By DAVE SCHWAB | BEACH & BAY PRESS

The Guardian Angels are coming to Pacific Beach.

The New York City-based nonprofit international volunteer organization of unarmed crime-prevention has operated since 1979. The group was given the go-ahead to form a new chapter in PB, said Guardian Angels spokesperson Ryan Lu.

“We are starting a chapter here in Pacific Beach to combat crime, which will hopefully spread across to Ocean Beach and Mission Beach, as well as the rest of San Diego,” said Lu on behalf of the angels, known for their national and worldwide safety patrols.

Local Guardian Angels spokesperson and administrator Sarah Bonesteel talked about why PB was selected to become the latest group chapter.

“We’ve had a spike in crime in PB the last two or three years, and we’ve lost control of our parks, beach areas and library, all of which have become very unsafe places,” said PB resident Bonesteel, who noted the new Guardian Angels chapter being formed “will be there to assist police, reach out to them and work with them.”

Bonesteel said recruitment for new Guardian Angels members will begin soon.

“We’ll be setting up tables at different locations in PB twice a week,” she said, noting those locations will be posted on the group’s existing Facebook page. “People have to apply in person, and they have to undergo a thorough background check. We don’t want any sex or violent offenders.” She added GA members are

See ANGELS, Page 5

See MAYORS, Page 4

By DAVE SCHWAB | BEACH & BAY PRESS

It’s been 61 years since Pacific Beach Town Council began conferring the well-deserved and hard-earned title of “honorary mayor” to recipients.

During that time, longtime PB resident and previous honorary mayor Eve Anderson noted, “There are some really amazing people who were mayors, and a lot of them are still around doing great work.”

Beach & Bay Press caught up with five of them — Anderson, Cathie Jolley, Jennifer Tandy, Lou Cumming, and Marcella Teran — to talk about the role, their participation in it and what it means.

Anderson (Smull), PB honorary mayor in 1982, talked about the position’s origin.

“In the early days, honorary mayors were chosen by election

See MAYORS, Page 4

Former honorary mayor Marcella Teran with current honorary mayor Cathie Jolley.

County to build 2,600 affordable housing units

By JOSE A. ALVAREZ | BEACH & BAY PRESS

M ore than 2,600. Over 5,000. The first figure is the number of affordable housing units that the County will fund by 2025 as a result of recent funding initiatives. The second total is how many San Diegans will occupy those units and enjoy a stable place to live.

Some of the new units are partially funded by the County’s Innovative Housing Trust Fund, a $50 million investment that is actively being used to build more affordable housing to help decrease homelessness in the region.

On Oct. 14, the County Board of Supervisors voted to allow the second phase of the Innovative Housing Initiative to move forward and fund the construction of four additional affordable housing complexes. The board also accepted an update on two additional developments funded through the state’s No Place Like Home program. In some cases, the two funding sources are used on the same projects.

The six projects will be built in the following cities and generate 675 affordable housing units: four in the City of San Diego, one in Carlsbad, one in Vista.

The initial phase of trust fund spending went to six developments that have recently opened, or in the pre-planning stage. These will generate more than 450 units that will go to:

- Families experiencing homelessness;
- Veterans experiencing homelessness and with special needs;
- Seniors and older adults with extremely low incomes;
- People with developmental disabilities;
- People with mental illness or a history of substance abuse;
- Domestic violence survivors.

With additional phases, the Trust Fund investment, when combined with federal funding sources, is expected to create a total of more than 1,500 units. These homes will remain as affordable housing units for a minimum of 99 years.

READ MORE ONLINE AT sdnews.com

Workshop in PB highlights need for affordable housing

By DAVE SCHWAB | BEACH & BAY PRESS

A poster on display summed up the challenge San Diego needs to build 108,000 new housing units – 13,500 annually – to keep pace with 26% projected growth by 2035. Currently, 4,100 new housing units per year are being built.

That sobering news greeted guests at an Oct. 1 community workshop held at the future City housing policies at Crown Point Elementary School. At the workshop, beach residents commented on the ongoing update of the City of San Diego’s Housing Element (for 2021-2029).

“It’s about housing in general, a component of the City’s general plan,” said senior city planner Vicki White of the workshop’s purpose. “The City’s housing element is required by state law to be updated every eight years.”

Added White, “We’re doing out-reach right now, having workshops throughout the City touching on each area and finding out what people think about housing in general.”

A City housing survey is available at surveymonkey.com/r/C5XT796. The purpose of the questionnaire, which takes about 15 minutes to complete, is to provide input about specific housing issues and solutions including homelessness, on-site homeownership, access and quality, and displacement and production.

