#### Meeting the need

Local musicians will gather for a concert at Winston's to feed the hungry in hard economic times. 12

SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER GROUP

Thursday, February 12, 2009

www.SDNEWS.com ■ Volume 24, Number 6

# **Assailant admits** to brutally beating **Aussie tourist in OB**

By NEAL PUTNAM | THE BEACON

severely beating an Australian tourist in Ocean Beach one year ago pleaded guilty Feb. 6 to attempted murder and admitted

guilt in the assault of a second victim.

Damian Maple, 22, faces a stipulated sentence of 14 years in state prison as part of a plea agreesaid ment. Deputy District Attorney Patricia Herian.

The Australian tourist, Robert Schneider, now 27, was severely beaten with a skateboard and thrown into a fire pit on Feb. 27, 2008, at the foot of Abbott Street.



Schneider suffered brain injuries from a fractured skull, along with burns, broken bones and facial

Sentencing was set for April 15 in San Diego Superior Court for Maple, who remains in custody

without bail.

A second man — Francisco One of two men accused of Montoya, 47 — is also charged in connection with the Schneider case. Montoya's trial is set to begin

> There was an outpouring of local support for Schneider following the assault, and several fundraisers were held to help offset his hospital bills. Schneider's parents came to San Diego from their home in Adelaide, Australia, to be by his bedside. Schnieder finally returned home after several weeks of painful treatments, including multiple skin grafts.

Schneider, a surfer, was at a fire pit with Maple and Montoya around 5:30 a.m., according to witnesses who testified during a preliminary hearing. All the involved parties had been drinking when Montoya claimed Schneider threw sand in his face, according to Mary Knockeart, Montoya's attorney. It was Maple who struck Schneider, not Montoya, Knockeart said.

Maple had also been charged with torture, aggravated mayhem, battery and assault on a third victim, but those counts were dismissed after Maple pleaded guilty in connection with the Schneider case and a related assault that

SEE PLEA, Page 5



# **Rolling the dice for PLHS music programs**

The Point Loma High School (PLHS) Band Boosters hosted a "Casino Night" fundraiser on Feb. 6 to benefit the PLHS music program, providing an evening of fun and entertainment at the Portuguese Hall in Point Loma. Above playing craps are, center to right, Howard Stapleton, Lisa Stapleton and Jenny Gardham. Below left, PLHS music director Melissa Simmons sings "When I Fall In Love," accompanied by the PLHS Jazz Band. Below right, Lynne Bush and Norman Ytterdal react while playing blackjack. Participants were each given \$500 in play money to gamble with. At the end of the night one raffle ticket was exchanged for each \$100 in chips won.







An artist's rendition shows what the BAE Systems building at Liberty Station will look like in June. BAE Systems intends to relocate at least 200 employees here.

# Liberty Station poised for infusion of new jobs

By SEBASTIAN RUIZ | THE BEACON

BAE Systems, a United Kingdom-based international defense company, will relocate at least 200 employees to a new 3-story build-Loma come June, company officials said.

The development now under construction reignited questions recently about a related, large parking structure plan previously submitted to the Peninsula Community Planning Board (PCPB) for approval.

BAE Systems specializes in information technology and has pany plans to start moving erty Station since developers floatemployees into the 105,000square-foot facility in June.

between Liberty Station developer and because of the potential for ing at Liberty Station in Point the Corky McMillin Cos. and BAE increased traffic congestion Systems does not provide for any additional parking, said Jim idents were also concerned with Burghard, BAE Systems director of facilities.

'[The lease included] open parking in the entire [Liberty Station] complex ... [but] there were no designated parking spots for that building," Burghard said.

Residents and community planners have debated construction of

contracts with the navy. The com- a 5-story parking structure at Libed the idea a few years ago. Some community members opposed a A 10-year lease signed last year parking structure because of size around Liberty Station. Some res air pollution from car emissions, according to former board chair Cynthia Conger.

The PCPB supported building a 3-story parking garage at Liberty Station in 2006. Any proposal for a future parking structure, however,

SEE JOBS, Page 5

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# Luce revival plan may woo film, theater

By SEBASTIAN RUIZ | THE BEACON

The results of a recently completed \$65,000 study show that several dance studios and film festivals currently spread across the city could be brought together under a single roof with the restoration of Liberty Station's historic Luce Auditorium.

According to NTC Foundation officials, this could be made possible if the historic facility had two small film venues and a 500seat auditorium.

If those proposed uses don't clash with statewide guidelines for retrofitting historic buildings and are financially feasible, the Liberty Station arts community could have a San Diego gem to call home, said Alan Ziter, executive director of the NTC Foundation.

NTC Foundation officials are now in the process of drafting a letter to the California Office of Historic Preservation and the U.S. National Park Service to review the results, he said.

"What the study was trying to demonstrate is what would fit in the confines of the building envelope ... and what would fit the needs of the community," said Ziter. "We certainly know more now [from the study] than we did a year ago.

Community members, city and county officials joined forces over the last year to raise the money for the Luce Auditorium study.

If given the OK from state and federal agencies, Ziter said planners will start formulating business models and design work and establishing an endowment so the historic auditorium can pay for itself.

NTC Foundation officials should have an answer from state and federal agencies by late spring, according to Ziter.

The historic Luce Auditorium at Truxtun and Dewey roads once was home to such comedy and music legends as Bob Hope and Nat "King" Cole, who entertained thousands of Navv recruits in the 1,800-seat auditorium what was then the Naval Training Center.

# SDUSD restores federal funds to OB Elementary

By SEBASTIAN RUIZ | THE BEACON

The San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD) has restored some federal funding to schools with students from poorer families. Next schoolyear, schools with 40 percent or more students on free or reduced-cost lunch programs get about \$343 per student. The money should go to help pay for additional instruction and other costs connected to the student.

Schools including Ocean Beach Elementary, on Santa Monica Avenue, and University City High School, on Genesee Avenue, were cut out of federal funding because of recent board decisions to put more money toward schools with a higher concentration of students from financially struggling fami-

As the board restores some federal funding to schools in poorer areas, the rest of the district continues to struggle with currentyear and projected budget cuts.

Putting off buying new school buses, curtailing travel for teachers and potential layoffs to district administrative office personnel represent some of the budget-cut

items SDUSD board members approved Tuesday, Feb. 10, as they try to close an estimated \$33 million midyear budget gap and an estimated \$75 million budget deficit next year.

Board member Katherine Nakamura voted against proposed midyear cuts because, she said, there wasn't enough information to make a decision. She crumpled up the single sheet of paper representing \$33 million and tossed it aside after the 3-2 approval of the 2008-09 midyear budget plan.

Nakamura and board member John de Beck voted against the plan, with board president Shelia Jackson and board members John Lee Evans and Richard Barrera voting for it.

Nakamura's objections included a vaguely described \$7.7 million cut from nonschool sites.

Who is taking what hit in Central office and what does that mean?" Nakamura asked the deliberating board and staff. "Are we getting the financial document[s] we need?"

Nakamura directed staff to come back with more information about the cuts at a special board meeting Saturday, Feb. 14, at the Eugene Brucker Education Center. De Beck said the cuts don't represent a long-term solution. De Beck represents schools in Ocean Beach. Pacific Beach, Bird Rock and La

Although the board is trying to avoid layoffs, de Beck said they're a possibility.

"I don't see that the savings are there that don't involve rollbacks in salary," de Beck said.

