Lifeguards at odds: Is department getting a good deal for TV show production?

By MARIKO LAMB

The Weather Channel’s airing of “Lifeguard! Southern California” may put a heroic spotlight on local lifeguards and showcase San Diego’s pristine beaches and great weather, but lifeguard union spokesman Ed Harris said there are a few downsides to the show that need to be addressed if another round of filming begins this summer.

From overzealous shark hype to distractions from real-life rescues, Harris said the impact of the show on lifeguards and citizens affects the smooth operation of the rescue department, and the lifeguards are simply not getting sufficient compensation for their burden.

The “Lifeguard!” docudrama series features an up-close-and-personal look at the lifesaving men and women of Southern California’s beaches as they conduct rescues and law enforcement measures.

The show is airing its second season, but San Diego lifeguards have also been stars of TruTV’s “Beach Patrol” and “Ocean Force” in previous years before the city was approached by Encino-based LMNO Productions two years ago.

At first, they wanted to shoot a pilot program, but it ended up being a 13-part series,” said Harris. “There seemed to be a decision made with no contract and no deal. The lifeguards

See Lifeguard >> Pg. 6

RESCUE EFFORT Lifeguard union spokesman Ed Harris said his field lifeguards, like the one above, can be burdened by film crews following their every move.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WEATHER CHANNEL

Ladies of ZLAC – even at 90 – carry on rowing tradition

By MARIKO LAMB

Despite their youthful vigor, ZLAC rowing club members Mary Grandell, 86, and Annette Frank, 90, insist they haven’t been drinking from a Fountain of Youth or sold their souls to the devil. The secret to their energetic and good-natured demeanor, they say, is blood-pumping rowing workouts, the natural wonders of Mission Bay and the camaraderie they enjoy among their ZLAC Rowing Club sisters that keep the so-called “ancient mermaids” so young at heart.

Grandell and Frank began rowing at a young age, just as their mothers did before them. The sport has been in the women’s families for generations, with both of their mothers rowing on ZLAC’s crew six.

Grandell, Frank and the rest of their crew continue to row every Thursday morning without fail.

“It’s just a release from the stress,” said Grandell. “It’s a lot more fun to go out together, even though you’re not conversing when you’re rowing the boat. Just getting together, getting out and keeping moving is the important thing. I think that’s the secret — just get-rowing for a lifetime Annette Frank, 90, left, and Mary Grandell, 86, stand in front of the ZLAC rowing club, where the duo have met for more than 60 years to embark on the waters of Mission Bay.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WEATHER CHANNEL

What’s inside >>

Mission Bay High School’s Seaside Farmer’s Market is gearing up for summer. PAGE 3

The School Board gave its blessing for the sale of the old Mission Beach Elementary School, much to the disappointment of many local parents. PAGE 2

See what’s playing at your favorite local live music venue through the Memorial Day weekend. PAGE 7

What’s inside >>

Mission Bay High School’s Seaside Farmer’s Market is gearing up for summer. PAGE 3

The School Board gave its blessing for the sale of the old Mission Beach Elementary School, much to the disappointment of many local parents. PAGE 2

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PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WEATHER CHANNEL

FROM FINLAND WITH LOVE A group of Finnish scholars is calling for participation in a survey on what kinds of things people do in Pacific Beach and gather suggestions on how to improve the surroundings.

The Finnish scholars said the survey is very comprehensive and takes quite a long time to complete, but survey participants can skip some sections if they wish. No personal information is collected and the data will always be represented in a way that anonymity is not endangered. The Finnish scholars stress they maintain very high standards in the collection of data for such surveys.

To participate in the survey, visit www.softgis.fi/pacificbeach.
Despite a joint last-minute attempt by Mayor Bob Filner and San Diego Unified School Board (SDUSD) member Scott Barnett to save the Mission Beach Elementary School property from sale on May 14 to La Jolla-based McKellar-Ashbrook LLC, SDUSD trustees voted 4-1 to approve the sale for $18.5 million.

In a personal appeal to the school board, Filner gave his assurance that he would be willing to work with the school district to secure the prime coastal real estate and preserve the land for public use.

“What I would have liked to do — and I think Mr. Barnett thinks we can still do it in a timely fashion — is keep public lands in public hands,” he said. “It seems to me that we ought to be working very closely together on these lands.”

Although the city was offered the property prior to auction, Filner said he was unaware of any such sale and apologized for his 11th-hour proposal that he feared might have come too late.

