Capehart Dog Park provides room to run, but dog owners, neighbors still divided over its suitability

By Dave Schwab

Capehart, Pacific Beach’s only off-leash dog park, has been open nine years but the debate that led to its creation on Soledad Mountain Road rather than in Kate Sessions Memorial Park on Soledad Road lingers.

But the dogs don’t care. Large or small, at Capehart Park at 4747 Soledad Mountain Road, they’re just there to play.

Built for $432,000 and opened in 2004, Capehart, with distinct large- and small-dog fenced-in areas, has been the place for dog owners to let their pets strut their stuff and run and play under the sun.

The off-leash park, however, continues to have its critics. Nearly a decade ago when it first opened, detractors argued the park was neither wide enough, long enough nor of sufficient size, “It’s a mud pit now, a dirt patch,” he said. “It’s way too small. You can’t maintain it at all. There’s no way you could with such a little tiny place and such a high concentration of dogs. You’re coming in off a highly trafficked road compromising the safety of dogs. It’s totally inappropriate and it’s been a disastrous, expensive experiment.”

Dougherty said an extensive citywide study of the feasibility of prospective off-leash parks done a decade or more ago ranked Kate Sessions Park “No. 1.” He credited a “small-yet-vocal minority of dog-hating neighbors,” some of whom he claimed “didn’t even own them.”

The acquisition of the La Jolla Light and sister publications in San Diego County by the U-T would be an effort to reach more households,” Hoisington said. “With the devastating decline in subscriptions, daily readers are scrambling to gain back revenue share lost to direct mail competition, alternative classified advertising sources like Craigslist and other niche publications. This strategic move by the U-T may allow them to gain back a much-needed market share.”

Other independent community news outlets remain, including the Coast News Group, whose share of the news market in North County San Diego has increased since the U-T bought the North County Times last year. Since the sale of North County’s only daily paper, North County Times offices were closed and its operations folded into the U-T. Some North County readers have complained of a lack of local news they had become accustomed to reading was greatly diminished after the takeover.

“At the end of the day,” Hoisington said, “(the acquisition) has to make business sense. They (U-T) will have to make changes in order to cut costs. Will they raise rates? Will they close a few titles that are not producing enough, or are not part of the mass market plan? We can’t be sure. The beauty of an independently run newspaper is we have always had the same business model — produce a true community news source, deliver the papers to everyone we can (at our expense) and provide a solid advertising partnership with local businesses, realtors and organizations.

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A day in the life, Part 3: Local resident lends a hand to No More Deaths

By JENNY GOFF

Pacific Beach resident Jenny Goff spent two weeks in August volunteering with the humanitarian aid organization No More Deaths (No Mas Muertes) in Arizona. Here is Part 3 of her account of a typical day in the lives of volunteers. Look for the final excerpt of her experience in the upcoming issue of Beach & Bay Press. For more information about No More Deaths, visit www.NoMoreDeaths.org.

Part 3

Peppers, okra and onions that some of us helped harvest the day before, are making their way through the precarious desert terrain. We anxiously glance over toward a circle of chairs where several volunteers and a couple of travelers perch. One man is leaning back, leg propped up, a blanket covering his muscular arms. He was supposed to leave with the group of five men heading out after dinner, but he won’t be going anywhere tonight.

Earlier that afternoon D., a firefighter and paramedic in his home country, had traveled for two months from Central America to reach the border. He saw a friend shot and killed by the cartel. He saw another man cut in half by a train. He had crossed the border and walked for days to make it to camp. And at the “safe-haven” of camp, perhaps only days from making it, he was bitten by a rattlesnake. He immediately refused evacuation to a hospital for the anti-venom that could save his life. Volunteers set up a schedule (and that with no guarantee of safe passage) tomorrow.

Earlier that afternoon D. was finding a place to urinate on the periphery of camp, as we all do (there is a bucket with a seat over it for going to the bathroom but the buckets fill up quickly with 20 people in camp so oftentimes you just go and find a bush). He made his way into the shrubs of appropriately named “Rattlesnake Ridge” where he met a rattler, shin to fangs.