Proposed midyear budget solu-

tions include tapping into \$4.5 million in workers compensation funds and maintaining a hiring freeze that should result in an estimated \$6.2 million in midyear sav-

Time is ticking for budget decisions as the district runs up against San Diego County deadlines. SDUSD Chief Financial Officer James Masias said if the district doesn't decide on a current-year solution and a 2-year outlook plan soon, the county will do it. Masias said he plans to meet with county officials this week.

He added that the current budget crisis changes the way school site budgets are allocated.

"We're looking at every school site to see what is it that you don't need [to operate]," he said.

The board also addressed next year's estimated \$75 million budget deficit. Cuts next year could bring reduction in Central office staff, increased class sizes and elimination of off-campus learning programs in Balboa Park and Old Town.

According to SDUSD staff reports, for every closed school with fewer than 400 students, the district can save about \$450,000.

Several beach-area schools, including Crown Point Elementary, on Ingraham Street, Bay View Terrace Elementary, on Fogg Street, and Barnard Elementary, on Barnard Street, showed up on a list of schools the district was considering closing or reconfiguring.

The SDUSD board reconvenes to discuss the fiscal year 2009-10 budget Feb. 14, at 8 a.m., at Eugene Brucker Education Center Auditorium, 4100 Normal St.



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Diane Sullivan 619-22-Diane dianesullivan@cox.net www.dianesullivan.net

am happy to announce that I have decided to move my Real Estate license and business to Windermere Pacific Coast Properties. Windermere is a high energy, full service office here in Point Loma with the type of professionalism and team building culture that I admire.

All my contact information (phone, e-mail, website and fax) will remain the same except for my physical address which is located in Liberty Station at 2468 Historic Decatur # 160.

If you or someone you know is thinking about buying or selling investment or residential real estate, please give me a call. I am happy to provide a Market Valuation or a List of Available Homes with No-Obligation.

Sincerely, Diane Sullivan



# **News**Briefs

# PCPB still accepting applications for election

The Peninsula Community Planning Board (PCPB) will continue to accept candidate applications during the next regular board meeting Thursday, Feb. 19 for the March 19 election.

The March election will be held at the Hervey/Point Loma Branch Library on Voltaire Street to fill five vacant seats on the PCPB.

A candidate forum is tentatively slated for Thursday, March 5 to allow candidates to field questions from residents.

The regular meeting on Feb. 19 takes place at 6:30 p.m. at the library. For more information, visit www.pcpb.net. 120 takes place at 6:30 p.m. at the Diego (Friewww.pcpb.net.)

# MTS plans meetings on mass-transit cutbacks

Funding for public transportation in San Diego may get cut as much as \$14 million this year as the state moves to reduce or eliminate its transit assistance.

The Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) must battle once more with reducing services and increasing fares to handle the lack of state funds.

The bus company is holding open houses throughout February to discuss proposals to restructure or eliminate routes and reduce frequency of service. The public is invited to submit comments for public hearing. For more information visit www.sdcommute.com.

Hearings will be held at various locations throughout the city, including:

• UTC Transit Center Wednesday, Feb. 18 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Westfield University Town Center

4545 La Jolla Village Drive, San Diego America Plaza Station
Thursday, Feb. 19
1 to 7 p.m.
1050 India St., San Diego
(West C Street & Kettner Boule-vard)

- Euclid Transit Center Saturday, Feb. 21 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. 450 Euclid Ave. in San Diego
- Old Town Transit Center Saturday, Feb. 21 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. 4009 Taylor St., San Diego
- Fashion Valley Transit Center Saturday, Feb.. 21 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

1205 Fashion Valley Road, San Diego

(Friars Road & Fashion Valley Road)

• Iris Avenue Station Sunday, Feb. 22 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. 3120 Iris Ave., San Diego (Iris Avenue & 30th Street)

#### New signal may snarl Sports Arena Blvd. traffic

Traffic accidents and careless drivers have prompted state traffic engineers to propose the installation of better traffic signals and a median on southbound West Mission Bay Drive as it crosses under Interstate 8 and becomes Sports Arena Boulevard.

Traffic officials hope to start the \$1.2 million project in summer 2010.

Drivers exiting the I-8 westbound on Mission Bay Drive/Sports Arena Boulevard often dangerously cross over to the far side of the street to get back on the eastbound I-8. This puts pedestrians, cyclists and other drivers in danger, said Richard Estrada, a California Department of Transportation engineer.

"[Caltrans] staff have actually seen people cross lanes," he said. "[Drivers] will get into that freeflow lane and cut across, driving over the delineators (small plastic poles)."

City of San Diego staff, however, is concerned the change could back up traffic along West Mission Bay Drive as motorists try to leave Pacific Beach and the Mission Bay area. Traffic currently flows freely on the West Mission Bay Drive lane leading to the eastbound I-8.

City traffic engineer Julio Fuentes said agencies will meet in the coming months "for them [Caltrans] to consider our comments," Fuentes said.

According to a preliminary Caltrans staff report, the area has been the scene of 105 collisions between April 2000 and March 2006

# OB brew venture scouts tasty new opportunities

The Ocean Beach Brewing Co., a new venture based in OB, provided preview tastes of its new beer at Crave's Café on Newport Avenue on Feb. 5. Brew partners Kip Coleman, Michael Lukacs and Steven Lombardi invited friends and press members to the exclusive tasting.

Coleman, an architect in Ocean Beach, said he hopes the local hospitality, bar and restaurant community will eventually serve his self-described Belgian-style India Pale Ale. Coleman has been brewing for about 10 years — longer than he's been in architecture, he said.

"I brew my own beer [and] I drink it because it makes me proud," Coleman said.

Lombardi, also an architect in Ocean Beach, said he helped design some of the bottle labels. One label features the Peace Rockers' Peace sign currently sitting atop the Ocean Beach International Hostel on Newport Avenue.

The Ocean Beach Brewing Co. doesn't have a license to sell or distribute the beer commercially so the owners are giving it away during quiet, brew party-style taste tests. The trio is tentatively calling

the seasonal ale OB Brew, or opening in San Diego, will be the OBrew, Lukacs said.

opening in San Diego, will be the hub of operations for the sur-

#### Same-sex couples tout Freedom to Marry Day

At marriage counters nationwide, same-sex couples will request marriage licenses on National Freedom to Marry Day today, Feb. 12, to raise awareness of the negative effects these couples and their families experience through not being able to legally marry.

Local couples in San Diego are participating as well by requesting marriage licenses at the County Clerk's Office from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. The office is located within the San Diego County Administration Building complex at 1600 Pacific Highway Downtown.

The event is co-sponsored by the Marriage Equality USA San Diego and the San Diego Equality Campaign.

Marriage Equality USA chapters have been engaging in the annual Freedom to Marry Day since 2001, alleging discrimination by various state and national legislation banning same-sex marriage.

A number of faith leaders will be present on the lawn of the County Administration Building on the morning of the event to marry couples.

For a list of events across the United States, visit marriage equality.org. For more local information, go to sdequalitynow.com.

# Census office opens for 2010 population count

Massive job recruitment is expected prior to the once-a-decade U.S. Census Bureau population count — and the bureau is marking the fuss with the opening of a census office in San Diego. Meanwhile, the bureau has launched an outreach campaign with local officials, community leaders and businesses to ensure an accurate count of the population.

This new local office, one of 12

opening in San Diego, will be the hub of operations for the surrounding communities. During peak operations, the office will employ roughly 1,500 people from the surrounding areas.

The office is located at 1370 India St. in San Diego. For more information, call (619) 684-6100.