“I’m embarrassed because I’m here on the day you’re making a decision. I should not do that,” he said. “Frankly, when you notified the city that property was surplus and for sale, it went to a department that did not notify me. Otherwise, I would have gotten involved a lot earlier.”

According to Barnett’s plan, the city would pay $11 million over the next two fiscal years for the property and the school district would retain equity ownership of $7,500,001 — which amounts to one dollar more than the top bid offered by McKellar-Ashbrook at auction May 4.

“The city and San Diego Unified should work together with the community to determine short-term and long-term use of the property, which should include dedicated public uses and public revenue-producing opportunities,” said Barnett in his motion to the board. The motion failed because of the lack of a second.

“We [board members] will be gone in two, four or ten years, but that property is an asset that we’ve had since 1926,” Barnett said. Community representatives from local planning groups and school cluster boards voiced strong support for Barnett’s proposal during the meeting.

“This is the biggest land-use change in Mission Beach in 50 years,” said Debbie Watkins, chairwoman of the Mission Beach Precise Planning Board. “This is 2.23 acres of prime real estate in the...
Former colleague plans documentary on Cliff Robertson

When Steve Thompson, who for years worked as a publicist in the manufacturing sector, decided to give a career in the film industry a try, he never expected where he would end up.

When Thompson left manufacturing because of the decline in jobs on the East Coast, he simply thought he would enjoy working on movies, since he had always loved them. So he got in touch with someone who was currently producing “13th Child,” a horror film based on the legend of the New Jersey devil, and got hired on as a publicist for the film.

Not long after production started, Thompson met one of the actors starring in the film, veteran screen star Cliff Robertson. The film itself may not have been a huge hit (it went straight to video), but the friendship Thompson sparked with Robertson lasted more than a decade — until Robertson passed away in 2011.

“It was really intimidating for me, as I thought he would enjoy working on the East Coast, he simply realized and left the manufacturing sector, decided to give a career in the film industry a try, he never expected where he would end up.

Mel Burgess

Robertson is honored as La Jolla High’s homecoming football game grand marshal at Edwards Stadium a few years ago. He graduated from La Jolla High School in 1941.

The summer kickoff celebration program includes water-safety information from the San Diego Junior Lifeguard Foundation, including an ocean-safety presentation at noon. Other activities include free face painting for children of all ages and live music from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. by Steve Q and the Girls, and the Music Generation’s Boy Band from Pacific Beach Middle School.

Seaside Market gears up for summer kickoff

The Mission Bay High School Seaside Farmer’s Market kicks off its summer celebration during Memorial Day weekend on Saturday, May 25. The Seaside Market opened March 16 in the parking lot of the school on Grand Avenue.

The summer kickoff celebration is the brainchild of special-events volunteer Jillian Ziska, a new member of the Seaside Farmer’s Market management team.

“We are especially excited to be working with Jillian,” said market manager Cori Meara. “From Day One she has brought new ideas and energy to our management team.”

The market was established by Mission Bay High alums Pam Palmer Deitta and Meara, both of whom have children who attend MBHS. The purpose of the market is to raise funds for the school at a time when the San Diego Unified School District is financially strapped and cutting back program funding.

“Even if you don’t have children in Pacific Beach schools, supporting the Seaside Farmer’s Market and MBHS is part of the solution for PB,” said Deitta.

“Small, everyday acts build up over time to create change. Shopping and dining at the Seaside Farmer’s Market on Saturdays is one of those small, everyday acts that can make a meaningful change for Mission Bay High School,” she said.

The Seaside Farmer’s Market takes place every Saturday between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. and features good from local farmers, artisans and craftsmen, as well as food trucks and live music.

For more information, email cmeara@sbcglobal.net, or visit www.seasidefarmersmarket.org.

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By KENDRA HARTMANN

By KEITH ANTIGIOVANNI
27 Tips to Drive up the Sale Price of 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 will make in your life. And well be your largest asset, selling it is a wonderful thing. It's a wonderful feeling," said Frank. “After you've dug into the waters of Mission Bay, you have to shore and empty your boats. In the olden days, you didn't have all the traffic and you could really enjoy yourselves.

Despite the challenges, rowing remains a constant just as it always has. “Numero Uno is always Thursday morning rowing,” said Grandell. “That takes priority,” said Frank. The ZLAC clubhouse on Mission Bay acts as a second home for Frank and Grandell, and their rowing sisters are always at their side for support when they need it.