D., a firefighter and paramedic in his home country, had traveled for two months from Central America to reach the border. He saw a friend shot and killed by the cartel. He saw another man cut in half by a train. He had crossed the border and walked for days to make it to camp. And at the “safe-haven” of camp, perhaps only days from making it, he was bitten by a rattlesnake. He immediately refused evacuation to a hospital for the anti-venom that could save his life. After discussing the options, the more experienced volunteers made a deal with him. They circled the bite marks with a marker and D. agreed to take him to a hospital where he would most likely be apprehended, processed, possibly incarcerated and inevitably deported after his life is, ironically, saved. But until then he would wait to see if his bite got worse. Volunteers set up a schedule to take his vitals every hour during the evening and night.

The realities of the desert come rushing in. That could have been any of us, but it happened to be a man who cannot simply call 9-1-1 and have an ambulance meet up with the truck in Arivaca without severe life-changing consequences. This man is literally risking his life today on the chance that he can keep walking (and that with no guarantee of safe passage) tomorrow.

The privilege we volunteers have is painfuly clear. We quietly eat dinner. Everyone is tired but hyperaware of all that is happening. On other nights, we have sat in a circle and shared thoughts and feelings about the events of the day. Sometimes it involves laughing, sometimes crying. It is a safe space for all of the swirling emotions that accumulate like tangled brush in the washes during the desert floods. On other nights we have sat around the campfire and sung songs in Spanish and English, “Jolene” or “Como Quisiera” rising with the smoke from burning cardboard boxes and mesquite branches. On other nights, when the camp has not been filled with travelers, we have ambled back into our tents without the fragility of life weighing so palpably on our psyches.

Tonight we will think of those out in the desert, walking under the stars without a blanket or full belly or the desert, walking under the stars without the fragility of life weighing so palpably on our psyches. Tonight we will think of those out in the desert, walking under the stars without a blanket or full belly or...
NOV. 16: ANNUAL HARVEST WINE TASTING
WHERE: Broken Yok Café, 1851 Garnet Ave., 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.
HOW MUCH: $30 in advance, $50 at the door
WHAT: The Pacific Beach Community Foundation holds its annual Harvest Wine Tasting, featuring more than 40 bottles of wine for tasting and auction. The event also features a silent auction, door prizes and hors d’oeuvres. Proceeds help fund the Pacific Beach Holiday Parade and is limited to 60 guests. For tickets, email Alex at alexandre@pacificbeach.org.

NOV. 16: KATE SESSIONS ELEMENTARY CRAFT FAIR
WHERE: Kate Sessions Elementary, 2150 Beryl St., 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free entry
WHAT: More than 75 artists and crafters will offer unique gifts for the holidays, along with a bake sale, gourmet food trucks, live entertainment and a free gift-wrapping station. Potential vendors email sessionsfundrais ing@gmail.com.

DEC. 14: BIKES, BOARDS AND BREWS
WHERE: Catamaran Hotel, 1 to 4 p.m. (VIP hour noon to 1 p.m.)
HOW MUCH: $25–$30
WHAT: Celebrate PB culture with surf boards, beach cruisers, beach-inspired art and craft beer tasting at the Catamaran Hotel.
Ticket includes $25 from local San Diego craft brewers, food pairings from local Pacific Beach restaurants, live entertainment and more. Participating restaurants include Woody’s Pizza, Sandbar Sports Grill, Duck Dive, The Fish Shop, Pacific Beach Ale House, Bare Back Grill, Tavern, Tap Room, Typhoon Saloon and Bar West. Bicyclers include Helms Brewing Company, Pacific Beach Ale House, Amplified Ale, Karl Strauss, Ballast Point, Left Coast, Lost Abbey, Manzanita, Green Flash and more. For more information, call (858) 273-3303 or visit www.pacificbeach.org.

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NOV. 17: NORTH PB HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE
WHERE: 900 block of Turquoise Street, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
HOW MUCH: Free
WHAT: Businesses along the 900 block of Turquoise Street open their doors with deals, treats and more for residents to get their holiday shopping done early. Visit discoverpb.org for more information.

REMEMBER WHEN?
Pacific Beach has a movie theater that showed first-run films? Guy Sensor took this shot of the Roxy Theater and, judging by the films on the marquee, he took it in 1947. If he took it today you’d see (from right to left) the Pacific Beach Post Office, Cass Street Bar & Grill and Café 976. The Roxy, for those of you making bar bets at Cass Street, was torn down in June 1981.
— John Fry may be reached at (858) 272-6655 or mail@johnfry.com
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use the park,” as the reason why there’s an off-leash dog park at Capehart and not Kate Sessions.