# Wildfowl art, hunting decoys, carvings on exhibit

More than 150 artists and carvers from parts of the U.S., Canada and Japan will compete for awards and exhibit their work during the 2009 California Open Wildlife Art Festival's Wildfowl and Fish Carvers Competition this weekend at Liberty Station.

The event is the 36th annual festival and is sponsored by Pacific Southwest Wildlife Arts, Inc. (PSWA).

The event takes place on Saturday, Feb. 14 and Sunday, Feb. 15 at the NTC Promenade's Corky McMillin Event Center, 2875 Dewey Road.

According to organizers, PSWA is a nonprofit organization founded to support and promote wildfowl art, particularly the carvings of traditional hunting decoys, considered a truly American art form.

The event times are 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday and 9 a.m. to 4 on Sunday. Admission is \$5; children under 12 are admitted free.

# Soccer tryouts are just around the corner

Tryouts are set to get under way for the Barca Point Loma soccer teams — both boys and girls divisions.

Signups for U8-14 girls take place Monday, Feb. 16 and Wednesday, Feb. 18 from 4 to 6 p.m. at Liberty Station

For the boys, tryouts in the U8-14 category also take place at Liberty Station on Tuesday, Feb. 17 and Thursday, Feb. 19 from 4 to 6 p.m. For more information on tryouts, call (619) 838-3877.

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# **Tropical Smoothie serves** up healthful blend of flavor

They're very family-

oriented. The food is

delicious and healthy

**DAN HALL**TROPICAL SMOOTHIE CUSTOMER

By TRISH CLENNEY BROWN | THE BEACON

Can delicious and healthful coexist in the same comestibles?

The old Rolling Stones tune seems to suggest otherwise. "You can't always get what you want,' goes the song. "But if you try sometimes . . . you get what you need."

Despite that truism, it is now possible to have both what one

wants and what one needs, combined deliciously at the new Tropical Smoothie Café in Liberty Station. Here, it's no longer an either/or proposition: Customers can enjoy luscious smoothies along with delectable vet healthful food.

Here's the history. Ton Lee, George Tateno and Alex Raymundo met while working out eight years ago at a 24-hour gym in La Jolla

Following their workouts, the three healthful-living aficionados enjoyed sipping smoothies. The problem was that if they were also hungry, they had to go elsewhere to find something health-

They eventually decided to go into business together and

opened a Tropical Smoothie Café franchise. Now other fitness buffs need look no further. They can find both delicious smoothies and healthful, tasty food all in one

The tropical motif extends beyond the victuals, with the café's interior brimming with a lush tropical atmosphere and vivid island colors, all designed to make customers feel as if they're

on vacation. One customer, Dan Hall, eats there almost every day. Hall, who lives at Liberty Station, works and the smoothies don't as a pharmainclude too much sugar. representative.

Not only do he and his family enjoy the Tropical Smoothies' menu, he also uses the café's

catering service for his work.

"The people at the café are great," said Hall. "They're very family-oriented. The food is delicious and healthy and the smoothies don't include too much sugar."

Hall appreciates the children's portions and the "great and affordable sandwich trays" which can be served to the physicians with whom he works — even those who are vegans.

"They cater to your needs," he



Tropical Smoothie Café is located at 2751 Roosevelt Road, Suite 103,

outdoor lifestyle," Lee said.

He lived in San Diego for four vears but now resides in Las Vegas, where he operates two

dental offices.

Tons of Beads

2 Big Parades Dance Crews

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Lee first encountered Tropical Smoothie Café in Las Vegas. He talks about how he and his wife used to stop for a quick lunch and how she would always get something from Tropical Smoothie while he usually opted for a

sandwich from a nearby sandwich shop. One day at home, he ate some of his wife's leftover

"I tried it and I loved it," he

That was enough to convince Lee to begin ordering from his wife's favorite place. And later, when he and his two partners decided to open a franchise, Tropical Smoothie was the obvious choice.

The three owners plan to open up to 20 Tropical Smoothie Cafés throughout San Diego County over the next five years.

All three men work in the operations side of the café, although Tateno and Raymundo can often be found on the

The menu features a variety of offerings, including low-fat smoothies, power smoothies, dessert smoothies — such as mocha madness, with Ghirardelli chocolate, coffee, cappuccino and nonfat yogurt — and splendid smoothies made with Splenda.

One of the most popular drinks, though, is the jetty punch smoothie, which combines the flavors of fresh strawberries, bananas and turbinado sugar, all blended to perfection.

When it comes to edibles, there are scrumptious wraps for any meal, including breakfast wraps. Other options include sandwiches and gourmet salads.

One of the café's signature sandwiches is the cranberry walnut chicken salad sandwich. It's made of all-white-meat chicken blended with cranberries, walnuts, celery and mayo, topped with fresh field greens and tomato and served on nine-grain wheat bread.

Also available is a kids menu and a catering menu.

Discounts at the café are available to Liberty Station employees and often for local students and the community, as well, says Lee.

Tropical Smoothie Café is located at 2751 Roosevelt Road, Suite 103.

For more information, call (619) 241-2753, or visit www.tropicalsmoothiecafe.com.

TICKETS ONLY \$15

said. "I would recommend it to

Lee said the Liberty Station

location appealed to him and his

partners because it has so much

architecture, natural beauty and

range of offerings there — from

residential and sports to restau-

In addition, "San Diego is a

very health-oriented city with an

rants and cultural activities.

to offer in terms of its history,

anybody.



\$15 in advance gate price \$20

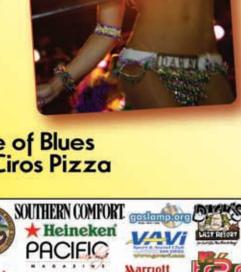
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William ("Bill," "Billy," "Uncle Fuzzy") Richard Berg, born Oct. 31, 1948, in Pasadena, passed away peacefully at home in Point Loma on Jan. 26, 2009, after a courageous battle with ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease).

He was 60.

Bill grew up in the Point Loma area from the age of 2. He attended Sunset View Elementary School and Dana Junior High School and graduated from Point Loma High School in 1967.

He worked as a painting contractor, home repairman and auto mechanic. He also lived and worked in Hawaii for many years, returning to the family home in Point Loma 10 years ago.

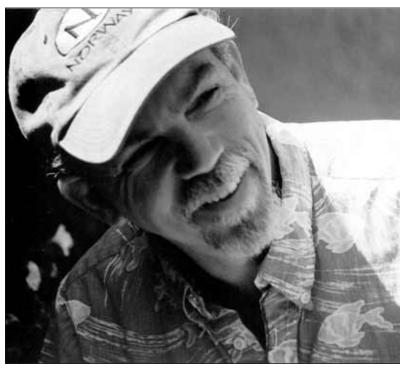
The origin of his company's name, Painter at Large, came about from his travels in doing jobs in many parts of the country, including Hawaii, Oregon, Humboldt County, Lake Arrowhead and San Diego.

Bill was a great friend and a wonderful son, brother and uncle. He had an original and playful approach to life. He was generous with his time, energy and love. He was a mentor to many.

Bill's collection of found items was legendary and he always could find an interesting and creative way to recycle things into his projects and jobs.

Windows, doors, hardware, shelving, plumbing parts, scrap course of Bill's jobs and were and nieces Amanda and Natalie of

# William Berg, 60, longtime Point Loman



**WILLIAM RICHARD BERG** 

incorporated into his unique art projects.