“When I lost my mom at about 1 in the morning on the day of my crew meeting, it meant a lot to me to come out and be with my buddies out here,” said Frank. Rowing is a wonderful sport. It's a wonderful thing. It's a wonderful sport.”

For more than 60 years — the ZLAC clubhouse on Mission Bay acts as a second home for Frank and Grandell, and their rowing sisters are always at their side for support when they need it.

San Diego's newest farmers' market will open on Friday, June 7

Market manager Brian Bevers' vision for the new Belmont Park Certified Farmers' Market, located Fridays, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., in the large parking lot in front of the Belmont Park Roller Coaster on Mission Blvd, is to create a bustling local goods market for people living in the nearby communities and travelers alike.

As with Bevers' three other markets; the UTC Certified Farmers' Market on Thursdays, the Golden Hill Certified Farmers' Market on Saturdays and the Point Loma Certified Farmers' Market on Sundays, the Belmont Certified Farmers' Market will be a platform for local growers that don't use pesticides and herbicides, a socially-conscious fishmonger, food artisans, crafters and more to engage with their community.

Bevers is a hands-on market manager, greeting shoppers and helping vendors at each of his markets nearly every week. He is committed to helping his vendors grow and flourish.

Barbara Shafer, 79, longterm community activist, PB resident

Barbara Helen Andersen Shafer bowed goodbye to this world on Sunday morning, April 14. She was 79.

Born in Tacoma, Wash., Dec. 7, 1934, she was an art major at the University of Idaho, where she met Philip Roger Shafer of La Jolla. Roger was her beloved husband and partner for 57 years. Her first job after graduation was as an illustrator with the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission. She won awards at the San Diego County Fair for her watercolor paintings.

A longtime resident of Pacific Beach at 1356 La Palma St. near Mission Bay, Barbara was the proud mother of four: John, Micaela, Cassandra and Laura; and was a grandmother to 13.

She was a Girl Scout leader for years at Martha Furnam Elementary School, PTA president at Pacific Beach High School Junior High School, a community activist and the driving force behind the creation of neighborhood coastal parks, the Farnum Street Park in Pacific Beach and the Calumet Park in Bird Rock.

Barbara worked seven years in the Mayor's Office for the city of San Diego. She and Philip were listed "movers and shakers" of San Diego in 1971.

Famous for potato pancakes from her Lithuanian grandmother's recipe, laundry lines and the bread machine, wooden bowl collection, radio news hour, great cooking, the best pie-maker ever and blueberry muffins. These are some of the things that she will be remembered for, along with her inspirational courage and determination.

She was a leader of the clan, a mother to all. Rest in peace.

A memorial celebration will be held at Farnum Street Park in Pacific Beach (foot of Farnum Street on Mission Bay), on Sunday, June 2 from 4 to 6 p.m. In place of bouquets, contributions in Barbara’s memory can be sent to the Friends of Pacific Beach Secondary Schools, P.O. Box 99754, San Diego, 92169.

She believed in the public school system and that "knowledge is power."
Weekly Farmers Market

Grand Opening

June 7th

Located on Mission Blvd. at the foot of the roller coaster

Every Friday 9:30am - 1:00pm

At Belmont Park

Join Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) and pick up fresh produce from your local market

Small Share $15 (feeds approx 1-2 people)  Large Share $25 (feeds approx 2-5 people)

Visit our website www.briansfarmersmarkets.com for more info
LIFEGUARD » CONT. FROM PG. 1

were informed a week or two prior to filming.”

In the first year, lifeguard services received an $8,000 quad runner for its participation. In the second year, LMNO Productions agreed to a $17,446 contractual payment to the city, plus reimbursement totaling $1,641 for labor and equipment use.

Although that revenue reflects the highest negotiated compensation rate of the seven cities featured in the series, Harris said the city signed a “poor deal because of soft costs associated with the production, ranging from retakes, film review and liability issues that were not accounted for.

“People don’t like to be filmed when they’re in distress,” Harris said. “You increase your risk of exposure to the filming of very tragic incidents, which could potentially raise liability issues with the city.” [Some lifeguard officials are] also concerned that production crews change the way we react to things. It certainly adds stress to the lifeguards who are doing their everyday duties.

“During every episode of ‘Life Guard,’ San Diego’s beaches and bays are prominently featured to tens of thousands of viewers. Having the opportunity to feature our beautiful beaches to a national audience has intrinsic value to tourism and supports jobs and the community,” he said.