Eve Anderson, a longtime member of the loosely associated neighborhood group Friends of Kate Sessions Park, begs to differ with Dougherty.

“It’s been incredible,” said Anderson of dog owners’ experiences at Capehart.

Anderson recalls it was a “couple of dog owners, primarily owners of large dogs,” who wanted to create an off-leash park at Kate Sessions, where she said it wasn’t warranted.

“Little kids and old people don’t want to be around a bunch of off-leash dogs — it’s dangerous,” Anderson said, adding it also wouldn’t have been in keeping with the park’s namesake, the late Kate Sessions.

“She was a landscape designer and she would have been horrified if she’d seen dogs desecrating her park,” Anderson said.

Anderson said the attempt by dog owners to create an off-leash park at Kate Sessions, ultimately scuttled by a neighborhood petition drive opposing it, fell short because proponents bit off more than they could chew.

“They didn’t want to take one small part at the bottom for the dogs and fence it off,” Anderson said.

“They wanted to use the main hill of Kate Sessions, one of the most beautiful hills in San Diego with the most gorgeous views, and ruin it by taking it for the dogs.”

By contrast, Anderson noted Capehart Park, long and linear, is “always full,” adding it’s a “very social thing” for people, as well as animals.

“It’s better for smaller dogs rather than larger,” admitted Anderson.

“They need a little more room and it’s a shame we don’t have more room.”

On a recent day at Capehart, dog owners discussed their feelings about the park. The general consensus was that the grassy small-dog area is superior to the large-dog area, which is nearly all dirt.

Overall though, dog owners were mostly positive about Capehart Park and the people and animals that frequent it.

“It’s sensational, very animal-friendly and safe,” said one La Jollan who was in the small-dog area with his bandana-clad shaggy dog, Cody.

“I like the idea of it being fenced, and it’s nicely maintained for what it is. It isn’t designed to be a golf green.”

Told about the decade-old debate over whether it would have been better to have the off-leash park at Kate Sessions instead, he replied, “I don’t like the idea of that place because it’s not fenced. To me, it’s dangerous. And it doesn’t draw a nice element of people. There’s lots of drinking going on there at night with the kids. That’s not my schtick.”

Another park user, Jenny (who declined to give her last name) of Pacific Beach, said she and husband Jason like the location.

“I like it because it’s convenient, easy to get to and safer,” she said.

“Obviously, it’s very dirty,” she said of the large-dog enclosure.

Another park patron agreed about the untidiness of the park’s big-dog enclosure.

“It’s so dirty I have to give my dog a bath afterward every time,” she said.

Others were less critical of the park, but brought up other issues.

“I love it. It’s great,” said Katie Weeks of La Jolla. “It’s nice they have a small-dog area and a big-dog area. What we do have here, though, is a parking problem. We’ve had numerous accidents.”

Weeks’ companion said people not infrequently attempt to do a U-turns near the park and end up “getting slammed by people coming down the hill.”

“Maybe it could be a little bigger,” said Nick from Pacific Beach. “People here are actually really nice, they’re really good dog owners.”

Jenny of Pacific Beach said there’s one big thing missing from Capehart.

“I wish it had some solar lighting so it could be lit a little longer, especially in the wintertime,” she said.

“It’s pitch black here. We’ve parked our truck and shone lights in here just to get her (dog) out.”

Capehart got the seal of approval from Jenny’s husband, Jason.

“If you need a place to go, and you don’t have a backyard, it’s a good place to be,” he said.
The second member of the Runaways to perform at Brick by Brick in recent months, Lita Ford appears at the club on Nov. 7, 9 p.m. While the rest of the band’s ex-members went a more pop-edged route, Ford is definitely a metal player, even having scored a hit duet with Ozzy Osbourne, “Close My Eyes Forever” (#8, 1989). Ford took a break from performing for roughly 15 years, making this her comeback tour and her first time back in San Diego in decades. If you’re a fan of Ford’s hard rockin’ tunes like “Kiss Me Deadly,” then this show should be celebratory.

