began in 2003.

“We offer adventures for the public and also for private groups, which are often a family, a group of friends for an outdoor birthday adventure, or meet-up groups and companies looking for a fun team building day outside,” said Darylne.

“Our team-building company was actually started in 1996, and as time has gone on we’ve gotten more companies doing it such as Qualcomm, Kaiser, and Sharp,” noted Marc, adding both their companies are under one umbrella, “They go hand in hand,” he said adding, “We do scavenger hunts, one of our best sellers, in Balboa Park and elsewhere. We also do team Olympics, a cooking ‘iron chef’ as well as teaching outrigger racing and sailing. The list goes on, over 30 different team-building concepts for groups who want to play or bond, as well 15 to 20 different experiences for Where You Want To Be.”

“During this COVID time, outside tours are best, you can easily physically distance in beach communities like La Jolla,” added Darylne. Marc discussed their Hidden Gem Walking Tour.

“South of La Jolla Village there are some great beaches, like WindanSea, and just some really unusual places, hidden, secret beaches near mansions,” noted Marc. He added, “It’s an easy two-hour, four-mile walking tour with no steep hills. We know all the great spots, on top of the cliffs and the tidepools. We’ve gotten good feedback on our secret beaches and canyons tours. We show people where they can go to take a walk or bike ride.”

“We get very excited about being able to show these places to local people, or when they have their families in town,” noted Darylne. “We get juiced about empowering them.”

Their clientele is diverse, said Darylne.

“It’s leisure family tours as well as corporate and local groups and companies, tourists visiting, birthday parties and school reunions,” she said. “People want to be outside.”

Marc said they’re planning to begin bicycle and electric bike tours soon in North PB and Bird Rock. “It will be a 12- to 15-mile tour with stops along the way,” he said, adding similar tours are planned in Mission Beach and Sunset Cliffs.

Darylne pointed out people want something extraordinary in a group tour.

“They don’t want canned tours,” she said. “They want something that really speaks to them, allows them to have some fun with their families, something that is different and unique — a new experience.”

“We’re ourselves,” noted Darylne of their success adding, “We also donate our time a lot to the military and faith-based groups.”

“Right now we’re planning for adventures in the hospitality industry, encouraging people to participate who’ve been in the hard-hit hotel and hospitality industry,” noted Marc.

“The couple feeds off the reactions of guests on their guided tours. “We enjoy being in the moment, observing what people are learning,” Marc concluded.
Most rides, exhibits, events, and shows open at SeaWorld

By DAVE SCHWAB

The roller coaster Electric Eel – where riders drop from heights of 150 feet while getting boosted 60 mph forwards and backwards through looping twists – is now open at SeaWorld.

The laughter and learning of Sesame Street come to life at Sesame Street Bay of Play. Where families can participate in new experiences including the all-new R is for Rescue animal education presentation on how the park cares for animals in need, and how we can all take care of the environment to make it a safer place for animals.

SeaWorld fireworks reignite noise complaints from coastal residents

By DAVE SCHWAB

The resumption of fireworks this spring at the recently reopened SeaWorld has resurrected long-time opposition to the pyrotechnic displays, which opponents insist can be harmful to both animals (especially dogs) and people.

SeaWorld, which reopened most rides and exhibits on April 12, restarted nightly fireworks on March 26 through April 11. The fireworks shows, which had been on a long hiatus, will continue on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays through May 30.

That action has prompted a new petition drive launched by a San Diego resident on Change.org. The petition, which was started a couple of weeks ago and has 3,105 signatures as of April 14, states: “The fireworks at SeaWorld constitute animal cruelty. Dogs, cats, and other companion animals don’t understand that the terrifying loud bangs are a celebration. SeaWorld claims to be an organization based on animal conservation and education, yet it launches nightly fireworks terrorizing and tormenting tens of thousands of animals in the San Diego area.”

“Dogs, cats, and all animals live in terror every night for miles around,” continues the petition.

“Can you imagine what the terrifying booming does to its own animals directly under the thunderous sounds in small tanks reverberating the noises? It is beyond irresponsible for an animal conservation group to be inflicting so much pain and trauma to animals. SeaWorld is notorious for its abuse and neglect of its own animals. It’s no surprise they are completely ignorant to this as well. It’s a disgusting display of ignorance and a complete disregard to animal welfare.”