Wurts and the department’s senior leadership feel they are capable of handling the show “without a crisis, increase the risk of a rescue or act as an obstacle in any way.” In such scenarios, the lifeguard can direct the camera person, citizen or other film crew personnel to back off or discontinue filming.

“At all times during the filming of the show, the production company was strictly supervised by a designated lifeguard officer,” said Wurts. “Both the lifeguards and the production company staff were briefed regarding the absolute need for the film crew to provide appropriate space to the public and our personnel.”

While he admits that each lifeguard and citizen has varying levels of comfort and tolerance while being filmed, he said it is no different than when local TV news crews or members of the public film public safety personnel during the course of their duties.

“It’s no secret that we’re living in a YouTube world by virtue that almost every person over a certain age has the ability to video public events,” he said. “Within the department, there is an expectation of emergency skills expertise and professional conduct under all conditions.”

Lifeguards are not currently in negotiations with the production company for a new round of shows, said Wurts. However, if the show returns for another season, a contract would have to be approved by the mayor before any filming can begin.

Should the production company decide to return this summer, Harris said he hopes the lifeguards get a better deal for their trouble. Otherwise, the show is simply not worth doing, he said.

“I agreed to do it because they told us we were getting money, and we didn’t get money,” he said. “Now, most of us are over it. The lifeguard union is opposed to it. We did it for free. You put us on your website. We’ve done the whole deal. We’re done.”

The relocation will provide the Closets with more visibility along Garnet Avenue, provide additional parking for its customers, and provide the store with more square feet to grow. The Closet specializes in affordable clothing and accessories for women.

Home Bank of California has been at 875 Garnet Ave. since October 1981 and has relocated to 4493 Ruffin Road. Home Bank’s new location opened for business in March.

The Pacific Beach property recently sold in December 2012 for $4.5 million, all cash. The sale included three separate parcels of land totaling 37,500 square feet of commercial land from Garnet Avenue to Hornblend Street adjacent Bayard Street and included the 7,500 square foot former bank building. The seller was La Jolla Savers & Mortgage Fund and the buyer was IAC Management LLC. Income Property Investors, Inc.

Tony Franco is a commercial real-estate expert in Pacific Beach. He can be reached at (858) 717-1697.
Balkanfest 2013, cover-band heaven and jazz icon Joe Marillo

By BART MENDOZA

Café-Bar Europa continues its celebration of world music with Balkanfest 2013. The event is set to take place from May 24-27. Featuring performers from – and inspired by – traditional music of the Balkans, will be Z3-Talakt (May 24 at 5 p.m.), The Electro-carpathians (May 24 at 9 p.m.), Orkestar Meze (May 25 at 9 p.m.), the Middle Earth Belly Dance Ensemble (May 26 at 8 p.m.) and Droma (May 27 at 6 p.m.). All of these performances will be entertaining, but the Electro-carpathians, in particular, are worth singing out. Mixing dashes of rock in a more modern take on traditional music, its shows are high-energy, infectious fun from start to finish.

• BALKANFEST 2013: May 24-27 at CAFÉ-BAR EUROPA, 873 Turquoise St. 21 and up. www.the-turquoise.com/wordpress

Brick by Brick continues its series of tribute-band triple bills, with a show topped by Cars doppe/qangers The Dangerous Types on May 24. While the Cars hit-making era only lasted roughly six years from 1978 to 1984, they still managed to produce numerous now-classic tunes, including “My Best Friend’s Girl,” “Just What I Needed” and “Shake It Up,” making them perfect candidates for the tribute-band scene. Also on hand this evening will be Sex Pistols tribute band the Rotten Johnnies and KISS cover group Exposed, making, for an unlikely, but very entertaining night of music.

• THE DANGEROUS TYPES perform at 8 p.m. on Friday, May 24 at BRICK BY BRICK, 1130 Buenos Ave. 21 and up. $7. www.brickbybrick.com

On May 24, San Diego’s jazz community will come together at Dizzy’s to celebrate the 81st birthday of San Diego music icon Joe Marillo. The celebrated saxophonist will perform alongside a band consisting of Jim Plank on drums, Tom Azarello on bass, Ed Kornhauser on piano, Derek Canadvur on tenor saxophone, Whitney Shay on blues singer Whitney Shay. Then, on May 26 at noon, more classic tunes are on tap from Fish and the Sea- weeds. Anyone who enjoys hearing inspired countless musicians. He has released three albums in recent years, but his live performances are the best way to experience his music. This birthday celebration concert is a wonderful reason to get out and do so.