**LITA FORD: Thursday, Nov. 7, at BRICK BY BRICK, 1130 Buenos Ave. 8 p.m. and up. $25. [www.brickbybrick.com](http://www.brickbybrick.com)**

Though barely in his early 20s, Armenian pianist Tigran Hamasyan has already won a mantelpiece full of trophies for his keyboard work, including first place in the prestigious 2006 Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz Awards. Appearing at Dizzy’s on Nov. 8, what sets Hamasyan apart is that his original jazz compositions are strongly influenced by the Armenian folk tradition, often using its scales and modalities.

**TIGRAN HAMASYAN: Friday, Nov. 8, at DIZZY’S, 4275 Mission Bay Drive. 8 p.m. $15. [www.dizzy’sjazz.com](http://www.dizzy’sjazz.com)**

While he mostly plays his own music, this influence is particularly striking when performing a standard, practically turning the tune inside out and revealing elements in the structure and composition — wonderful stuff. That Hamasyan is also a charismatic performer seems almost a bonus when his music is so compelling on its own.

**TIGRAN HAMASYAN: Friday, Nov. 8, at DIZZY’S, 4275 Mission Bay Drive. 8 p.m. 21 and up. $15. [www.dizzy’sjazz.com](http://www.dizzy’sjazz.com)**

One of the most picturesque locations in San Diego to take in live music, the Kona Kai Resort has a much broader range, adding blues and pop to her sound. Topped with a warm stage presence and marvelous voice, a set from Lorraine Castellanos is the perfect way to kick off a Sunday morning.

**LORRAINE CASTELLANOS: Sunday, Nov. 17, 11 a.m. at the KONA KAI RESORT, 1551 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 11 a.m. [www.resortkonakai.com](http://www.resortkonakai.com)**

If anything can make you believe in the singer-songwriter genre again, it’s Tolan Shaw. Blessed with both a wonderful warm voice and deft finger-picking styles, as well as excellent songwriting skills, Shaw has emerged over the past year as a serious contender for next big thing. This summer he won the San Diego County Fair Singer-Songwriter contest and recently released his debut self-titled album. Full of Shaw’s soulful tunes like melancholy rock “Meant To Be,” it’s a terrific introduction to his music. The album is a full-band production, complete with New Orleans brass and Hammond organ, but live he’s at his most evocative in solo mode, his guitar technique as impressive as his tunes.

**TOLAN SHAW: Tuesday, Nov. 19 at 710 Beach Club, 710 Garnet Ave. 8 p.m. 21 and up. $5. [www.710bc.com](http://www.710bc.com)**
The Chargers made it possible to transform our weight room into a place that benefits all of our students and has become a source of pride for our school community,” said Jorge Pala cios, MBHS athletic director. “What was once an outdated, unused area has been turned into one of the centerpieces of our school and a resource our students use to develop a passion for lifelong fitness. I’d like to thank the Chargers and the Spanos family for their support of Mission Bay High School.”
HIGHER EDUCATION UCSD chancellor Pradeep Khosla, left, talks to Mission Bay High School students about college. Courtesy

MISSION BAY HIGH SCHOOL

• Chancellors and senior leaders from all 10 University of California campuses, including Chancellor Khosla, visited high schools across the state to let students know that college is attainable. Khosla stopped by Mission Bay High as part of the Achieve UC event, conveying to students that a UC education is achievable. UCSD students, faculty and staff spent a day sharing information on UC course work, applications, financial aid and campus life.

• MBHS School Tour on Wednesday, Nov. 20, at 8 a.m. Join principal Fred Hilgers and learn about campus life, Nov. 20, at 8 a.m. Join principal Fred Hilgers and learn about course work, applications, financial aid and campus life.

PACIFIC BEACH MIDDLE SCHOOL

PBMS School tour — Thursday, Nov. 7, 8 a.m. in the library. Join PACIFIC BEACH MIDDLE SCHOOL

PBMS School tour — Thursday, Nov. 7, 8 a.m. in the library. Join

THE SAN DIEGO FRENCH-AMERICAN SCHOOL invites prospective parents to an open house to visit the preschool, kindergarten and first grade classrooms on Wednesday, Nov. 13 from 8:30 to 10 a.m. Visit the class in Oceanside on Oct. 27. From left, Nicolas Campagna, Clara Gray, Shelby Moore and Thomas Grigolette. Courtesy

SDFAS invites prospective parents to an open house to visit the preschool, kindergarten and first grade classrooms on Wednesday, Nov. 13 from 8:30 to 10 a.m. Visit the class in Oceanside on Oct. 27. From left, Nicolas Campagna, Clara Gray, Shelby Moore and Thomas Grigolette. Courtesy

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San Diego French-American School
for the city, law enforcement, the dispensers and those who believe medical marijuana is of benefit to them. How would you resolve/reconcile this controversy?