All have marveled at his artistic creations and ingenious methods of turning old car parts into living room accessories.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Audrey Berg, and his father, Fred G. Berg. He is survived by his brother, Fred Berg, Jr. of Honolulu; sister Bette Ann Berg of McKinleyville, Calif.; nephews Sam metal — all found new life in the Berg and Nathan Berg of Hawaii

San Diego. He is also survived by his loving stepmother, Betty J. Berg, and her family. He leaves behind a large family of friends.

Those who knew Bill are going to miss him more than they can say. Their lives are richer and fuller for having known and loved

A informal gathering of Bill's friends and family was held at sunset on Feb. 7 at a location special to him along Sunset Cliffs. A reception followed at the family home.

After Schneider was injured later that month, Maple and Montoya fled the area to other states. Both men were arrested on the same day last March. Maple was found hiding under a bed at the home of an acquaintance in Coolin, Idaho. Montoya was arrested by police in Eugene, Ore.

Their case and Schneider's beating had been profiled on "America's Most Wanted."

Montoya has pleaded not guilty and remains in custody on \$1 million bail.

# PLEA

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

Systems officials.

and Downtown.

the PCPR

Maple had been accused of picking up an aluminum trash can and hitting Colin Bates with it, according to court records.

Montoya faces the same charges in the Schneider case and could be sentenced to life in prison if con-

Maple pleaded guilty to assaulting Justin Hayes in an unrelated Feb. 9, 2008, incident at 10:45

would have to come back before

BAE Systems administrators plan to move only a portion of

their employees to Liberty Station from their current Rancho Bernardo facility. The Rancho

Bernardo facility now houses about 1,500 employees and will

remain open, according to BAE

BAE Systems employs about

3,000 people in and around San Diego, including facilities in

National City, Vista, Temecula

BAE Systems provides wireless

communication, networking and

other information technologies to

the U.S. Department of Defense, Space and Naval Air Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR) as

well as to other nations, accord-

ing to BAE Systems officials. The company will share the p.m. at Dog Beach at another fire pit. Maple punched Hayes in the nose, causing it to bleed profusely. Hayes initially fled the scene but returned to get his shirt and bicy-

After Maple and others told Hayes to leave because "this is our beach," Hayes pulled a can of pep-

Haves down, and he was beaten unconscious. Hayes awoke in the hospital the next day with his eyes swollen shut and suffering from other facial injuries, according to

per spray, according to a witness. The attackers, however, knocked

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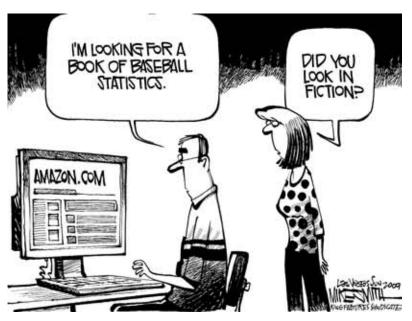
# A View from Route 52 By Sandy Lippe



# An economic meltdown on all levels

In a Jon Stewart/Daily Show kind of mood without using profanity, I am beginning to wonder if both sides of the aisle in Congress would do better to take the \$825 billion stimulus package and place it on the blackjack table in Vegas. Listening to dueling economists and elected officials on Sunday talk shows, Republicans and Democrats, pitch their solutions to our downward spiral in the economy is like listening to those Nigerian guys who call us two or three times a week to tell us we won \$2 million, but we need to give them a check for \$395 in order to get it. It makes me nervous to see a moderate retirement portfolio slashed in half and a "wait and see" attitude from financial advisors, knowing that politicians in Washington are guaranteed their hefty retirement. It makes my young neighbor, a husband and father, nervous since he lost his job before Christmas. Harry Truman said: "A recession is when your neighbor loses his job; depression is when you lose yours." It makes entrepreneurial small business owners nervous when people stop coming in. Wall Street is miles from Main Street or Girard Avenue or Governor Drive. Looking at Marketplace on Governor, Jamba Juice was shuttered after a short run next to a busy Starbucks. Curves closed in the same shopping center. U.C. Pharmacy, our beloved hometown haven, has been gone for a long, long time.

What if Washington gave each American over age 18 a thin slice of that \$825 billion pie instead of building infrastructure? Figuring there are 200 million adults over 18, each one of us would get \$4,250 to spend. Well, then the banks would fold up, you say. Well, some employees at Merrill Lynch under the umbrella of Bank of America didn't do too bad. CEO John Thain passed out \$4 billion in bonuses, and he also



bought an \$87,000 rug for his new B of A bailed-out office, along with other goodies. Doesn't everyone need a \$1,400 waste-basket? He resigned under advisement. What will his financial package include? Where would you put your chunk of \$4,250? A., under the mattress; B., into buying a new car; C., for a donation to Mr. Madoff to help with his legal fees.

More and more politicians are having a "deer in the headlights" look as they peddle the idea of government-backed cash infusion to jumpstart the economy, which is looking like an old motorboat. Wasn't it Treasury Secretary Paulsen who promised there was no other choice but to use the first huge stimulus check? Where is Hank? Exited stage left after his theatrical moment ...

Looking north to Sacramento and looking south to the City Administration Building in downtown San Diego, one wonders what our politicians are thinking with dwindling dollars and escalating costs to maintain the city, state and country. They are thinking of how to cut the budget or how to sell the idea of more taxes for services. The governor and the legislature are like a marriage gone bad, and we're witness to the breakdown of communication like young kids hoping mom and dad will quit fighting and act like grownups.

In San Diego it is interesting that library services seem to take the biggest hit when library services grow during an economic downturn. Why hit the libraries so hard? Willie Sutton was asked why he robbed banks: "Because that's where the money is." Libraries are run by librarians, stereotypically sweet, book-loving and not willing to challenge their employers, the elected officials. Library fines go into the general fund, not the library fund. Someone suggested having coffee carts set up in the library the way

some bookstores have them. Would the money go to the library or the general fund? Charging for DVDs and CDs could bring in some money, but would that go into the general fund too?

Library hours have been slashed across the city. Library staff has been cut to the bare bone. In November the people rose up to stop library closures in seven branch libraries, but now the 2010 budget begins again. Looking at a library system is like looking at the human body. The head is the central library, while the branches are the arms and legs, and the staffing is the heart. You can't have one without the other. If one breaks down, then all suffer.

Choosing between a central library and branches is the wrong choice, so be wary when you see a survey asking you to make that choice. Pitting one library in one community against another isn't the way to go. La Jolla Library, because of the generosity and success of its Friends' fund-raising, is open 52 hours in total, including Sundays. University Community Library, with the generosity and success of its Friends' fund-raising, remains open 41 hours total, but is closed Sundays. "Quit your bellyaching and move to La Jolla," someone may say. That's not the answer I'm seeking. Asking for a 15 percent cut again to library services is really wrong, especially for libraries without benefactors. We need to stand united on that count. U.C. library was on two important lists: closure and expansion. We vote for expan-

More than that, we need to go line by line through the San Diego stimulus package and let our leaders know we want to make sure libraries are included. Libraries are victims of this fiscal crisis and they needn't be if we band, together in support of every community's library needs.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# **PCPB member questions**church special permit its enclosed building for the tables and booths. The response appeared to be the respo

RE: Community planning board at work: the Rock Church request for approval of its special-use permit to block a public street, approved 8-2?

As a member of the Peninsula Community Planning Board I entertained, with other members (and a small audience who apparently had not been noticed), the Rock Church request for approval from the board for their special-use permit to block the public street every Sunday in front of their church.

I am one who opposed it because the rationale given publicly was "to make legal what the church had been doing all along."