The City at the Oct. 1 workshop had numerous stations set up on various housing facets, with blank sheets upon which guests registered via Post It their ideas, complaints, and observations on what’s needed with affordable, and other, housing, in San Diego.

Suggestions ran the gamut from concerns that short-term vacation rentals are further eroding already limited housing stocks, to suggestions on how the City might best produce more affordable housing. Colín Parent, executive director for Circulate San Diego, a regional grassroots group focusing on creating more mobility choices and more walkable and bikeable neighborhoods, agreed housing production isn’t what it needs to be.

“The numbers show we are building substantially less housing than what we need, and a lot less than what we have historically built in the past,” Parent said, adding San Diego has “adopted a variety of rules that makes it very difficult, and expensive, to build new homes. The result has been far fewer homes being built.”

Defining housing affordability, Parent said housing is considered affordable if someone can live in it and pay no more than 30% of their income, either for their rent or their mortgage.

Parent added there are strategies available including government subsidies, and deed restrictions requiring the building of a certain number of affordable units, to promote creating more affordable housing.

“We need to address this severe housing supply crisis,” said Parent. “We need to develop, and establish, rules that meet the needs of population growth.”

Parent said Mayor Kevin Faulconer’s administration has been making a “great attempt” to supply “a greater priority.”

“They’re making it easier to build affordable homes, and the California legislature is doing similar things,” he said adding the City, in 2016, adopted a “bonus law” that says if developers set aside a certain percentage of their development as affordable, that they can then build a larger development overall. That’s a good trade-off.”

Of what needs to be done to promote future housing, Parent said, “We need to re-examine some of the barriers to housing development, and reform and update them.”

Added Parent, “The housing element is a process in which you have to identify enough zoned land, with sufficient capacity, to build on.”

City planner White said feedback from the City’s housing workshops will now be used to develop a draft of the City’s housing element to be put out for public review and comment by the end of this month (October).

Bayview Plaza mixed-use housing project proposed for Bay Park

Protea Properties recently announced plans for a Bayview Plaza, a new mixed-use project along the Moreno Boulevard corridor in the Bay Park community east of Mission Bay.

The project proposes 156 residential units and 40,000 square feet of commercial space at the corner of Moreno Boulevard and Clairemont Drive. The property is located immediately adjacent to the future Blue Line Trolley Station and will include 150 parking spaces for transit riders.

The proposed project also includes 16 units that will be designated affordable for families earning up to 50 percent of the area median income. Potential community amenities would include restaurants, fitness, co-working office space and a market.

“We are excited to bring this project to market, as it represents the future of development in San Diego,” said Jeffrey Essakov, president of Protea Properties. “It’s more walkable, there is less reliance on the automobile, and it will provide housing for people of varying income levels.”

Protea Properties is working with the City of San Diego and SANDAG to design the project to support regional policy goals, including efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by increasing transit ridership. Pursuant to an agreement with SANDAG, the project will include 150 parking spaces for trolley riders. The development will also include mobility hub features, including charging stations for micro-mobility bikes and scooters, real-time transit displays and bike parking.

“Our focus in developing this project was placemaking,” said Andrew Malick, development director for the project. “The team’s objective was to balance the needs of transit riders, neighbors, commercial tenants and residents.”

The Protea team has been meeting with small groups of community members to preview the project and gather feedback.

“I’m very excited to see this empty lot, that has been an eye sore for so many years, transformed into what I expect will be a nicely-designed project, and a great place to visit,” said Glen Schmidt, a landscape architect and Bay Park resident.
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This townhome was built in 2008 and features central A/C, in-unit laundry, granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, solar panels to help lessen your electric bill and CAT-5 network wiring to set up your own surveillance system. In escrow in just one week of market time!
Friends of Rose Creek sues City over new trolley station’s impact

By DAVE SCHWAB | BEACH & BAY PRESS

A Pacific Beach environmental watchdog group has sued the City alleging an environmental report on the new Balboa Avenue Trolley Station doesn’t comply with the California Environmental Quality Act in failing to address proposed densification near Rose Creek.

“The environmental plan excluded significant analysis of potential impacts to Rose Creek by artificially drawing the boundary of the plan area to exclude the creek and bike path despite numerous requests by the community to identify the impacts, both during scoping and in comments to the draft EIR,” said Karin Zirk of Friends of Rose Creek.

“If the City wants to encourage more users in this sensitive habitat, then the City needs to provide park rangers, trash pick-up, and other maintenance services to protect this rare coastal wetland.”

“We will consult with our client and respond through the courts,” replied City spokesperson Leslie WolfinBranson to the Rose Creek lawsuit.