Reacting to the petition’s allegations, SeaWorld spokesperson Tracy Spahr answered: “We have always conducted our fireworks, which have been a San Diego spring and summer tradition for more than 25 years, in accordance with City of San Diego noise ordinance (San Diego policy 500-06) that regulates such demonstrations. We try to be mindful of our neighbors and their pets by making sure the program is concluded by 9 or 10 p.m., and always communicate the dates and times of our firework presentations.

“We do understand that atmospheric conditions can cause sound to travel farther distances,” continued SeaWorld’s response. “But we have no way of telling if those conditions have been different now than from previous years. We’ve also used the same fireworks shells for the past decade and as part of our policy, we don’t use any fireworks shells for the sole purpose of making noise (these are called salutes), but limit the shells to the smaller version of salutes.”

Most rides, exhibits, events, and shows open at SeaWorld

By DAVE SCHWAB

Havering relaunched its rides on April 12, SeaWorld has fully reopened its theme park with limited capacity featuring animal exhibits, presentations, and other entertainment experiences.

“We’re delighted to bring back some of the best thrill and family rides that San Diego has to offer,” said park president Mark Haines. “Our guests have been eager for SeaWorld to reopen rides, and we are looking forward to providing these exciting experiences to our guests.”

“We reopened in August 2020 then again in early February as an accredited zoo and aquarium with changes to almost every aspect of our park operations to enhance our already strict health and safety standards – from food service to live animal presentations,” noted Tracy Spahr, SeaWorld spokesperson.

“Now with guidelines available from the state, SeaWorld San Diego is operating as a theme park. Guests can enjoy our indoor exhibits and see penguins, sharks, belugas and our new northern sea otters; learn about dolphins and sea lions at live educational presentations, and sip and savor around the world at the Seven Seas Food Festival event on weekends.”

Added Spahr: “Meet the Sesame Street characters at the Sesame Street Bay of Play. Watch a new live animal presentation called R is for Rescue, an exclusive show to our park that highlights rescued animals with some added fun from Elmo and Abby Cadabby, plus all the park’s rides.”

Spahr noted SeaWorld employees, during the park’s closures, were present to properly care for animals. “In addition, our SeaWorld Rescue Team continued to be on call 24/7/365, partnering with multiple government agencies to rescue and help animals in need of our care during the pandemic, giving them a second chance at life,” she said.

“Last year, we rescued 819 animals. 463 of those were while we were closed due to COVID.”

What can park guests expect from the reopened SeaWorld?

“We’ve added plexiglass to the rides and extra-distancing measures. In addition, hand sanitizer is available at the entrance and exit of all rides and throughout the park, and we have increased the frequency of cleaning and sanitizing and all rides are kept to a limited capacity,” replied Spahhr.

What to expect:

PARK RIDES

Open: The roller coaster Electric Eel – where riders drop from heights of 150 feet while getting boosted 60 mph forwards and backwards through looping twists – as well as the Tentacle Twirl, Elmo’s Flying Fish, Oscar’s Rockin’ Eel, and the Sea Dragon Drop.

Opening soon: Water rides Shipwreck Rapids and Journey to Atlantis, roller coaster Manta, Riptide Rescue, Octaroc, and the Bayside Skyride.

Temporarily closed: The roller coaster Tidal Twister, and the Skyride.

Opening in 2021: The Emperor roller coaster will be the tallest and fastest floorless dive coaster in the state. Riders will dangle and drop more than 150 feet before plunging 90 degrees into exhilarating loops, a tribute to the Emperor penguin’s jumps from cliffs to their deep dive into the depths of the ocean.

SEASAME STREET

The laughter and learning of Sesame Street come to life at Sesame Street Bay of Play where families can participate in new experiences including animal education presentation on how the park cares for animals in need, and how we can all take care of the environment to make it a safer place for animals.

FOOD FEST

For those who like to sip, savor, and sample, the Seven Seas Food Festival continues through May 2. The event runs Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, serving more than 125 flavors of Churro worldwide with live music performances stationed throughout the park. Weekend guests will experience the heart-pounding energy and beauty of the Polynesia Dance Show, complete with atmospheric Hawaiian traditional music, hula dancers, a fire dance and live musicians.