In short, the church admittedly had been illegally blocking the street and wanted the board to retroactively sanction the unauthorized use. The problem with the request, however, appeared to be that no public reason was given for the request: that was it ... to make legal what the church had been doing all along!

It was explained by the church advocate that the current city "temporary use" permit authorized blocking the street on a temporary basis "for pedestrian safety," presumably if pedestrians flocked willy-nilly and out of order across the street while going to and from one of multiple church services held every Sunday.

Presumably also, the need for the blockage would probably mean the street might occasionally be totally blocked for 10-15 minutes prior to the beginning of a service and at the end of the last service.

Yet, the church advocate claimed that the church additionally needed to place tables and booths across the entire street all day long, every Sunday. Well, that's what the church admittedly has been doing "all along." I have seen it. I have heard the complaints from residents going to and from some of the other adjacent businesses.

The kicker was that the church advocate's only reason for asking for approval was to "help the church" with its church mission and "to make legal" what the church had been doing all along anyway.

Someone asked the advocate why the church could not abide by the law and use its enclosed building for the tables and booths. The response appeared to be that it was not convenient to the church to try to do that. Bottom line is that it seemed a non-taxpayer was asking for a license to block the public right of way, not for public or pedestrian safety, but to serve a vague, unspecified private end only.

No one spoke in favor of the approval application other than the church advocate. I was left with the questions: Why would the city want to grant such a permit under the circumstances? Why would taxpayers want the city to authorize such a permit? I could think of no reason.

**Cal Jones** PCPB board member Point Loma

# Concerned over safety of pier stairs, railings

On Monday evening, Jan. 12, 2009, I received a call stating that man had fallen through the metal guard railing at the top of the stairs leading to the Ocean Beach Pier. He had fallen through to the beach below about 20 to 25 feet.

I was told later that he had broken both legs. Because I didn't see, hear or read about the story, I can't confirm his condition. I guess he was lucky.

I did go to the pier and saw the damage to the railing. It is very scary for me personnaly because I lean on that very spot of railing at least three or four times a week.

I have never noticed any wear or corrosion. So what caused this rail to give way? Now I began to question just how safe the stairs themselves are.

I took a look, only to find one step had crumbled away, enough for a metal bar to be sticking through. It won't be long before someone gets a heel caught on it and falls.

I hope the city has lots of insurance.

The other steps show wear but look okay to me. But then, I am no engineer. As thousands of people use these stairs, I wonder how often the stairs and pier are inspected

I see today that the railing has been fixed but not the step. I am hopeful that it, too, will be repaired.

> **Jim St. Denis** Ocean Beach

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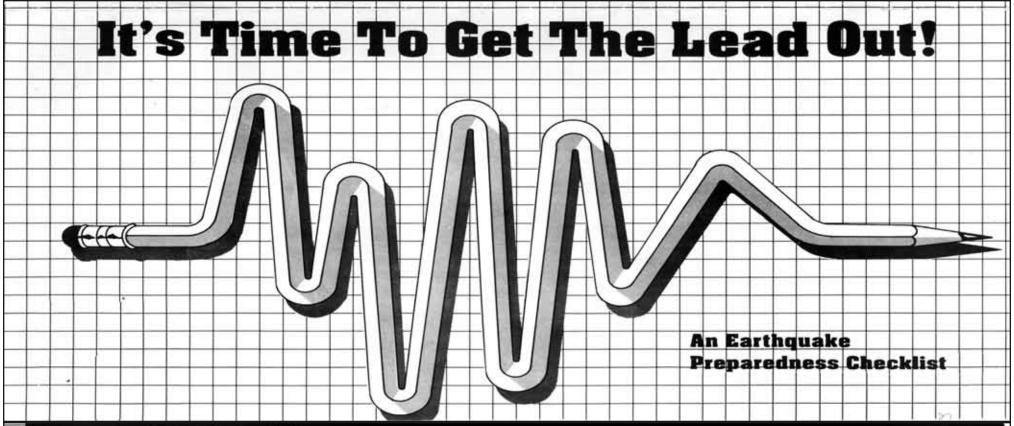
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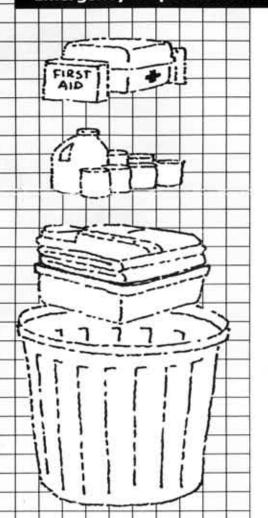
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#### **Emergency Preparedness At Home**



Preparing your family for a disaster is extremely important. You should plan to be without any emergency services for at least three days. The size of your family will determine what your requirements will be. You can assemble an emergency supply kit by packing the following items in a sturdy trash barrel.

#### **Emergency Supply Kit**:

Top of Barrel

■ Flashlight

- Battery operated radio and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Personal items
  - Eyeglasses Antibiotic ointment
  - Eye wash Aspirin
  - Aspirin Kaopectate Medication recommended by your doctor, i.e. insulin,
- by your doctor, i.e. insu heart medication First aid dressings
  - Adhesive tape, 2 in. W roll Sterile bandage, 2 in. W roll and 4 in. W roll Bandage, large triangle Bandages, plastic strips Cotton-tipped swabs Sterile absorbent cotton
  - Ace bandages Butterfly bandages Box of disposable diapers/ large gauze
- Miscellaneous Scissors Tweezers Thermometer

Petroleum jelly

Rubbing alcohol Tissues

Pocket knife Water purification tablets Eye dropper First Aid Handbook

Middle of Barrel

Food - Three-day supply of food requiring no refrigeration. Date all food items. Write out menu for each day. Examples:

Canned tuna, pork and beans, and stew (½ lb/person/day)

Nonfat dry milk (½ lb/person/day) Graham crackers

(½ lb/person/day) Dried apricots

(½ lb/person/day) Canned orange or tomato juice Peanut butter

(½ lb/person/day)
Water (1 gal/person/day)

#### Bottom of Barrel

Bedding

Sleeping bag/blankets Plastic sheet/tarp

Clothing

One change/person including heavy shoes or boots Coat

Tennis shoes
■ Personal Supplies

Toiletries Towel Reading material

Paper/pencil
Fuel and Light
Matches

Candle

Signal flare Sterno canned heat

Equipment

 Can opener
 Dishpan
 Dishes (disposable)

Utensils (disposable) Ax Shovel

Bucket (plastic liners)
Infant needs as applicable

 Personal documents (These may be kept in barrel or other place you can get to quickly.)

get to quickly.)
Copy of driver's license
List of credit cards, checking
and savings account
numbers
Insurance policies - health, life,

auto, house Birth certificates Medical history Passports

U.S. service discharge papers Ownership certificates (pink slips) for autos,

trailers, boats, etc. Social Security cards Wills

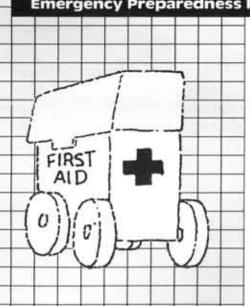
Certificates of Authenticity for art objects Household inventory

Cash (min. \$100, in small bills) List of contents Pictures of each room – two

angles Photos of jewelry taken on a black cloth

Get your kit together!

#### Emergency Preparedness For Your Car



Should an earthquake occur while you are on the road, you could easily find yourself stranded for several days. It is critical that you keep these essential supplies in your car at all times.