• JOE MARILLO performs at 8 p.m. on Friday, May 24 at DIZZY’S, 4275 Mission Bay Drive. $15. www.dizzysjazz.com

The Kona Kai’s new music-bookings policy is off to a rousing start from May 24-26, with a series of pool parties featuring some of the area’s favorite artists. On May 24 at 7 p.m. will be a performance by classic rock favorites Rockola, featuring Mark DeCarbo. Anyone who enjoys evergreens like The Beatles’ “Twist and Shout” will love this quartet’s spot-on takes of choice oldies. Meanwhile, on May 25 at noon, the spotlight will be on blues singer Toney Shay. Then, on May 26 at noon, more classic tunes are on tap from Fish and the Sea-weeds. Anyone who enjoys hearing music outdoors will love these shows. Look for attendance at the pool parties to build as the summer heats up.

• POOL PARTY WEEKEND: Friday May 24, 7 p.m.; May 25 -26, noon, at the KONA KAI RESORT, 1551 Shelter Island Drive. www.resortkonaiki.com

Promoter Jeffrey Jay is perhaps best known these days for his Wednesday open mic-night at Winston’s Beach Club, as well as concert series like a songwriter’s showcase at La Jolla’s Athenaeum. But at the core of all, Jay is a musician. On May 25, he will front his own band in a perfor-

• THE JEFFERSON JAY BAND performs at 9 p.m. on Saturday, May 25 at THE GRIFFIN, 1310 Morena Blvd. 21 and up. $8. www.the-griffin-sd.com

• BALKANFEST 2013: May 24-27 at CAFÉ-BAR EUROPA, 873 Turquoise St. 21 and up. www.the-turquoise.com/wordpress

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topped by Cars doppe/qangers The Dangerous Types on May 24. While the Cars hit-making era only lasted roughly six years from 1978 to 1984, they still managed to produce numerous now-classic tunes, including “My Best Friend’s Girl,” “Just What I Needed” and “Shake It Up,” making them perfect candidates for the tribute-band scene. Also on hand this evening will be Sex Pistols tribute band the Rotten Johnnies and KISS cover group Exposed, making, for an unlikely, but very entertaining night of music.

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• THE JEFFERSON JAY BAND performs at 9 p.m. on Saturday, May 25 at THE GRIFFIN, 1310 Morena Blvd. 21 and up. $8. www.the-griffin-sd.com
Cafe Athena

For 23 years Cafe Athena has thrived on loyalty; most of its customers are repeaters who come to dine again and again. They come to enjoy a cuisine that is shaped by simplicity and spawned by ingenuity. For those who have been to Greece, we hope your dining experience at Cafe Athena is something of a nostalgic reminiscence...or a toothsome delight awaiting those who plan to visit Hellas. We look forward to seeing you again, dear friend.

Las Olas offers up tasty Mexican fare on Point Loma

Owners Dave Murphy and Pete Johnson, both originally from the area, said they are excited about the new venue, which offers plenty of parking. According to the owners, the menu offers many options, like “build your own tacos” with seafood, chicken, pork, along with carne asada taco platters and favorites like flame-roasted chili rellenos stuffed with fall-off-the-bone-tender carnitas or seasonal grilled vegetable enchiladas. The owners boast honest food, prepared fresh daily from scratch with wholesome ingredients.

A full bar also features margaritas and other fine drinks, along with a 10-tap draft selection of Mexican brews and San Diego’s home-grown craft beers. Sign up at www.lasolasmesex.com to become a Compadres Club member to receive monthly promotions and other great deals sent directly to you.

For more information call Las Olas at (619) 222-6600.
Mission Bay Youth Baseball is about more than balls and strikes. It changes lives — for the better. The youths and adults forge lifelong friendships through teamwork. They learn about success and failure and get really good at playing the game. Joel Skinner and Billy Beane (of “Moneyball” fame) played on the Mission Bay ballfields and in the major leagues.

We have a PONY League and fields we can be proud of because there are people who care. The following are stories about the volunteers who make it possible for the youths in our community to play ball.

When the current season started, there were two teams without managers. Stephanie and Scott Bailey quickly volunteered to take a team, even though their sons play at a higher level. The other team was taken over by Greg Carrasco, who played in the professional Philadelphia Phillies organization, and Kevin Keil, a tremendous college player. Neither man has kids in the league. In fact, they don’t have kids at all. They just wanted to pass on what they learned from their playing days.