To prepare for the spring and summer months ahead, SeaWorld is recruiting and hiring more employees. Southern California residents can now purchase a SoCal resident pass for $9 a month, which includes unlimited visits for 12 months and 50 percent off parking. Visit seaworldsandiego.com for more details.

“Added Haines, “Safety is our number one priority, and as we’ve been fortunate to already be open and operating as a zoo; we have implemented significant safety enhancements for our guests.” To give guests ample space for a physically distanced visit, the number of date-specific tickets and reservations available each day are limited and must be purchased online and in advance of each visit to manage capacity.
Birch Aquarium Summer Learning Adventure Camp

This summer Birch Aquarium at Scripps Institution of Oceanography is offering both in-person and virtual summer camps for children entering grades K-5. Campers explore underwater worlds and meet amazing ocean creatures in these fun and safe week-long camps. Led by Birch Aquarium’s professional staff, campers will play games, create fun crafts, engage in science activities, and of course, get up close with aquarium animals, live or virtually.

Safety is top of mind for everyone, and Birch Aquarium has adopted several new safety measures for in-person camps including requiring face coverings and social distancing during all activities. Additionally, kids will remain in their camp pods with individual supplies and materials for each camper. Camps run June 21-August 27 and extended-day options are now available for in-person camps. Registration begins April 12 for the general public, with early registration available for aquarium members. Visit aquarium.ucsd.edu/summercamps for details.

NIKE TENNIS CAMPS at University of San Diego

Come join the fun and get better this summer at the Nike Tennis Camps at University of San Diego. Veteran director, Bill Scott, joined by USD Head Women’s Tennis Coach, Sherrri Stephens, and Head Men’s Tennis Coach, Ryan Kerckley have another amazing summer lined up with fun both on and off the court. With six weeks of junior overnight and day camps for boys & girls ages 9-18 of all ability levels, tournament training and high school players, there is a camp option for everyone! Highlights include: 5-6 hours of daily on-court instruction, a Nike Tennis Camp t-shirt and fun evening activities for overnight campers. Camps run throughout June and July. Registration is currently open. See you on the courts this summer! Call 1-800-645-3226 or visit usportsCamps.com/tennis.

Summer Camps at Rock Academy

Rock Academy Camps offers a safe and fun learning environment! A wide variety of day-camps for children ages 5-15 including sports, science, arts and adventure! Programs designed to develop the physical, emotional, spiritual, and social needs of each participant. Direct supervision with qualified, trained staff. Daily and weekly options available.

LEGO MANIA

Lego/Mania camper will have creative control over building cities, bridges, and motorized cars/planes and explore the many creative possibilities of engineering with the LEGO® system. With access to over 100,000 pieces of LEGO® your child will have the opportunity to build what they have only dreamed of. We may even dabble in some Lego Motion Videos.

MEDIA MADNESS (GRADES 1-7)

Lights! Camera! Action! Media Madness is an interactive camp that allows the campers to create music videos, movie trailers, and even a news broadcast. Campers will receive hands-on experience while creating a story, filming, and editing the videos in our computer lab. This camp will bring out the star performer in our campers.

PICKLEBALL (GRADES K-6)

Pickledball is a fast growing sport, due to it's simple game play and loads of fun. Pickleball is a mix of badminton, ping pong, and tennis. Campers will learn how to play this cool game and complete the camp with the very first RAC Open championship.

TRICK SHOT MANIA (GRADES 1-7)

A cool mix of sports, math, and science, Trick Shot Mania camp is designed to not only test the athletic ability of the camper, but demand creativity and precision to complete outrageous sports tasks.

Activities Are Subject To Change.

REGISTRATION

rockacademy.org/camp

CONTACT

Director Darnell Uhland
Office: (619) 764-5200
Email: darnell.uhland@sdrock.com

Join Rock Academy Camp this summer and experience the wonderful world of Performing Arts!

Campers will participate in acting, dance, singing & specialty classes during week-long online sessions all summer. Musical Theatre and Advanced Acting conservatory camps are also available. To register or for a list of camp dates, descriptions & pricing visit juniortheatre.com or email registration@juniortheatre.com.