The Balboa Avenue Trolley Stop is one of nine planned for the new San Diego Trolley in 2021. The new Balboa station is in a transit-oriented zone promoting higher housing densities and mass transit including bicycles and other multi-modal uses, as well as relaxing parking requirements for development.

On Aug. 1, San Diego City Council unanimously passed a specific plan calling for greater housing density and multi-modal connectivity for the new Balboa Station serving Pacific Beach/Clairemont. The council, however, stopped short of dedicating Rose Creek as public parkland, as some were advocating as a condition of project approval.

Zirk filed the lawsuit on behalf of Friends of Rose Creek, a nonprofit whose vision is to lower Rose Creek to be turned into an open-space park providing habitat restoration and recreational and educational opportunities, on Oct. 9. The environmental group hosts annual trash pick-ups and cleanups of the creek.

Zirk said the Rose Creek suit is part of a larger reaction to the City land-use policies. “The City is trying to avoid addressing the cumulative impacts to our natural spaces, which we see not only in the Balboa Plan but also in the De Anza Revitalization Plan and the Fiesta Island amendment,” she said. “They are all being done separately, and the cumulative impacts of all the projects, the connection between them, is not being addressed.”

Zirk contends the new Balboa Trolley stop is going to be problematic in numerous ways.

“It’s going to increase noise pollution and make the traffic worse, with at least a seven-fold increase in trash from the four tons per year we now pick up to 28 tons per year,” she said. “We can’t keep up with that now, and the City is providing nothing new to address this issue. We also have people trampling through critical sensitive habitat.”

Zirk noted Escondido-based DeLano & DeLano environmental and land use law firm has been engaged to represent Friends in its lawsuit. She added the legal alternative was chosen only as a last resort.

“We didn’t want it to come to this,” said Zirk. “We wanted the City to take care of all the natural resources and amend the specific plan, but the City has chosen not to do that.”

Zirk said a March 2020 court hearing has been set for the Friends of Rose Creek lawsuit.

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By EUGENIA TERAN | BEACH & BAY PRESS

Mayors >

Many of us down at times. The main thing that keeps me living in Pacific Beach, are all the really nice people I have met through my work with Neighborhood Watch, the Pacific Beach Town Council, and especially, my neighborhood.”

Cumming, honorary mayor in 2015, discussed why the title was bestowed upon.

“PBTC board chose me as a result of my seven-plus year effort leading the charge to convince the decision-makers in City Hall to codify the Oversized Vehicle Ordinance, which prohibits oversized vehicles parking on residential streets overnight,” he said. “Our streets were overrun with these oversized vehicles causing safety hazards, health issues, and parking problems.”

Tandy, honorary mayor in 2014, was recognized for the work she had done over the last 17 years to support and strengthen PB public schools.

“I was surprised, honored, absolutely thrilled,” Tandy said. “For years I had felt that the San Diego Unified School District had not fairly or adequately attended to the needs of the four elementary schools, Pacific Beach Middle and Mission Bay High. For 17 years, I fought for equity at the district and city level. I also worked with school site councils to strengthen programming, support staff, and administration and create bridges between our schools.”

Tandy put the title of honorary mayor to good use.

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Rare and indulgent geisha coffee available in Pacific Beach at $35 a cup

Bird Rock Coffee Roasters is offering a limited time only, while supplies last, pour-over of Mraz Family Farms geisha coffee for $35 a cup, starting Oct. 5 at all locations, which includes Pacific Beach and La Jolla. A four-ounce tube of the roasted coffee is also available online for $199 while supplies last.

Jeff Taylor, co-owner of Bird Rock Coffee Roasters, and Jason Mraz, multiple Grammy and Oscar award-winning singer/songwriter, made a surprise appearance at the original Bird Rock Coffee Roasters cafe in Bird Rock on Saturday morning.

Bird Rock Coffee Roasters partners with Mraz Family Farms, owned by Jason Mraz, to roast and provide the first-ever San Diego grown coffee to consumers in San Diego, discusses geisha coffee with a customer at the Bird Rock cafe on Oct. 5. Source: Jonothon McCullough

New business leases announced in Pacific Beach

- 1530 Garnet Ave.: Formerly Evans Tires, this space is being converted from a tire shop to a veterinary clinic named Banfield Vet, with X-ray, treatment rooms, lobby, pharmacy, parking lot upgrades and a new ADA ramp. For more information, visit banfield.com/veterinarians/ca/san-diego/die.
- 940A Garnet Ave.: A sports and nutrition shop is moving in. It’s a new start-up, a local concept that will be catering to the fitness crowd with high-end protein, vitamins and supplements. Good synergy with the 24-hour gym across the street.
- 1154A Garnet Ave.: A new Thai restaurant is opening between Cut Above the Rest barber shop and PB Mika Sushi. This operator was a chef and operator in La Jolla for many years and is branching off with authentic Thai food from Chiang Mai, Thailand. The remodel is ongoing.
- 841 Turquoise St., Suite B: Relocating from Cass Street, Liz and David’s Alterations is a long time local business that has been operating for over 20 years and needed a new home.
- 936 Garnet Ave.: A skateboard and snowboard apparel shop is opening up at this location. This company is expanding from Venice Beach to open another flagship location in San Diego. The building will be completely re-designed, including a full-length mural wall along the west facing facade.
- 4475 Mission Blvd.: A Halloween specialty seasonal store is opening up for October.