- First Aid kit (with large bandages, large gauze, tape, and handbook)
- Survival handbook
   Water (minimum 2 quarts)
- Water (m)r
   Utensil kit

and bulbs

- Cups
- Pocket knife with utility blades
- Weather/wind proof matches
   Water purification tablets
- Emergency light sticks
   Flashlight with extra batteries
- Pocket radio and extra batteries
- Paper towels/towelettes ■ Roll of aluminum foil

- Leather gloves ■ Large safety pins
- Large safety pins
   Emergency food/snacks
  - Nuts

Raisins, prunes, and other dried fruit

Beef Jerky - canned meat Granola bars Instant soup broth Hot cocoa mix

Instant coffee
 Paper and pencil

PapeTools

Jumper cables Hammer

Crowbar Flares

Screwdriver Pliers Crescent wrench

Electrical tape Duct tape

 Plastic trash bags for personal waste

- Fire extinguisher
   Can/bottle opens
- Can/bottle opener
   Rope 50' length, 5/46"
- recommended diameter

 Personal needs Toothbrush

Toothpaste Medication, prescription and non-prescription

Sanitary napkins Comb Soap

Razor
Other as needed
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- Various belts Cans of oil
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Causes, Symptoms and Suggestions

for Sundowner's Syndrome

ing because they are trying to come to terms with their surroundings. The Alzheimer's Foundation has advice for dealing with Sundowner's

Discourage day-time napping to regulate sleep cycle.

Limit caffeine intake, particularly in the evening.

Encourage exercise throughout the day to expend excess energy.

Allow for light exposure in the early morning to help set internal clock. Even the safest home can be treacherous for someone in a confused state. For more information and help to deal with someone experiencing Sundowner's Syndrome, call Innovative Healthcare Consultants at (877) 731-1442 or go to our website at innovativehc .com. Our RN case managers are experienced in all stages of Alzheimer's and would be happy to advise you.

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In its just released report of annual health spending, the federal government confirmed that chronic illness accounts for 75 percent of all health spending. Yet exercising regularly and maintaining a healthy weight can significantly reduce your risk for chronic illness and your medical bills.

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## People's February **Chocolate Treat**

#### People's Chocolate Macadamia Nut Cookies

Makes 30 cookies, which is plenty for sharing.

½ cup plus 1 Tbsp. maple syrup ½ vegetable oil

1 tsp. vanilla

1¾ cups whole wheat pastry

½ tsp. baking soda

½ tsp. sea salt

½ cup macadamia nuts, coarsely chopped (available in the Bulk Dept. at O.B. People's Organic Food Market, where you can purchase just enough for the recipe!)

½ cup chocolate chips

Combine syrup, oil and vanilla. Put flour and soda into separate bowl. Add wet ingredients into the dry, stirring just enough to mix well. Fold in nuts and chips. Spoon by tablespoons onto oiled or no-stick cookie sheets. Bake at 350° for 10 minutes or until lightly browned and just firm.

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# Matrimonial bliss – en masse style

Historic chapel at Liberty Station hosts second wedding marathon

By JOSEPH GREENBERG | THE BEACON

A marathon of weddings and vow renewals, church bells and high flying bridal bouquets will change the unlucky vibe of Friday the 13th, at least for a day.

For the second year running, the North Chapel at Liberty Station and KyXy radio station are teaming up to give away 30 free weddings or vow renewals during a ten-hour marathon of "I dos" from 9 am to 7 pm on Friday, Feb. 13th. The radio station will also webcast the event live from www.kyxy.com.

One of those winners was a Point Loma resident named Lennie Austria, who was quite beside herself on her selection.

'When we got married it wasn't a big production: no flower girls or any of the other whole nine yards. I wore my mom's Sunday dress as my wedding gown."

That was nearly sixteen years ago for Lennie, and this wedding marathon will allow her and her husband, Jay, to make good on a promise they made to each other to renew their vows someday under better circumstances. That day has finally come.

Each of the 30 winning couples were selected by KyXy radio staff based upon essays they had submitted to the radio station. Roughly 200 applicants participated this year, more than double from the year before.

The jam-packed day calls for a leader of special talent and endurance, and Reverend Gregory "Egg" Pratt is elated to preside

over the day's ceremonies.

"It's going to be a long day, I know that...and maybe afterwards I'll be changing my mind, but right now I am excited," Rev. Pratt said.

The reverends' energy was palpable, but just in case he needs to take a break during the wedding marathon, he has associates there to rotate with him.

The reverend foresees the day going by quickly.

"Everybody brings a different story to the table, and no two are exactly the same," he said. "It will make for a lovely day."

The winners will receive a oneof-a-kind ceremony that will include a chaplain, decorative flowers placed throughout the restored chapel and the traditional wedding march played on the chapel's pipe organ by professional organists. A wedding reception will follow for the couples at the donation of nearby restaurants like Panera Bread & Bakery, Sammy's Woodfire Pizza and Solare Restaurant &

The North Chapel can seat up to 300 friends and family members coming to support and take part in the joyous ceremonies.

The chapel's architecture is in the Spanish Colonial Revival-style, and was ambitiously restored at a cost of \$1.35 million and reopened in 2007 by C.W. Clark, Inc., a La Jolla Based real estate development company. The 14 stained glass windows inside the chapel are all nautically themed.

The two-story, non-denomina-

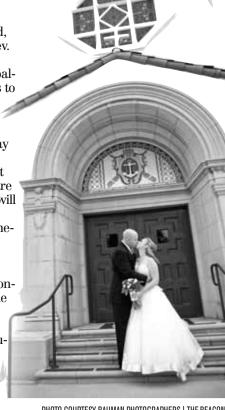


PHOTO COURTESY BAUMAN PHOTOGRAPHERS | THE BEACON

tional chapel was originally built in 1942 and used primarily by the San Diego Naval Training Center. The Chapel was closed by the Navy in 1997 along with numerous other military buildings, and sat vacant until the restoration.

To take part in these "lucky in love" ceremonies, come to the North Chapel at Liberty Station starting at 9 a.m.

For more information, visit www.then or thchapel.com.

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# Heart of the matter: St. Valentine is more than a central figure

By MARTIN JONES WESTLIN | THE BEACON

The peeps over at Point Loma's NTC Promenade liked last year's Valentine's Day marriage marathon so much that they've decided to throw a do-over. On Friday, Feb. 13, 30 couples will either marry or renew their vows there, having been picked from a list of 160 who submitted their testimonies on why they think they're the coolest candidates. A big fat reception is planned too, with a big fat cake, big fat music and (hopefully) a decided absence of big fat second thoughts.

Marriage is one of those enduring institutions, all right, the world's universally recognized forum for declaration of mutual fidelity - and if yours is happening on the 14th at NTC, it takes on a special significance. The only drawback is that then. Despite the oppressive one of the central figures in the Emperor Claudius II's ban on Chrisinstitution's history won't be there tian marriage rites, Valentinus wed to perform the ceremony. St. Valentine has been dead since about A.D. 270, brutally martyred in the service of blushing brides all over Rome. There's not a lot to dish on him officially; in fact, the Roman Catholic Church recognizes several St. Valentines, and as recently as A.D. 1969, the guy in question didn't even appear by name on the Church's feast day calendar. The unofficial story, though, waxes folkloric - so as you fire up the "I dos" and break out the golden handc-er – rings, you might want to give it up for an unsuspecting little sort who's there in spirit, the bearer of many standards for marriage's very public place in the very public mind.