EXCITING NEW SQUASH TRAINING IN JANUARY 2021!
LETTER TO EDITOR:

Pacific Beach residents should have more say over ‘Slow Streets’ program

EDITOR:

The City’s risking lives/properties for a slow-street “test tube” in dangerous demographics. Homeowners will be forced to endure permanent adversity with no vote/no vetting from transportation/safety/environmental authorities. Vested residents deserve democratic process of regular order for proposals of this magnitude. If this precedent’s established, no homeowner will be protected from unilateral haphazard drastic remapping of our neighborhoods.

PB’s worldwide destination provides a plethora of amenities encompassing miles of boardwalk, ocean, park lands, ball fields, recreation centers. Now they want to carve out what will inevitably become a circus at our doorsteps removing a precious main artery steps away from city-leased ever-expanding YMCA, school, recreation center, selfishly “leaf-blowing” all traffic under pretenses “safety/community building” so people can also “play in the streets” – potentially creating dangerous fads for now more congested roadways. “Give them an inch...”

Streets aren’t made safer by increasing accident-prone opportunities in highest-risk demographics of transient resident/tourist drivers three blocks from city’s largest drinking Mecca. Pedestrians are given only false sense of security; cars will illegally access this “street-walk.” It only takes “one bad day” for this ticking time bomb.

“Diamond” thinks they won the lotto under the guise of COVID. Residents aren’t safer because ecosystems will evolve for criminal/misuse/insurance. Behaviors there-by increasing strains on our already-challenged resources. “If you build it, they will come.”

Eco-friendly cities don’t intentionally increase congestion willy-nilly. These risk-reward disparity ratios are exponen-tial. Aren’t they?

“Smart Cities...” details “12 Ways to Slow Down Traffic...” PB has a measly handful of deterrents. We deserve a comprehensive plan incorporating intelligent infrastructure versus this slapdick pet project destined for personal injury, property damage, and an increasingly divided community.

San Francisco’s model requires numerous surveys/ several agencies to get on board to ascertain equitable understandings of how this will affect people. How nice. Our “Finest City” model includes one obscure survey posted thick in the weeds of a pandemic prefaced with “This is temporary...” – kinda resembling bait and switch.

I implore the City to put its citizens at ease with what should be readily-available answers to these paramount questions before concrete gets poured over this matter. Please protect and serve.

Cindy Van Voorhis
Pacific Beach

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WHAT CLIENTS ARE SAYING:

“Vidi is a total professional: knowledgeable, accessible, and full of creative ideas on how to get the most out of your house sale. I needed to sell my parents’ house, and Vidi made it a seamless process, from quoting and executing repairs, staging the home, marketing the house, and closing the sale. We were only on the market three days before we were in escrow!”

Best of all, Vidi is such a fun-loving person. She truly cares about her clients and makes the process a blast. I am so happy that I trusted her to sell my childhood home (and at top dollar)! Thank you, Vidi!”

-Jill K.

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JUST
SOLD!

3952 Haines • 92109
3+ BR • 3.5 BA • 2,412 SF • SOLD $2,100,000

NOW IN
ESROW!

725 Dover Ct • 92109
6 BR • 4.5 BA • LISTED $3,195,000

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3954 Haines St. • $1,975,000
In Escrow under a week with multiple offers 2,050 sq ft • 3 beds, 4 baths • 2 blocks away from Crown Point

6308 Avenida Cresta • $3,300,000
In Escrow first weekend with multiple offers 2,069 sq ft • 4 beds, 3 baths • Plans have been submitted to rebuild 5 bed, 5.5 bath, 4,478 sq ft

1828 Law St. • Just Sold over asking in 7 days with multiple offers at $1,420,000
1,230 sq ft • 4 bed, 2 bath

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-Jill K.
1225 Pacific Beach Dr. 4E
2BR/2BA $699,000
Remodeled condo in Sail Bay. This top floor condo boasts granite countertops, tile flooring, remodeled bathrooms, a large balcony, and peak view of the bay.

Marie Tolstad
(858) 705-1444
marie.tolstad@gmail.com
DRE# 00555757

1410 Loring Street
Bay view, 4 bedroom, 2 bath single story home in a great North Pacific Beach location. Approximately 1836 square feet with very large front and backyards. Easy walk to the beach shopping and restaurants.

$1,299,900
Marianne Kendall
(619) 708-3523
marianne@ilovepb.net
DRE# 01236825

IN ESCROW!