As a child growing up in Pacific Beach in the 1970s, head groundskeeper George Boilard played on the ballfields he now meticulously maintains. Today, the kids are able to pitch off mounds and play on infieldes that are the envy of other leagues. Much of the credit goes to Tim Kasper, who worked so hard to get everything ready for the start of the season that he developed pneumonia. But he didn’t let that stop him.

It seems whenever something needs to get done, Mike or Lani Ryan step in to do it. They never complain and never seek recognition for their efforts. The same holds true for Mary Melton, the league president. Hers is a thankless job, but she deserves — and gets — the thanks from the parents and players.

If you love baseball, come by and take in a game at McEvoy Fields, located at 2639 Grand Ave., next to the golf course. Grab a hotdog at the snack shop run by the Ham family. If you’re not sure which team is which, talk to Troy Horton, a special kid who knows everything about each team and the players. If you would like to support local youth baseball, contact Melton at (858) 354-3906. There are a number of ways you can contribute, and you would be making a difference like all those featured in this piece.

— Lee Silber is a Pacific Beach resident, a best-selling author and the manager of his two young sons’ team, The Exterminators.

Lots of blues guitarists call San Diego home, but only one has mastered the Billboard charts. Johnny V. Vernazza, a member of legendary combo The Elvin Bishop Group, hit No. 4 on the Billboard charts with the evergreen tune, “Fooled Around and Fell in Love,” going on to back the likes of Van Morrison. Now in solo mode, Vernazza will release his new album, “Lions and Thieves” with a special CD-release show June 1 at the Kona Kai Resort. One of the first events to take place at this newly revamped venue, Vernazza’s album showcase will be chock full of guest stars, including Bishop, Charlie Daniels and Albert Lee. But no matter which tunes he showcases, it’s sure to be a musical treat for fans of blues, rock or just good music.

• Johnny V Vernazza: 7 p.m. on Saturday, June 1 at the Kona Kai Resort, 1551 Shelter Island Drive. www.resortkonakai.com.

— Bart Mendoza

Volunteers help make Mission Bay Youth Baseball special  By LEE SILBER
ROBERTSON
CONT. FROM PG. 3

able.”

Thompson kept in touch with Robertson after filming ended. When Gregory Peck, who was a close friend of Robertson’s, died in 2003, Thomp-

son called him to express condolences — and to inquire if he was planning to release a statement to the press. — and to inquire if he was planning

to release a statement to the press. Robertson, who had never had a public-

list, replied he hadn’t planned on it, so Thompson offered to help him

draft one. Sealing their working rela-

tionship that continued until Robert-

son’s death.

“He was terrific to work with,”

Thompson said. “Every time I had a

question about the industry, he would answer it and he always helped me out when I needed it. Once, a producer was considering me for a film. Cliff called him to endorse me, and not 10 minutes later, I got a call from the producer. He said Cliff’s opinion was the gold standard for in-

tegrity in the industry.”

If Robertson knew about it, West Thompson is now hoping to preserve in the annals of film history. Along with director and producer Brian Gillogy, Thompson’s next film project will be of a more personal nature: a docu-

mentary on Robertson’s life, with focus on both his acting and his love of aviation. Robertson, who was born in La Jolla and graduated from La Jolla High School, has starred in countless films and won an Academy Award for his role in the film “Char-

ty.” But, Thompson said, there’s not much of a record of his life and accomplishments.

“Everyone spoke of what a great guy he was,” Thompson said. “Hav-

ing seen how he affected so many people and because he was so open to me and helped me out, I would like to do a documentary on him. I want to have something to present to his fam-

ily.”

Thompson is still in the initial phases of planning. The project, he said, will likely cost no more than $200,000 — “A lot to you and me, but a drop in the bucket in the indus-

ty,” he said — and he hopes to crowdfund most of that from funding platform Indiegogo. So far, funding hasn’t exactly caught fire, with much of the $9,500 Thompson is hoping to get from the campaign — which ends on May 31 — still unfunded. Still, he said, he hopes fans of Robertson will come out to support the project.

“Thompson is also hoping to get support from former colleagues of Robertson’s in the form of a public cam-

paign. He plans to feature clips from some of Robertson’s biggest films, including “PT 109,” “Charly,” “The Pilot,” “J.W. Coop,” “Three Days of the Condor” and “Spi-

der-Man,” and he’s in the process of trying to get Robertson’s co-stars from such films in front of the cam-

era for interviews about their experi-

cences working with him.