A: As a former Assistant U.S. Attorney, I support enforcing the law. In August 2013, the Deputy Attorney General provided “guidance ... concerning marijuana enforcement,” which tacitly acknowledges states’ rights to permit and regulate marijuana. Regulations should be drafted that include Department of Justice concerns about preventing distribution to minors, diversion from states where legal to other states, “drugged driving,” and cultivation, possession or use on federal property. Additionally, local concerns about operation or use on federal property should be revisited.

A: We must adopt stricter measures for alcohol-serving establishments in the beach area. Instead of discretionary minor-use permits, the city Planning Commission should approve alcohol sales permits for bars, restaurants and liquor stores. Businesses applying for an alcohol-sales permit will be required to complete an operational management plan as a condition for the permit. Failure to comply would result in enforceable actions. Establishments that obtained liquor licenses prior to the new requirement can’t be grandfathered in. Therefore, we would adopt a “deemed-approved” Ordinance placing tighter rules on new and old alcohol-serving businesses by establishing performance standards.

In La Jolla, the matter of seals versus human access to beaches rages on year after year in the courts, the Coastal Commission and at the city level. As mayor, what policy would you advocate?

A: The city should have prevented the seals from colonizing Casa Beach in the 1990s. Now, the seals have taken over the area. In 2009, legislation permitted the City Council to establish Children’s Pool beach exclusively for use as a marine mammal sanctuary. Federal and state laws support closing the beach from December to May and installing a rope barrier across the beach during summer. There is not much more to be done other than ensuring that the rest of La Jolla’s beaches are protected from seal colonization.

What is the most crucial economic issue facing San Diego today and in the future, and how do you propose addressing this?

A: Budget decisions over the last four fiscal years allocated more money to be spent on 17,000 city retirees’ pensions than the city’s Fire-Rescue Department. The unfunded pension debt is now at $8 billion. It currently costs every San Diego household almost $4,500 a year. On it’s current course, the cost will double within five years. At the same time, our streets are budgeted below current maintenance levels. Our infrastructure needs will cost more than $1 billion. We can’t maintain basic city services if we don’t deal with the pension liability that is draining our general fund budget. Would you advocate for further expansion of the San Diego International Airport and possibly a second runway? Why or why not?

A: The San Diego County Regional Airport Authority has studied expanding the existing runway or adding a second parallel runway and found both options to be infeasible. It would require significant acquisition of surrounding commercial and residential land, approximately 2,000 acres that is made up of just less than 600 acres of commercial industrial, 120 of institutional and 800 acres of residential, with the remainder falling into other categories. The population within the required area of acquisition is 18,600 residents. The technical study identified huge challenges with the concept, including land acquisition, social impacts, environmental impacts and operational concerns.

Candidate: DAVID ALVAREZ
(City Councilman, District 8)

What is the greatest challenge/challenges facing our beach communities and how do you propose addressing this/them?

A: San Diego needs a mayor who will make government work for every neighborhood, including our beach communities. As mayor, I’ll invest in the beach neighborhoods, create jobs, support schools and give everyone the respect and dignity they deserve from their government. Our coastline is one of San Diego’s most incredible resources and my Blueprint for San Diego’s Future includes a vision to ensure our beaches and waterways are clean. I’ll invest in water technology to stop dumping sewage into the ocean and implement low-impact development projects to clean runoff before it gets to the ocean, rivers and bays. The homeless situation and the issues/problems associated with them continue to grow seemingly on a daily basis and are pervading nearly every neighborhood in San Diego. How do you propose to resolve the issue?