Relocations
- Randall’s Sandals, a sustainable, local sandal company with a strong following has re-located from 955 Turquoise St. to 1033 Garnet Ave.
- Bronzo on Point women’s salon has opened at 1138 Garnet Ave.
- Speakeasy Clothing Co. has opened up at 1150 Garnet Ave. They formerly had their thrift-style clothing available at stores in Hillcrest and Ocean Beach and now have their sole location in PB.

Source: Franco Realty Group

IF YOU ARE LUCKY ENOUGH TO LIVE BY THE BEACH...
Bread earns national recognition, new Bay Hill Tavern

By FRANK SABATINI JR. | BEACH & BAY PRESS

UMO SUSHI

From car parts to Japanese rolls, the former auto-repair garage located on the lot of The Gym in Pacific Beach has turned into Umo Sushi.

Owner Jon Russo and chef Leo Rodriguez, who last worked at Hane Sushi in Bankers Hill, have created a concise selection of nigiri and sushi rolls named playfully “the best sourdough loaves and pastries in town.” Not mentioned in the article is the bakery’s recent reintroduction of pizza night, a popular draw that takes place from 5 to 9 p.m. every Wednesday. (3525 La Jolla Blvd., 858-454-1924, wayfarerbread.com.)

NEWPORT PIZZA

The restaurant was called out for wearing costumes. (Costume judging is set for 8:30 p.m.) Patrons can expect everything from balloon artists and dress-up contests for kids, adults, and couples, to a “fright night” DJ. (1424 Sunset Cliffs Blvd., 619-756-6921, thelittlelioncafe.com.)

Lagom Balanced Food, which replaced Grater Grilled Cheese. With a bright, homey interior awash in pink, the menu features sweet and savory dishes using “all-natural ingredients and some organic,” according to Joaquin Fernandez, who owns the restaurant with his wife, Karina. The couple also owns four restaurants with a similar concept in Guadalajara, Mexico. Their menu at Lagom, which is a Swedish word that denotes a balanced lifestyle, features baked goods made on-site, plus breakfast dishes, bowls, Mexican fare and more. Many items are free of gluten, dairy, and sugar. (1424 Sunset Cliffs Blvd., 619-756-6921, dinersd.com.)
All Hallows celebrates its diamond jubilee

By KAREN SCANLON | BEACH & BAY PRESS

R estaurant owner Johnny Fernicano welcomed fellow parishioners to his Italian eatery for Mass and pizza on a Sunday in May this year, much the same as he did 60 years ago at the founding of the new All Hallows Catholic Church.

Neighboring Catholic parishes were bursting at the seams, and the Bishop of San Diego Diocese, the Most Rev. Charles F. Buddy, established a third congregation for La Jolla in March 1959.

Churchgoers met at Fernicano’s Family Restaurant in Pacific Beach, La Jolla Women’s Club, and even assembled among carved images in La Jolla’s Town House Hotel while a church edifice was being raised on Mount Soledad.

“Contracts were let, and as often happens, the lowest bid is awarded the building contract. And so it was at All Hallows,” laughs retired building contractor, Leonard Teyssier. “We always figured that to win a job, build it quicker so there’s not so much overhead. We built the church and rectory in just eight months and it was quicker so there’s not so much overhead.

“Contractors were let, and as often happens, the lowest bid is awarded the building contract. And so it was at All Hallows,” laughs retired building contractor, Leonard Teyssier. “We always figured that to win a job, build it quicker so there’s not so much overhead. We built the church and rectory in just eight months and we all wondered how to pay for it. Bishop Buddy gave our pastor permission to sign up people who were already attending Mary, Star of the Sea.”

Funding efforts were ag-gressive by the Charter Parish Council, Men’s Club, Woman’s Guild, and generosity of individu-al donors. Interestingly, two additional acres of usable land for the parish were created by donations of fill dirt.