The ancient Romans held the feast of Lupercalia, designed to

purify the city and promote fertility, every mid-February. Magistrates ran around naked in the streets; dogs and goats were sacrificed; crowds donned the animals' skins, called februa, in imitation of the fertility god Lupercus; and young women lined the parade routes to receive lashes, which were thought to prevent sterility and ward off evil spirits. The whippings live on today in some Easter Monday ceremonies other than that, Lupercalia was about as un-Christian as it gets.

Christianity, after all, didn't reallv take root in Rome until Emperor Constantine spearheaded its growth around A.D. 500 – but Valentinus, a Roman temple priest, precursed Constantine by about 250 years, and he came to symbolize matrimony's otherworldly nature even young couples underground by the score. The jig was soon up amid word of mouth, and Valentinus was jailed for crimes against the state. He was eventually beaten and stoned for his trouble – incredibly, he lived through the assaults, finally succumbing via decapitation.

But it's his stretch in stir that marks Val's place in legend.

For whatever reason, the jailer Asterius took a liking to his prisoner, and his blind daughter Julia would bring the captive food on the sly, as well as messages from the outside. In return, the priest taught Julia arithmetic and her ABCs and regaled her with stories on the history of Rome. All the while, Julia pined for her sight as the key to truly experiencing the lore she

could only hear. Soon, fate intervened in Julia's life a second time. On Feb. 14, 270, her friend was whisked away to his end, but not before he'd left her a note extolling the richness life has to offer. The signature said, "From your Valen-

What's more, Julia could read it. Thus inspired, Julia is said to have planted an almond tree at Valentinus' grave, near what is now the Church of Praxedes in Rome. The almond tree – like the archetypal card Valentinus left for Julia – is today a symbol of love and friendship the world over.

In A.D. 496, Pope Gelasius declared Feb. 14 St. Valentine's Day. In so doing, he started something that the secular community has run with in kind ever since. Hallmark says that it expects 163 million Valentine's Day cards to be sent nationwide this year; in 2008, holiday spending topped \$17 billion, with a "b." In many ways, Christmas is the only other holiday that commands such public anticipation, to say nothing of lofty receipts.

But Christmas, see, is a long way off. And besides, as Bob Cratchit is keen to remind us every season, it's only once a year. Valentine's Day is supposedly the flashpoint for romantic idealism every single day. In no way is the concept even close to the reality; according to the Forest Institute for Professional Psychology, a whopping 74 percent of third marriages end in divorce in America.

Val's probably not too happy about that, especially since his life story is designed around a diametrically opposite ideal.





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Mandy Wilson charges forward during a mixed game of touch rugby in Del Mar recently. Wilson plays with a more formal team – The San Diego Surfers – an allwomen's team based at Robb Field in Ocean Beach. RONAN GRAY | THE BEACON

# **OB** catching spirit of rugby, **USA** Sevens

By RONAN GRAY | THE BEACON

Super Bowl Sunday has passed. The "world" championship of football has been decided for another year, and diehard fans across the nation are falling into despair. It is the beginning of the long, bleak months of the off-season.

Across the nation, as they somberly pack away their war paint, oversize foam appendages and plastic Viking helmets, many may well be contemplating what could have been. Most have already resigned themselves to the boredom of spring and the long, hot days of summer before the return of football.

For those fans lucky enough to live in Ocean Beach, Point Loma and other San Diego communities, though, the outlook may not be so bleak — especially if they are willing to broaden their horizons just a bit. In a few short weeks, a truly international "world" football event is coming to town. Rugby — the wellspring of the American game itself — will take over the heart of Downtown San Diego for a weekend of nonstop action on Feb. 14 and 15 when the USA Sevens rugby tour touches down at Petco Park.

The annual competition, the largest international rugby tournament in North America, is in its sixth year and will be at Petco for the fourth year in a row. It will feature 16 nations competing in 44 games over the course of the two-day event. A fan zone inside the venue will fea-

This year's tournament will also feature a women's competition for the first time-the perfect Valentine's

At first glance, the two games seem vastly different —there are no pads or helmets on the rugby pitch, and the game is essentially played nonstop, with the same players filling both offensive and defensive roles. Passing the ball forward is not allowed in rugby, and only the player carrying the ball may be tackled or blocked.

The Sevens tournament at Petco will feature a variant of the full 15player Rugby Union game, as the name suggests. Instead of 15 players, only 7 per side play in this fastpaced version of the game.

Rugby itself has been played in the U.S. alongside the modern variant of the game for many years. It is most popular along the Eastern seaboard, but there are teams in many colleges across the nation, including here in San Diego at SDSU and UCSD.

Most amateur rugby players play a noncontact version of the game gaining popularity in San Diego. Pick-up "touch" rugby games can be found most weekends in area parks and at the beach in Del Mar and South Mission Beach. There are several more formal, 15-player fullcontact teams playing in the county too, including The San Diego Surfers, an all-women's team based at Robb Field in Ocean Beach. Mandy Wil-

ture music, fun and, of course, beer. son, who plays with the Surfers, says it's a great way to stay fit.

Beyond that there is a great social aspect to the sport.

"Rugby is the most team oriented sport I have ever played and is as much of a club as it is a sport," said Wilson. "There is an opportunity for any age, gender, ability and experience to play rugby. Teams are always looking for players, and it is a great way to meet people and become part of a team.'

Ruth Oram has been playing touch rugby for over 10 years with the San Diego Tumeke Touch Club, an informal group of men and women who meet on Saturdays to play touch at local parks.

"Touch is growing a lot [in San Diego], mostly from the help of transplanted Aussies and Kiwis," Oram said after a game on a Saturday morning in Del Mar.

Today, Feb. 12 and tomorrow, Feb. 13, The San Diego Invitational Rugby Tournament, an ancillary event to the USA Sevens, will feature play by some of the county's and the nation's best 15-player men's and women's teams at the Del Mar polo fields in North County. It will be a good place for interested locals to see the game, get a quick fix of full-contact sporting action and perhaps even get more information about playing locally.

For more information, see www.usasevens.com www.usasevens.com/san-diego/sandiego-invitational.aspx.



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# Musicians to band together in concert to aid city's hungry, homeless



Brooklyn Mack will be among the seven female performers playing at the "Rock Fights Hunger Food Drive" at Winston's on Sunday.

COURTESY PHOTO

By BART MENDOZA | THE BEACON

With the economy in a tailspin, more San Diegans than ever are finding times tougher than normal with fewer resources to fall back on. Charitable giving is down and corporations are watching their bottom lines. But San Diego musicians continue to gather whenever there is a chance to help out a good cause. A case in point is the "Rock Fights Hunger Food Drive" event taking place Sunday, Feb. 15 at Winston's

Organized by singer-songwriter Sandi Shaner, the concert will feature seven of the area's bestknown female performers, including Veronica May, Chelsea Flor, Brooklyn Mack, Allegra Barley, Lindsay White, Candice Graham and Siren's Lure.

Admission to the event is a bag of nonperishable food, which will ultimately be distributed to several Lutheran churches throughout San Diego County.

Shaner's inspiration for the event is personal.

"It began when several of my friends, family members and church members had lost their jobs," she said. "I started off really poor in life and know how this type of economy affects the lower-level-income families. I used to be the one going to the churches for food. I decided it is time to give back to the community that so freely gave to me."

According to Shaner, it wasn't difficult to get other local musicians interested in putting together a show drawing attention to San Diego's hungry and gathering donations at the same time.