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IN ESCROW!
inappropriately with zero input from the community,” said Jessica Moore, adding, “We’re just worried somebody is going to get hurt.”

“Slow Streets has been in effect for 11 months,” pointed out Mike Moore. “The initial note was that this would be temporary due to an increase in pedestrian and biking activity when the boardwalk was shut down. Diverting traffic to other streets has completely disrupted the natural flow of traffic in PB.”

Mike Moore added: “Local residents on these streets are ‘not’ happy with the closure of Diamond. [Prior to Slow Streets] we had issues with drivers speeding down our street. There were two dog deaths, a skateboarder hit and numerous car accidents. Five years ago, I worked with the City to designate four-way stops at Missouri and Famael and Missouri and Gresham. All other Slow Streets have been canceled throughout the city, except the Diamond closure.”

“There’s a strong possibility that the City is in violation of California Codes 830/835,” contended Van Voorhis. “Our tax dollars are at stake in this irresponsible behavior because if an accident occurs during this closure, the City will be held liable in a court of law.”

Driver pleads not guilty to two counts of gross vehicular manslaughter

A 6 alleged drunk driver who is accused of causing the deaths of two passengers in La Jolla pleaded not guilty Monday to two counts of gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated.

Peter John Meno, 27, appeared before San Diego Superior Court Judge Joseph Brannigan via a computer program as the courts are partially closed due to the coronavirus outbreak.

Meno is accused in the Nov. 22, 2020, deaths of Jayden Rowley, 22, of Oceanside, and Matthew Cate, 19, of Vista.

Meno was driving his Nissan Altima on Torrey Pines Road around 3:15 a.m. when he made a left turn onto Girard Avenue and lost control of his car. The vehicle struck a tree. Meno was hospitalized for injuries in the incident.

Brannigan allowed Meno to remain free on $100,000 bond which he posted earlier. After he was released from the hospital, he was in jail for a day or two before posting the $10,000 premium to a bail bond agency, according to court records.

A preliminary hearing is set for May 20.

Meno is also charged with two counts of DUI with injury in making an unsafe turning movement.

RAIN, WIND, AND FIRE...

“The three menaces to any chimney, fireplace, or stove.”

Every year there are over twenty thousand chimney / fireplace related house fires in the US alone. Losses to homes as a result of chimney fires, leaks, and wind damage exceeds one hundred million dollars annually in the US.

CHIMNEY SWEEPS, INC., one of San Diego’s leading chimney repair and maintenance companies, is here to protect you and your home from losses due to structural damage and chimney fires.

Family owned and operated and having been in business for over 30 years, Chimney Sweeps Inc. is a fully licensed and insured chimney contracting company (License # 976438) and they are certified with the National Fireplace Institute and have an A+ rating with the Better Business Bureau.

For a limited time, readers of this paper will receive a special discount on our full chimney cleaning and safety inspection package with special attention to chimney water intrusion points in preparation for the rainy season.
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We were stressed. We needed to find a property quick and he found it in three days! His diligence, insight, and experience was key in getting our offer accepted. He worked with our exchange and introduced us to everyone we needed to make it happen. Scott is the man to call!

Scott W., Mission Beach Buyer

The Mavin Group West Proudly Presents this move-in ready gorgeous Rare Ground Level Ocean Front Villa Lives like a SFR. Enjoy Relaxing on your Exclusive Front Patio Watching Dolphins, Surfing, People Watching and Incredible Sunsets. Go HERE TO SEE VIRTUAL TOUR:

https://my.matterport.com/show/?m=47WC4nM3jZo

3563 OCEAN FRONT WALK UNIT A
MISSION BEACH CA 92109 $2,595,000

SOLD! $3,000,000
$100K OVER ASKING PRICE ALL CASH w Multiple Offers.

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Support Your Local Broker
Professional Representation Since 1998 • TEXT/CALL
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Visit this website: www.THINKBRIAN.com or call me direct: 619-300-5032

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I’m a San Diego area expert and I’d love the opportunity to earn your business!
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JUST LISTED IN BIRD ROCK

5628 WAVERLY AVE

5+BR/5BA $3,295,000

This contemporary-craftsman style home in the heart of Bird Rock was built in 2015 by award winning Tourmaline Builders. At 3,894 square feet, 5628 Waverly is larger than most with five large beds (one entry level), five full bathrooms, PLUS an office. Other love-worthy features include ocean views from multiple rooms and decks, a finished basement with a full bathroom, attached two-car garage, alley access, and back AND front yards as great spaces for fun and entertaining. Walk to Bird Rock Elementary, Bird Rock Coffee Roasters, the gorgeous coastline, and so much more.