Acquisition of the breathtaking six-acre site on Mount Soledad began with a generous donation by Carlos Traveras. According to church history, “At the time, few realized that the location provided a link to the Catholic Church’s past in San Diego. Named after Nuestra Senora de la Soledad, Our Lady of Solitude, Mount Soledad was home to many Indians as noted in Mission records of baptisms, marriages, and deaths.”

The founding pastor officiat-ed a 30-minute groundbreaking and blessing ceremony on April 17, 1960. A long-awaited first Mass in the new church was cel-ebrated on Easter Sunday, April 2, 1961.

In November 1961, at the Feast of All Saints, Bishop Buddy formally dedicated the lovely A-frame, Romanesque-Norman-style structure that stands high above San Diego and in view of the Pacific Ocean.

Historically, the original All Hallows (Anglican) Parish Church belonged to 12th century London. It was the focal point of the town’s pride, and a landmark to the wanderer. The Norman-style is also symbolic of Western man’s emergence from the Dark Ages to a better time, and was the Bishop’s deliberate choice 60 years ago for La Jolla’s new Catholic church.

READ MORE ONLINE AT sdnnews.com

Uncertain outcome for Denny’s

Closed since a kitchen fire on Oct. 26, 2018, which caused exten-sive damage, the status of Denny’s Restaurant at 800 Garret Ave. remains unclear pending lease negoti-a-tions, said franchisee Jeff Jones.

Jones, who’s owned the busi-ness for five years, one of six he manages in San Diego, expected to be closed for two to five months for repairs and an extensive remodel from the 2018 fire. Suspected of being arson, that fire caused an estimated $700,000 in damag-es to the structure. $150,000 in damages to the contents. A sus-pect in the case remains at-large.

“It all depends on how well things work out with the landlord,” Corey Commercial,” said. Jones pointing out the Denny’s corner location on Garret and Mission Boulevard is “one of the most valu-able pieces of property in PB.”

Jones said he’s in the midst of renegotiations for a new lease with Carlsbad-based Covey, the outcome of which will be known in about 30 days.

“Right now it’s the moment of truth,” said Jones. “The landlord will either give us a new lease and allow us to restore and reopen, or redevelop the property, perhaps with retail on the bottom and housing above.”

READ MORE ONLINE AT sdnnews.com
By BART MENDOZA | BEACH & BAY PRESS

A nyone looking for a relaxing Halloween evening might want to check out Gabriela Aparicio, performing at Waterbar on Oct. 31. Singing in both English and Spanish, Aparicio excels at her chosen cover tunes, but the magic is in her originals. Her latest album, “La Bella Vita,” is full of radio-friendly tunes, such as “Captivate Me,” mixing Latin rhythms with pop songcraft, with the resulting tunes sounding like lost classics. It’s even better live where her interaction with musicians such as percussionist Kimo Shim can be a lot of fun. No costumes here this Halloween night, but the music promises to be enough of a treat for area music lovers.

Gabriela Aparicio: Thursday, Oct. 31 at the Waterbar, 4325 Ocean Blvd. 5 p.m. All ages. No cover. waterbar.com.

On Oct. 19, Dizzy’s will hold a celebration of John Lennon’s birthday, featuring a performance from The Benedetti Ensemble. Featuring guitar virtuoso Greg Vaughan recently lost his eyesight and for a reunion show on Oct. 20 at Tango Del Rey. The acclaimed guitarist currently lost his eyesight and is now returning to live music full time, reuniting his middle-eastern themed/gypsy rock quartet, alongside belly dance duo, The Slimmy Sisters in a special show. For fans of adventurous music, this is a feast for the senses, with Vaughan’s kaleidoscope of influences making this performance appealing to listeners of jazz, world music, and prog rock.

Danyavaad and The Shimmy Sisters: Sunday, Oct. 20 at Tango Del Rey, 3667 Del Rey St. Free. 6 p.m. All ages. $20.

tangodeley.com.

British punk band Subhumans performs at SOMA on Oct. 23. The quartet started out in 1960, with the same onstage lineup since 1983 and indeed, as their new album, “Crisis Point,” shows, the song remains much the same. Thankfully for fans, time has not mellowed Subhumans. Anyone who has ever enjoyed the band’s manic tunes will find Subhumans to be an adrenaline-charged time warp back to the early days of punk rock.

Subhumans: Wednesday, Oct. 23 at SOMA, 3350 Sports Arena Blvd. 7 p.m. All ages. $17.50. somasandiego.com.

With a catalog of hits such as “Joy To The World,” “Shambala,” and “One,” it’s easy to see how Three Dog Night was one of the biggest bands in the world during the 1970s. Performing at Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay on Oct. 25, the band still includes original members in singer Danny Hutton and guitarist Mike Allsup, for a show that’s a veritable greatest hits album played live. While the show is definitely a nostalgia fest, it will also be a wonderful sing-a-long to some of the best-known songs of the 20th century.