A: The city has made strides in providing additional homeless services in recent years. The temporary winter shelter and the recently opened permanent year-round shelter offer wrap-around services aimed at helping homeless towards self-sufficiency. However, these projects are not enough. We must provide year-round services throughout the entire city. As mayor, I’ll put pressure on the county, state, and federal governments to provide more funding for services to the homeless and help
Candidates » CONT. FROM PG. 9

with mental health and addiction, as well as providing job training. I’ll also ensure the city invests in more affordable housing to help working families afford a place to live in our city.

Medical marijuana dispensaries have been an ongoing controversy for years for the city, law enforcement, the dispensaries and those who believe medical marijuana is of benefit to them. How would you resolve/reconcile this controversy?

A: Patients with medical conditions requiring medicinal cannabis deserve to have safe access under the law. But we must fairly regulate dispensaries to provide that access while preventing any of our communities from being unfairly overburdened with them. As mayor, I would support a law that addresses — mostly in industrial zones — the oversaturation of alcohol licenses in particular communities. I’ll work closely with our police chief to ensure that police department review of alcohol license applications more heavily weights the number of existing licenses in the area. This review will determine the balance of community convenience and necessity for additional licenses. However, the city must be sensitive to the needs and desires of each individual community, as some neighborhoods may desire fewer licenses, while others may be looking to attract new investment through new restaurants or stores, which may need to sell alcohol. I’ll look to our community planning groups for recommendations regarding alcohol licenses.

In La Jolla, the matter of seals versus human access to beaches rages on year after year in the courts, the Coastal Commission and at the city level. As mayor, what policy would you advocate?

A: It is clear to me that the South Casa Beach deserves special protection as a habitat area for the seals that currently exist there, especially during pupping season. As such, I support the city’s current plan to install a rope barrier on Casa Beach during pupping season to protect both seals and people.

What is the most crucial economic issue facing San Diego today and in the future, and how do you propose addressing this?

A: San Diegans need more employment opportunities. Many have suffered during the recession and are out of work or underemployed. Our neighborhoods have been left behind because of a lack of investment and a blurred economic vision that favored only big downtown projects. In my Blueprint for San Diego’s Future, I present a clear vision to support entrepreneurs and small businesses that make up the backbone of our economy. As mayor, I’ll create public-private partnerships to spark neighborhood investment and revitalization, targeting employers in high-growth sectors. I’ll also present a big-picture plan to grow our cross-border economy and build partnerships with Asia.

Would you advocate for further expansion of the San Diego International Airport and possibly a second runway? Why or why not?

A: I currently serve as one of the city representatives on the San Diego Regional Airport Authority where we oversee airport operations and capital improvements. I know that there is simply not enough room for an additional runway at Lindbergh Field. Our best strategy moving forward is to utilize the airport capacity we have there, much more effectively like we’ve done with the Green Build expansion of Terminal 2. This project involved more than 7,000 workers and more than $415 million in contracts awarded to local businesses, while utilizing available space to increase productivity.

What is the greatest challenge/challenges facing our beach communities and how do you propose addressing this/them?

A: The beach communities include some of San Diego’s oldest neighborhoods and, like many urban communities, have significant infrastructure challenges, including needed street and neighborhood repairs. This is because past city leaders prioritized unsustainable pensions over investments in our neighborhoods. As your councilmember, I’ve been proud to work to improve San Diego’s beach and urban communities. As mayor, I will take that approach citywide. I am committed to cutting government waste at City Hall and investing the savings not in unaffordable employee pay, but into rebuilding our streets, water and sewer pipes, streetlights and crumbling sidewalks, boardwalk and seawall.

The homeless situation and the issues/problems associated with them continue to grow seemingly on a daily basis and are pervasive nearly every neighborhood in San Diego. How do you propose to resolve the issue?

A: I’m proud of the work I’ve done to help solve homelessness in our community, including leading the effort to open the city’s first permanent, year-round homeless service center downtown. It’s more than a shelter — it’s a “one-stop shop” that provides medical care, job training and other rehabilitative services to end the cycle of homelessness. I also helped the Monarch school, which serves homeless students, secure a new location so it can continue to change lives. I remain committed to solving homelessness in our communities and, as mayor, I will work to create policies that achieve this goal.

Medical marijuana dispensaries have been an ongoing controversy for years for the city, law enforcement, the dispensaries and those who believe medical marijuana is of benefit to them. How would you resolve/reconcile this controversy?