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The new dilemmas we face as we reassess our post-pandemic lives

As we emerge from a year in isolation, we are suddenly thrust into situations we used to take for granted: proximity to others and opportunities to mingle, participate, contribute, to hear and be heard. But we have changed; we are not the same people as of a year ago. The changes in ourselves can be psychological, mental, physical, or fear-related. We must choose whether to accept this and reconcile ourselves to our new identity or to recover who we were.

Let’s start with the psychological dilemmas. Should I push myself to attend theaters, concerts, museums, and movies when they resume? I used to go to these events with pleasure and anticipation. Or should I stay home? That is what I would rather do now. In other words, since the pandemic, I have become less interested in outside activities.

The positive part of going home is that I stay connected to my culture. If I decide to stay home, the upside is that I am cured of the disease called ATMS (afraid to miss something) or, as they refer to it today, FOMO (fear of missing out). I am content to stay home to read and write. The downsides are that I become out of touch and withdrawn and lose out on some wonderful experiences.

Could depression be a factor? If it is depression, one is home; if it is not depression, one is home, happy. So the dilemma is whether to fight the tendency to be a casuarius (French word derived from the word case, meaning a happy, stay-at-home person) or to indulge myself and honor my increasing years and my aging body with its less available energy (I’m in my mid-nineties), and to reward my decades of activity with the well-earned right to rest. It doesn’t have to be either-or; one could do some things, but just be more discriminating.

The physical dilemma is whether to exercise or take a walk versus staying comfortably in my recliner. This time the push is critical for my health. When the motivation is low, I still exercise and walk, although not as much as previously. I feel there is no real choice as the consequence of not doing it may be a wheelchair in my future.

The third dilemma has to do with mental health. Should I seek out brain-stimulating opportunities: listen to a Ted Talk, attend classes, be a committee or board member, belong to a book club? Again, I prefer to stay put, but I make myself get involved. I have always lived on a learning curve, and still have the curiosity to learn more—yet it is with difficulty that I pull myself out of my chair and accept invitations.

The last dilemma may only be transitory. It is about fear: not going anywhere due to the possibility of encountering a new variant of COVID-19 or being next to an unvaccinated person. Friends have asked me to join them going to a restaurant or to a dinner party: so far, I have refused. At what point will I feel safe? We will have to wait and see. I have 60- and 70-year-old friends who say they are going through the same phenomenon: reassessing their lives and wishing for less activity and fewer demands.

The above may hold true for the older segment of the population, but there is also the younger generation who cannot wait to get out, to be with others in close proximity without masks, and start living again. They are less prone to the fear factor. Having been cooped up for a year, they are bursting with unused energy and eager to get out and go.

It is interesting that having lived a year in isolation has given some people the experience of pleasure and contentment of doing less while others have experienced anxiety and depression. For adolescents what is missing is socializing with peers, an important factor in identity formation and gaining independence from parents.

The trend of people preferring to work at home will impact construction, commuting, office rentals, restaurants, stores, travel, and countless other factors that we have taken for granted. It will be a new way of living. We have to all stick around and see what happens next. I will be sure to write about it.

Natasha Josefowitz is the author of 21 books. She currently resides at White Sands Retirement Community in La Jolla. Copyright © 2021. Natasha Josefowitz. All rights reserved.

COVID-19 vaccine now open to everyone 16 and older

By ROD A. ALMÉNÉZ

Starting April 15, everyone 16 and older is now able to get vaccinated against COVID-19.

“Every San Diegan who qualifies for the vaccine can now get vaccinated,” said Wilma Wooten, M.D., M.P.H., County public health officer. “The vaccine is the best protection we have against COVID-19. Get your shot as soon as you can.”

Currently, only the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are available in the region. Use of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine has been paused while it is reviewed following recent safety concerns.

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New Guidance for Gatherings

Also going into effect April 15 is new guidance on gatherings, private and indoor live events, and performances.