Three Dog Night: Friday, Oct. 25, at Humphrey’s Concerts by the Bay, 2241 Shelter Island Drive. 7 p.m. $59. humphreysconcerts.com.

Three rescued short-finned pilot whales, given a second chance at life at SeaWorld Orlando, recently arrived at SeaWorld San Diego.

“We’re more than thrilled and honored to welcome these pilot whales to their new San Diego home,” said Wendy Ramirez, curator of dolphins and pilot whales. “We have a team of trainers focused on each whale to help them acclimate to their new environment. We’ve even brought some of their favorite toys from Orlando. We couldn’t be more excited to have them join our San Diego family.”

Ace, Ava, and Piper, the only surviving pilot whales from a mass stranding event near Fort Pierce, Fla. in 2012, were rescued and were rehabilitated at SeaWorld Orlando. The National Marine Fisheries Service ultimately determined the whales could not be returned to the ocean as they were dependent calves at the time of their rescue and would be unable to survive on their own in the wild. The Orlando marine park was asked to provide the long-term care.

READ MORE ONLINE AT sdnnews.com
MISSION BAY HIGH
• Fifth annual Future Bucs Night is set for 6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 18 at MBHS stadium. Join this community event bringing all PB schools together to cheer on the Bucs football team. Elementary and middle schoolers will gather on the field for half-time activities and the little ones can join the cheer team for the first half of the game. Adults $7. Kids are free if wearing a Future Bucs T-shirt.

PACIFIC BEACH MIDDLE
• Social isolation is the overwhelming feeling of being left out, lonely or treated like you are invisible. Young people who feel this way may pull away from society, struggle with learning and social development, or choose to hurt themselves or others. PBMS engaged in The Start with Hello Program enabling students to make a difference with their peers in a simple, fun, and impactful way by encouraging them to take small actions to promote connectedness and inclusion and to identify and help others who are showing signs of social isolation. PBMS spent a week in October bringing attention to the growing epidemic of social isolation and empowering students to create a culture of inclusion and connectedness.

PACIFIC BEACH ELEMENTARY
• The PBE Halloween Carnival is set for 2-5 p.m. Oct. 26.
• A big thank you to Freshii for donating delicious food for PBE’s VFW parents’ night out on Oct. 5.
• PBE tours are going on now for the 2020-2021 school year. Contact the office at 858-486-8316.

KATE SESSIONS ELEMENTARY
• For a second year, a group of Sessions’ families are hosting one of the hottest spots on Halloween night. Rob Christ always thought his (accidentally) black painted house looked a little creepy and decided to take advantage. “We got together with a bunch of our family and friends, including many kids that attend Kate Sessions Elementary School, and decided to build a haunted maze for the kids and adults in the neighborhood,” Christ said. The Diamond Haunted house is located at 2176 Diamond St. and will run from 6-10 p.m. on Halloween. This all-ages haunted house is free, but donations will be accepted and given to Sessions Elementary.
• The KSE annual Community Halloween Carnival will be held 2:10-5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 25. Join friends and neighbors for fun booths, a cakewalk, a bake sale, and the fifth grade-run haunted house. This year it will be “Haunted PB” themed, with a spooky surf shop, scary Trader Joe’s, and more. Wristbands are available for $10 prior to the event, $13 at the gate. Open to the public.

BARNARD MANDARIN MAGNET ELEMENTARY
• Barnard Mandarin Magnet Elementary School was represented by a team of teachers, parents, and Principal Aida Hernandez in the 10th annual San Diego International Dragon Boat Race at Mission Bay on Sept. 28.

Mission Bay High’s homecoming dance last week.

Jeryn Young and Evan Aguon were named homecoming queen and king at Mission Bay High’s homecoming dance last week.

Pacific Beach Elementary School students have been hard at work in the garden preparing for 2019-20 planting. Last year, the school was the winner of SDUSD’s Garden-to-Cafe contest with over 190 pounds harvested and enjoyed by all.

Mission Bay High’s homecoming dance last week.

A big thank you to local restaurant Fig Tree Cafe (5119 Cass St.) and owner Johan Engman as they donated $1,000 in a ceremony attended by Engman, Principal Adam Carlin, and PTO president Rebecca Schmidgal. The money will be used to continue funding for enrichment programs at Kate Sessions Elementary. Support this local business and go in for a tasty brunch.
New book recounts the birth of skateboarding in San Diego

By LUCIA VITI | BEACH & BAY PRESS

Did you ever wonder what catapulted skateboarding’s popularity into the stratosphere? Does history of a “sport,” born and bred along the coast of Southern California, coincide with your love of surfing? Are you “stoked” to know that skateboarding will be featured in Tokyo for the 2020 Summer Olympics?