A: I believe we need to offer compassionate care to individuals who need treatment, while keeping marijuana dispensaries a safe distance from schools, parks and children. For years, I worked with my City Council colleagues to find a fair and sustainable solution and offered an ordinance that allowed for dispensaries — mostly in industrial zones.
A $25 MILLION LAWSUIT filed against the City of San Diego in 2011 has been dismissed by the plaintiff, Wave House Belmont Park, LLC, which is owned by Tom Lochtiefel, according to a statement from City Attorney Jan Goldsmith. The parties agree that the matter was settled.

The lawsuit arose out of Wave House’s loss of a lease to operate facilities owned by the city at Belmont Park, including the Plunge.

“The lawsuit has been dismissed and the Plunge remains open under new management,” said Goldsmith. “I commend our team of lawyers and support staff led by Deputy City Attorneys George Schafer and Walter Chung for an outstanding job.”

AN ILL DRIVER who allegedly killed a retired Pacific Beach man in University City when she ran through a red light was released from jail Oct. 31 after her arraignment on Oct. 29. She was found not guilty to drive and to have someone take her to medical appointments. Her attorney argued that $100,000 bail, which was set at her arraignment on Oct. 29, should remain the same. The attorney ordered Booppanon not to drive and to have someone take her to medical appointments. Her attorney said she now has no vehicle as it was damaged in the crash.

A preliminary hearing was set for Thursday, Nov. 7, although it may be delayed. At her arraignment, Booppanon was crying and tearfully told the prosecutor to tell the victim she was sorry.

— Neal Putnam

THE BLOOD AND DNA OF A MURDERED HOMELESS MAN was found throughout a Pacific Beach man’s van despite his attempts to clean it up, a prosecutor said in the murder trial of Shane Brian Grattan.

Grattan, 51, is charged with killing Darrin Joseph, 45, who lived in Point Loma and whose body was found in bush at 4960 North Harbor Drive on Jan. 19, 2012.

Deputy District Attorney Amy Mauld told the victim’s blood and DNA were found on the van’s steering wheel, a window, the bottom of one of Grattan’s shoes and his jacket, and on a tuna can and rake found in the van.

Mauld told the San Diego Superior jury that Williams died slowly and there was little blood in his body when he was found. The victim was beaten to death, which the prosecutor described as “torturous.”

Grattan’s lawyer, Brooke LaFrance, said someone else killed Joseph and suggested several witnesses could have done it. LaFrance said there was no witness who could identify Grattan as the killer.

“Mr. Grattan is not capable of this murder,” said LaFrance, adding that defense witnesses will testify that Grattan was peaceful and non-violent.

LaFrance said Grattan did let Joseph live in his van and so there was nothing unusual about the victim’s DNA being there. Additionally, she said Joseph’s DNA that was found underneath one of Grattan’s fingernails is not unusual since they were both living in the van.

LaFrance said there was “a small amount of foreign DNA” found on Joseph’s wheelchair, which was found abandoned in the area.

The first witness was paramedic Fabio Tavio, who said he responded to a 9-1-1 call about the body being found. Tavio said the body was buried in the bushes, but there were drag marks up to it.

The trial began Oct. 25 and continues this week before Judge Amalia Meza. Grattan has pleaded not guilty and remains in jail on $1 million bail.

— Neal Putnam

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KATE SESSIONS ELEMENTARY

Tuesday, Nov. 12, 6 p.m. — All Kate Sessions parents are invited to the PTO meeting (in the Kate Sessions auditorium). Free child care provided.

Wednesday, Nov. 20, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. — Pacific Beach residents are invited to attend Kate Sessions Dine Out at Hoboken Pizza, World Curry and Rocket Fizz Soda Pop and Candy Store (all located on Garnet between Haines and Greenwich). Dine in or take out at one of these restaurants on Nov. 20, mention Kate Sessions and a percentage of your check total will go to the fundraising efforts at Kate Sessions Elementary:

Saturday, Nov. 16, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. — Kate Sessions Elementary Craft Fair, “Homemade in San Diego.” On the Kate Sessions Elementary School Campus. The free event features more than 75 artists, crafters and bakers, live entertainment and a gift-wrapping station. Interested vendors email sessionsfundraising@gmail.com.