“The man was instrumental in my life. He was there for me, and he was there for a lot of other people, too,” Thompson said. “I just don’t want to see him lost in history. I don’t know his granddaughter, but I would like to be able to give her something about how great her grandfather was, and to have something to give to all the people who knew him.”

“Every time I had a question about the industry, he would answer it and he always helped me out when I needed it.”
**EDUCATION NOTEBOOK >>**

**MISSION BAY CLUSTER**

The California Business for Education Excellence has named 63 San Diego Unified School District schools and charter schools to its annual honor roll. The 2012 Honor Roll lists five Pacific Beach schools, including Crown Point Junior Music Academy, Pacific Beach Elementary School, Kate Sessions Elementary School, Barnard Mandarin School and Pacific Beach Middle School.

**MISSION BAY HIGH**

International baccalaureate biology classes will be going for two days to the Beckman Institute for Conservation Research to study biodiversity, interact with researchers and connect science to conservation efforts from June 11-14. Students will learn first-hand about the conservation of animals, plants and habitats worldwide. They will also be working with genetic material and using their labs to separate DNA to identify various species.

International baccalaureate tour will take place Thursday, June 6, 8 a.m. in the library. Learn more about the widely acclaimed international baccalaureate program.

MBHS will have 19 full-IB candidates graduate this year. A thank you to Doug McIntosh and Shauna Fitzpatrick for their hard work supporting these students and the hundreds of other students in the IB program.

**PACIFIC BEACH MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Enjoy the sounds of PBMS musicians in the school auditorium. Listen to the strings concert on May 29 at 6:30 p.m. and the band concert on May 30 at 6:30 p.m. Led by IB music director John O’Donnell, students will showcase their hard work and dedication from the year.

**PACIFIC BEACH ELEMENTARY**

Thanks to the efforts of Pacific Beach moms Tiffany Piqullou, Leslie Cefalanzo and Rachel Brown, PBE is the 2012 winner of the Lowe’s Toolbox for Education $5,000 grant. This will greatly enhance the outdoor classroom that is the PBE garden.

Congratulations to the 2013 fifth-grade class. The class of 2013 painted about 1,600 square feet of sloped concrete wall around the building that borders Turquoise Street, a few blocks east of the Dunn-Edwards store. This is a joint-use field shared by San Diego Unified School District and the San Diego Park and Recreation Department. Future fifth-grade classes will add on over subsequent years. Local artist and PBE mom Lorrie Blackard-Freit designed a mural that will be enjoyed for many years to come. The Dunn-Edwards Corp. donated materials for the project.

Time Warner Cable recognized the “50 Best Moms” over Mother’s Day weekend, and three finalists were named the top winners of the 2013 “Best Moms” contest. Among this year’s top three “Best Moms” candidates was Heather Jesse, whose daughter Maya attends Pacific Beach Elementary.

**CROWN POINT JMA**

CJMA celebrated its second annual Cinco de Mayo Fiesta with a mariachi band, dancers from the Ballet Folklorico, piñatas, games, great Mexican food and performances from the Spanish club.

**MISSION BAY HIGH ALUMNI ASSOC.**

The Seaside Farmers Market is held every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Mission Bay High School’s Grand Avenue student parking lot. There is food, artisans, produce, music and more, with 100 percent of the profits benefiting MBHS.

“Best Moms” contest. Among this year’s top three “Best Moms” candidates was Heather Jesse, whose daughter Maya attends Pacific Beach Elementary.

**MATH WHIEZES** The Pacific Beach Middle School Mathletes placed fifth in the 44th annual Greater San Diego Middle School Math Field Day on April 27. Students also placed well in individual and team categories.

COURTESY PHOTO

**JAZZ IT UP** The Jazzercise Soledad Club participants gathered for a fun workout at Jazzercise Soledad Club on May 17.

**Jazzercise beach party, workout exercises best of both worlds**

Jazzercise Soledad Club played host to a “Girls Night Out: Bikini Body” event on May 17 as part of a specialty jazzercise workout and party. The theme was “Beach Party” and the event featured giveaways, favors, food and festivities after the interval-style, dance-based jazzercise class. The Soledad Club was transformed into San Diego’s hottest beach, with nearly 50 participants dressed in theme. Some of the participants were junior jazzercise students at the San Diego French-American School, where instructor and jazzercise owner and instructor Andrea Singer teaches two classes for pre-kindergarten through first grades and second through seventh grades.