If you’ve answered yes to any of the above questions, John O’Malley’s new book, “Urethane Revolution: The Birth of Skate-San Diego 1975,” is a must read. The always interesting, sometimes shocking, off-color page-turner dialogues the history of the skateboarding from one of its founding fathers, John O’Malley.

Dubbed the “greatest story never told in extreme sports history,” O’Malley retraces his steps as a member of the original Skunkworks crew to creating his own skateparks. Photographs – sure to make everyone reminisce about the good ole’ days – accompany stories from the underground.

“One crazy year on the California coast in 1975 a hippie skunkworks, bred in garages and shacks, launched the modern skater movement,” writes O’Malley. “Strap in for a wild ride replete with two car chases, two plane crashes, a massive truck bomb, Colombian Narcos, the Mafia, senior White House staff, a gypsy fortuneteller, three straight-up miracles, Jacques Cousteau, big piles of cocaine and naked hippie chicks.”

O’Malley details the book’s title, “Urethane Revolution” beginning with the history behind the urethane.

“Around 1973, a guy named Frank Nasworthy discovered these urethane training wheels that were used on beginners’ roller skates,” he notes. “They were grippier than the unforgiving composite clay wheels of the day. Frank bolted them on his skateboard and bingo! Suction-cup traction like no one had ever imagined possible. It’s in that instant that the skateboard went from a toy with feet of clay to a wall-climbing UFO, screaming at warp speed to the 2020 Olympics.”

The Revolution follows suit. “The Revolution began when a rift opened in the universe and that centrifugal buzz – heretofore available only through sports like surfing and skiing – came leaking out of the streets,” writes O’Malley. “Adrenaline rushing up your road, serotonin dripping down the drive. And the scales fell from our eyes: Any paved surface could be ridden. And the call went out: The rift has opened, God is great, spread the word.”

According to O’Malley, a perfect storm of “ill winds” that began with a historic drought fueled the Revolution.

“The drought uncovered insanely fun new skating forms like the reservoirs and drainage ditches while recession-vacant homes had their swimming pools drained and skated,” he pens. “Our eyes spoked an urban landscape lit up with a million new possibilities.”

“Urethane Revolution” also showcases La Jolla native Bobby Turner. The innovative craftsman built Turner Summer/Ski slalom skateboards. Still popular today, these boards are constructed along the design vein of surfboards and snow skis. According to O’Malley, Turner’s skateboards “revolutionized” slalom skating boards.

“Any paved surface could be ridden. And the call went out: The rift has opened, God is great, spread the word.”

JOHN O’MALLEY,
AUTHOR OF ‘URETHANE REVOLUTION: THE BIRTH OF SKATE-SAN DIEGO 1975.”

O’Malley toasts, “The Revolution is over. Skaters won.”

And if you need a place to play, check out Robb Field; San Diego’s first skateboard park constructed and operated by the City. Designed with input from the legendary Tony Hawk, the 40,000 square foot concrete park is suitable for all ages and skill levels. Sidling the San Diego River Bike Path at the onset of Ocean Beach, the “street course” features a combination bowl, handrails, ledges, blocks, a pump bump and an octagon volcano.

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Halloween in PB — a haunted house, bay cruise, and pub crawl

The beaches and bays of San Diego have no shortage of fun — and scary — things to do for Halloween. The unconventional celebration of things going bump in the night is observed in several countries on Oct. 31, the eve of the Western Christian feast of All Hallows’ Day. It begins the time in the liturgical year dedicated to remembering the dead, including saints (hallows), martyrs and all the faithful departed. Many Halloween traditions likely originated from ancient Celtic harvest festivals, particularly the Gaelic festival Samhain.

DIAMOND HAUNTED HOUSE

For a second year, a group of Kate Sessions Elementary families are hosting one of the hottest spots on Halloween night. Rob Christ always thought his (accidentally) black painted house looked a little creepy and decided to take advantage.

“We got together with a bunch of our family and friends, including many kids that attend Kate Sessions Elementary, and decided to build a haunted maze for the kids and adults in the neighborhood. Our goal was to love the idea and have been very helpful in building scenes and crafts to go in the maze,” Christ said.

The Diamond Haunted House is located at 2176 Diamond St. and will run from 6-10 p.m. on Halloween. This all-ages haunted house is free, but donations will be accepted and given to Kate Sessions Elementary.

PRE-HALLOWEEN PUB CRUISE

Come in costume to the Pacific Beach pre-Halloween pub crawl on Oct. 25 and receive food and drink discounts at over 10 different bars and nightclubs. Pub crawl check-in is from 6 to 9 p.m. inside Moonshiner Beach at 1165 Garnet Ave. Tickets are $30 each.