PACIFIC BEACH ELEMENTARY

Nov. 7 — Family Fun Night at Taco Surf, located at 4567 Mission Blvd. Taco Surf is donating a portion of receipts back to the Friends of Pacific Beach Elementary School. PBE friends and family are invited to come out, have a delicious meal and support PBE.

MISSION BAY CLUSTER NEWS

The next Mission Bay Cluster meeting will be on Thursday, Nov. 7, 6 p.m. at Kate Sessions Elementary School. PBE friends and family are invited to learn more about the LCFF (Local Control Funding Formula), how the additional money will affect our cluster schools and how you can affect how the money will be spent. There will be a PB Schools Fair update and a discussion about the MB Cluster Speaker Series.

FRIENDS OF PACIFIC BEACH

The next FOPBSS meeting is Nov. 20 at 6 p.m. in the Mission Bay High School library. The group will discuss volunteer needs, Missoula Theatre, Taste of North PB Restaurant Walk and principal updates from Fred Hilgers and Ernie Remillard.

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SCHOLLS >> CONT. FROM PG. 8

principal Remillard and learn about the International Baccalaureate Program and award-winning PE, math and music departments. Tour the campus and visit classrooms. Sign in at the front office.

CROWN POINT JUNIOR MUSIC ACADEMY

CPJMA is hosting Food-Truck Gatherings on Ingraham Street in front of the school starting Nov. 21. Every Thursday from 5 to 7:30 p.m., enjoy delicious food from

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Sat 12-3pm 7630 Roseland Dr 3BR/2BA $2,199,900 Cheryl McGorry 858-361-4806
Sun 1-4pm 7630 Roseland Dr 3BR/2BA $2,199,900 Olivia Moore 858-357-4675
Sat & Sun 1-4pm 6405 La Jolla Blvd #108 2BR/2BA $475,000 Philip Carrillo 858-243-5884
Sat & Sun 1-4pm 6452 La Jolla Shores Dr 4BR/6BA $3,900,000-$3,200,000 Debbie Greenman 858-672-5060
Sat 11-2pm 2521 Via Vesta 4BR/5BA $2,299,900 Candi De Moura 858-900-1333
Sun 1-4pm 5538 Caminito Consuelo 3BR/2BA $699,000-$789,000 David Schmidell 858-459-0202
Sun 1-4pm 1317 Caminito Flore 3BR/4BA $1,100,000 Solide Sinegal 858-342-0305
Sun 4pm 7120 Caminito 3BR/2BA $1,275,000 Emma Williams 858-232-2967
Sun 12:30-3:30 1721 Calle Deliciosa 6BR/6BA $1,995,000 Eugenia Garcia 619-987-4851
Sun 2-4pm 5769 Pepua Way 2BR/2BA $2,650,000 Virginia Luscomb 858-981-2323
Sun 1-4pm 1821 Viking 4BR/4BA $2,650,000 Moira Tapia 858-337-7269
Sun 1-4pm 7666 Pepua Way 2BR/2BA $2,995,000-$3,200,000 Louis Beacham 858-884-8909
Sun 1-4pm 821 Havenhurst Point 5BR/5BA $3,600,000-$4,200,000 David Schmidell 858-459-0202
Sun 1-4pm 1740 Colgate Circle 5BR/6BA $4,995,000 Anthony Hailest 858-913-6826

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Sat 1-4:30 Sun 11-4pm 1368 Oliver Ave 4BR/4BA $999,000 Karen Dodge 858-775-1575
Sat 1-3 Sun 11-4pm 1372 Oliver Ave 4BR/4BA $979,000 Karen Dodge 858-775-1575
Sat & Sun 1-4pm 3940 Gresham #142 2BR/2BA $899,000 Philip Carrillo 858-949-5884
Sat 1-4pm 3940 Gresham #142 2BR/2BA $899,000 Barbara Leinemweber 858-981-0002
Sat 1-4pm 2375 Wilbur Ave 3BR/2BA $985,000-$1,085,000 Marc Lipschitz 858-857-2882

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Sat & Sun 1-4pm 875 Sunset Cliffs Blvd 4BR/4BA $2,450,000 Philip Carrillo 858-243-5884
Sun 1-4pm 3727 Charles St 4BR/3BA $1,500,000 Janet Murphy 858-964-8784

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