In the Orange Tier, which the County is currently in, outdoor activities of up to 50 people are now permitted. Indoor gatherings are strongly discouraged but are allowed with modifications if they do not exceed 25 people.

Private outdoor events are permitted for up to 100 people; 300 persons if all guests show proof of a recent COVID-19 test or full vaccination.

CURRENT COASTAL LISTINGS

BY HELEN SPEAR

Did you hear about your neighbor?

Recently, your neighbor was enticed to sell to an investor off-market. This investor made only a few minor changes the home and put it right back on the market, selling it off-market. This investor made only a few minor changes to the home and put it right back on the market, selling it for 30% MORE.

Our Compass Concierge Program at Work for a Homeowner:

The Results:
• Over 23,000 views from our digital marketing campaigns!
• Labeled a “hot property” on Zillow, Trulia and Redfin!
• 34 back to back showings in four days!
• Nine competitive offers at or over asking price!

Don’t give your profits away to investors! Call us for details!

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BY HELEN SPEAR

5212 YOST CIRCLE | North PB | Kate Sessions Park | Ocean Views
5/3 | Pool | 9,900 SF Lot | Make It Your Own | $1,895,000

COMING THIS SUMMER

1235 PARKER PL 3L | Bayfront Condo | Amazing Panoramic Views
2/2 | Bright, Open Beach Home Remodel | Call For Info | $1,395,000

OUR COMPASS CONCIERGE PROGRAM AT WORK FOR A HOMEOWNER:

THE THREE DILEMMAS WE FACE AS WE REASSESS OUR POST-PANDEMIC LIVES

As we emerge from a year in isolation, we are suddenly thrust into situations we used to take for granted: proximity to others and opportunities to mingle, participate, contribute, to hear and be heard. But we have changed; we are not the same people as of a year ago. The changes in ourselves can be psychological, mental, physical, or fear-related. We must choose whether to accept this and reconcile ourselves to our new identity or to recover who we were.

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**745 DOVER CT.**
6 BD | 5.5BA | 3,045 sq.ft. **Sold for $2,250,000**

Gorgeous home in South Mission Beach! This turn key property was built in 2010 and features travertine floors, stainless steel appliances, granite counter tops, AC, 4 car parking and solar. Home has a great rental history with $177,067 in gross rents for 2019. The property is also condo mapped giving the new owner the option selling as 2 condos in the future.

**796 NEPTUNE AVE.**
2 BD | 1BA | 1,147 sq.ft. **Asking Price of $3,795,000**

Charming Beach cottage on a large lot with lower seawall and upper bluff caissons. From the moment you open the front gate you can see the beautiful blue ocean water. This single level home sits on an irregularly shaped lot resulting in almost 60’ of frontage on the Ocean which gives you even more panoramic views and a lush grass west yard. The east side yard is spacious, very private, and beautifully landscaped, with room for future home expansion. Only 11 lots to Beacons Beach access. www.796neptuneave.com

**805 BRIGHTON CT.**
3 BD | 2 BA | 1,037 SQ FT. **SOLD for $1,575,000**

We helped our buyers beat out multiple offers on this amazing Mission Beach bungalow overflowing with trendy style! The home includes a gorgeous kitchen with plenty of space to entertain, tons of designer upgrades, a two car garage and a backyard deck perfect for sipping a cold drink while barbecuing on a sunny day. The property is just 8 houses from the ocean and 10 houses from the bay, making this the perfect vacation home to enjoy year round!

**4339 LOMA RIVIERA CT.**
3 BD | 2 BA | 1,400 SQ FT. **Just Listed!**

This cute townhome in Point Loma is located in the coveted Loma Riviera complex. It's approximately a mile from the beach and near tons of restaurants, gyms and shopping. Enjoy a large patio off of the spacious great room, a long balcony off of two of the upstairs bedrooms, two carport parking spaces and private laundry. The oversized master bedroom has multiple closets and a fireplace to keep warm in the cool evenings and winter months. Contact us for more details!

**PB Fun Fact:**
People always talk about how amazing the weather is here in PB, but do you actually know what our weather is? If not, now you do. PB is considered a semi-arid subtropical climate. Our record high is 108 degrees and our record low is 30 degrees. Our August average high temperature is 77 degrees and our average January low temperature is 48 degrees. We average 300 days of sunshine a year and only 10.51” of rain a year.