Organizers said that through jazzercise, fitness needs are met in a fun, yet powerfully effective and safe workout. As many as 600 calories can be torched in a jazzercise class, depending on the intensity level performed. Advocates said all major and minor muscle groups are challenged in a variety of ways that are professionally choreographed and tested for safety and effectiveness.

Cardio, strength training using tubes, weights to work all muscle groups and stretching are part of the 60-minute jazzercise class, set to the hottest hits by the original artists and a variety of musical genres.

Organizers said all fitness levels are welcome.

The Jazzercise Soledad Club is located at 5050 Soledad Road, directly across from Kate Sessions Park. There is ample free parking.

For more information, visit jcls.jazzercise.com/facility/soledad_club

— Staff and contribution
Reserve your spot at the beach this Memorial Day!

Pacific Beach 2,331sf single family residence. Only 1 LEFT in this coveted beach location! Enjoy bay views from the rooftop patio with outdoor fireplace. Penthouse room with wet bar and built in cabinetry make for a great spot to entertain during any time of year. Walking distance to beach, bay, shops, and more! Just 2 short blocks from the waterfront and sandy beach with bike trail/walkway around the bay!

1st open houses scheduled for 5/25 & 5/26 from 11-4 to entertain during any time of year. Enjoy bay views from the rooftop patio with outdoor fireplace. Pacific Beach 2,331sf single family residence. Only 1 LEFT in this coveted beach location!

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The Most Amazing Beach House in San Diego - complete with a Pool & Spa on the Roof! This impeccably perfect 3BR./2.5BA masterpiece was designed by the Peter Lik, perhaps the most famous landscape photographer in the world. Peter spared no expense and spent over $3,000,000 creating this soft, clean, organic concrete, wood & steel contemporary work of art. Lik’s private resort home is fitted with top of the line appliances and boasts details & finishes beyond imagination. A “Smart Home” with the latest in home entertainment & audio throughout. Prepare to indulge your senses! Call David to see this Amazing Home!

Just Listed! • 708 San Jose Place • Mission Beach

The Most Amazing Beach House in San Diego - complete with a Pool & Spa on the Roof! This impeccably perfect 3BR./2.5BA masterpiece was designed by the Peter Lik, perhaps the most famous landscape photographer in the world. Peter spared no expense and spent over $3,000,000 creating this soft, clean, organic concrete, wood & steel contemporary work of art. Lik’s private resort home is fitted with top of the line appliances and boasts details & finishes beyond imagination. A “Smart Home” with the latest in home entertainment & audio throughout. Prepare to indulge your senses! Call David to see this Amazing Home!

Seller will entertain offers between $2,400,000 & $2,800,000

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www.909coast.com

1 SOLD, 1 LEFT!
Brand New Construction in Sail Bay area of Pacific Beach! 2,331sf 4 bedroom single family home with bay and peak ocean views, BBQ, entertain, sunbathe, and relax upstairs in the penthouse room with rooftop patio which is also engineered for an average size spa. 3 fireplaces.

1st Open Houses scheduled for 5/25 & 5/26. From 11am - 4pm 1320 Oliver Avenue

OCEANFRONT SUNSETS SERVED DAILY!
List yourself to sleep each night to the sounds of the ocean, 2 bedroom oceanfront condo with panoramic white water views of the Pacific! Seller entertaining offers between $489K-$539K.

OVERLOOKING PACIFIC BEACH!
Elevated high above the street, this 18 room 4,800+sft Craftsman style home enjoys a 12,500sf private corner lot. Multiple outdoor entertaining areas including a large patio off the master room and a wonderful south facing semi-enclosed from porch. Bay views from the upper levels. 3 car garage.

LIVE ON THE CROWN POINT PENINSULA!
Delightfully renovated single family home located 4 blocks in either direction to the bay front. Home enjoys a 5,600sf lot with multiple captivating outdoor living spaces including a large custom built gazebo with lots of added character. Open House 5/26 from 11am - 4pm 3651 Ingraham St.

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822 San Juan Place
Cape Cod townhome with Bay views! Located on the sunny side of the court, this corner unit faces the bay and has beautiful sunset views. This lovely home features 2nd & 3rd level living, 2 bedrooms w/ an option 3rd, 1,608 sf of living space, open breakfast bar, living room with vaulted ceilings, built-ins, ample skylights, slab granite counters in kit & baths, multiple view decks, attached 2 car side by side garage & much more. Great location on the bay and close to many conveniences.

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