Pub crawl tickets provide a crawl map, drink and food discounts at 10-plus bars and eateries, free bar and night club entry, free welcome shot tickets at select venues, and free entry to official Halloween pub crawl after-party.

Participating bars and nightclubs include Baja Beach Cafe, Bub At The Beach, Republic Bar, Cabin Cantina, Duck Dive, Tap Room, The Local, Moonshine Beach, Tacos Mimi, Square Pizza, Open Bar, PB Cantina, Tavern at the Beach, The Dog, Waterbar, and 710 Beach Club.

HALLOWEEN CRUISE ON MISSION BAY

Celebrate Halloween Oct. 31 with a spooky party cruise on Mission Bay, with multiple floors of drink specials, live DJs, and lighted dance floors, accompanied by stunning views of the bay. The William D. Evans sternwheeler boat cruise leaves at 8:30 p.m. at the Bahia Resort Hotel, 998 W. Mission Bay Drive. Come in costume and experience the festive cruise until it docks at midnight. Complimentary public parking is available at Ventura Cove.

BELMONT PARK’S FALL FEST

Fall Fest takes place Friday through Sunday in October from 5 p.m. to close, with a Halloween night party on Thursday, Oct. 31. Formerly known as BOOt’n Park, Fall Fest allows guests to participate in month-long free trick-or-treat starting at 6:30 p.m. with thousands of treats distributed park-wide. On Saturdays in October at 5:30 p.m.

SEAWORLD’S HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR

Get into the spooky spirit and catch live shows like Clyde & Seamore’s Big Halloween Bash and the return of the Sesame Street Halloween Parade, which takes place every Saturday and Sunday from 1:30 p.m. through Oct. 27.

Highlighted by two performances including trick-or-treating, and dressing in costume, this neighborhood Halloween parade features favorite friends including Elmo, Count von Count, Bert, Ernie, Abby Cadabby, Zoe, Cookie Monster, Rosita, Big Bird, and Telly. Enjoy Halloween activities and trick-or-treat for candy and goodies throughout the colorfully decorated park from 2:30 p.m. to close.
Tourmaline Tailgaters open up club to women

The 29-year-old local surfing group Tourmaline Tailgaters has decided to invite women to join the club. Since it began, the Tourmaline Tailgaters had always been an all male group of civic-minded surfers.

But according to Jeff Grant, one of two founding members (the other is Roger Cook), the male-only thing was mainly for ease of travel because on long-distance surf trips people end up sleeping on a hard floor.

With the invitational memberships of Carol Kent, Kiki Knoop, and Linda Malcolm, “The dynamics have changed a bunch,” Kent said.

“It’s more fun all the way around,” Grant added. “Maybe a little less combative,” he said, tongue in cheek. He joked that the club’s mantra still is “Give Jeff all the waves.”

The clubs is holding its 23rd “Almost Annual Surf Party” 6-10 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 19, at Christ Lutheran Church, 4761 Cass St. All are invited with a donation of $20 at the door.

Proceeds will go to Boys to Men Mentoring, a charity founded locally by Herb Sigurdson, Joe Sigurdson, and Craig McClain to benefit boys without fathers.

You can visit with members of the club in the parking lot at the foot of Tourmaline in Pacific Beach, near the cement benches they contributed money to help restore.

Early mornings is the best time to reach them when they’re sharing stories and rinsing off from dawn patrol.

Mission Bay football gets back to winning on gridiron

Mission Bay, under first-year head coach A.J. Vines, comes into action this week with a record of 4-3.

According to Vines, key players to date have included senior slotback/corner Evan Aguon, sophomore Clash Orsborn (quarterback) and senior defensive back Cedel Gregory.

In their most recent contest last Friday, the Bucs fell to San Diego High 18-0. The loss followed three straight wins over Clairemont, Mar Vista, and Mountain Empire, respectively.

“Our season has been okay,” Vines said. “It’s been an up-and-down start but our boys have shown resilience all year. They are getting better every day and every single rep is the goal for the remainder of the season.

“It’s a tough road that lies ahead of us the upcoming weeks and we have to be playing our best football to give us a chance. Focus on what it takes to be great, and not being great. Meaning, focusing on doing the little things it takes to be a great football team, and not focus on the end result,” Vines said.

Mission Bay closes out its October slate of games by playing host to Patrick Henry on Oct. 18 and Kearny on Oct. 25, respectively. Games start at 6 p.m. The regular season concludes Nov. 1 with a visit to unbeaten Scripps Ranch High at 6:30 p.m.
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