"The music community in San Diego responded very quickly," said Shaner. "All of the performance spots were filled within 24 hours."

Mack, also a singer-songwriter, wanted to be involved because of past personal hardships. Originally from Utah, her move to San Diego was rougher than she

SEE FOOD DRIVE, Page 13





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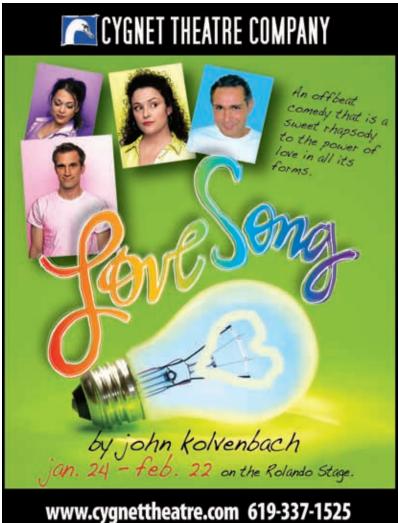
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# **FOOD DRIVE**

CONTINUED FROM Page 12

expected.

"As close as I got to hunger and homelessness myself when I made the transition, it's all I can do to want to help those in need," Mack said. "I only wish I could do more.'

Sheri Stoltzfus, Siren's Lure guitarist, agreed.

"These are really hard times and they are hitting more people than ever," Stoltzfus said. "We all need to do what we can to help out our neighbors. Bad things happen to good people and everyone needs a little help from time to time."

Flor is also succinct about the situation.

"Living in Ocean Beach and observing my community, it seems to be a safe haven for the homeless," said Flor. "Many have lost their jobs and have sought the help of their churches for solace. I look around and I say to myself how lucky I am to have a job and to have the ability to give back."

In keeping with the show's theme, each artist will perform a song dealing with the issues of homelessness and hunger. Shaner considers it very important for music to have a message.

"Lyrics are what connect us to the songwriter," said Shaner. "I think you will hear some amazing stories when you come to the show.'

For Flor, the idea of musicians

helping in any hour of need is only natural.

"Music is the common fabric of this community," Flor said. "When it comes from your heart, you know you are having a positive effect. You can see it in the audience's eyes, facial expressions and the gratitude they express. (Music still) has the power to transform, heal the emotions and inspire change.

Mack agreed, noting that musicians by nature tend to live on the edge when it comes to finances.

"Many musicians have been close to poverty themselves, and

there's something magical about a musical community that brings out the best in each other at the worst of times," Mack said.

"Music not only moves you, but since the dawn of man, it's been a way to bring people together, and that's what makes the difference. Together, people can and will move mountains," she said.

The "Rock Fights Hunger Food Drive" takes place at Winston's, 1921 Bacon St. on Sunday, Feb. 15. from 1:30 to 8 p.m. For more information, visit www.winstonsob.com.



Veronica May, center, will be among the performers during Sunday's "Rock Fights Hunger Food Drive" at Winston's from 1:30 to 8 p.m.



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# February

#### COMMUNITY/CIVIC

Saturday, Feb. 14, 9 to 11 a.m., Friends of Dog Beach hosts monthly Dog Beach cleanup. Gloves, bags, scoops, brooms, shovels, toys and treats for humans and dogs provided. For more information, call (619) 523-1700.

Saturday, Feb. 14, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., The San Diego Audubon Society and the UC Natural Reserve System host "Love Your Wetlands Day" Wildlife Preserve on Mission Bay (access through Campland), 2211 Pacific Beach Drive. To RSVP, call (619) 682-7210 or e-mail Dougherty@sandiego-audubon.org.

Saturday, Feb. 14, 9 a.m. to noon, The San Diego Audubon Society hosts a habitat restoration for the California least tern at Mariner's Point along Mission Bay. For information, call (619) 682-7210 or e-Dougherty@sandiegoaumail dubon.org.

meeting of the Ocean Beach Historical Society featuring Ron May, a historian who grew up in Point Loma and who has an extensive background in local and Ballast Point histories, as well as historical preservation. The meeting takes place at the United Methodist Church, 1984 Sunset Cliffs Blvd. For more information, call (619) 222-6066, or visit obhistory.wordpress.com.

Sunday, Feb. 22, 4 p.m., the Point volunteer event at the Northern Loma Democratic Club meets, featuring San Diego Union-Tribune business writer Dean Calbreath on "Effect of the Economy on San Diego," specifically on the Peninsula. The meeting takes place at the Point Loma Assembly, 3035 Talbot St. and is open to the public. For more information, call (619) 222-7230.

Sunday, March 1, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., inaugural Doggie Street Festival to promote pet adoption, featuring pet demonstrations, contests, vendors and services, live music and food. Thursday, Feb. 19, 7 p.m., regular The free event takes place at NTC

Park on Cushing Road at Liberty Station. For more information, visit www.doggiestreetfestival.org.

Wednesday, March 11, 10 a.m., the Point Loma Garden Club hosts its monthly meeting with Emmy Award-winning TV personality, garden writer and horticultural consultant Pat Welsh. The meeting takes place at the Portuguese Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal. For more information, visit www.plgc.org.

Mondays, 3 to 3:45 p.m., baby signing storytime for infants and caregivers at the Ocean Beach Library, 4801 Santa Monica Ave. For more information, call (619) 531-

Tuesdays, 10 to 10:45 a.m., Preschool Storytime at the Ocean Beach Library, 4801 Santa Monica Ave. For more information, call (619) 531-1532.

#### **SCHOOLS**

#### **CORREIA**

- Today, Feb. 12, 11 a.m., Pastry with Patty.
- Monday, Feb. 16, no classes in observance of Presidents Day.
- Wednesday, Feb. 18, school tour for Dana Middle School 6th-graders.
- Saturday, Feb. 21, 7 p.m., the popular Dallas Brass performs in a fundraiser after a music clinic for students during the day. The event takes place in the auditorium, 4302

Valeta St. Tickets are \$20 for adults, observance of Presidents Day. \$10 for students and may be purchased by visiting www.correiamusic.org. For information. e-mail kerriderosier@gmail.com.

• Tuesday, Feb. 24, GEAR UP kickoff assembly.

#### DANA

- Monday, Feb. 16, no classes in observance of Presidents Day.
- Tuesday, Feb. 17, 9 to 11 a.m., 4th-graders from Silver Gate Elementary tour Dana.
- Wednesday, Feb. 18, 6th-graders from Dana tour Correia Middle School; group 1 at 9 a.m.; group 2 at 10:45 a.m.
- Thursday, Feb. 19, 6 to 7:15 p.m., mandatory meeting for parents of 6th-graders who have signed up for the San Jose/San Francisco
- Friday, Feb. 20, 9 to 11 a.m., 4th-graders from Dewey Elementary tour Dana.

#### **LOMA PORTAL**

- Today, Feb. 12, 1:15 to 1:30 p.m., pizza and bake sales after school.
- Friday, Feb. 13, 9:15 to 10 a.m., coffee with Principal Gerde in library.
- Through Feb. 14, turn in boxtops for a drawing and chance to win a Webkinz Pet. For more information, call (619) 223-1683.
  - Monday, Feb. 16, no classes in

- Tuesday, Feb. 17, 3:35 to 4 p.m., popcorn sales after school.
- Wednesday, Feb. 18, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., PTA meeting in library.
- Thursday, Feb. 19, 9:30 to 10:15 a.m., kindergarten tours. To schedule a tour, call (619) 223-1683.
- Friday, Feb. 20, 5 to 8 p.m., Family Movie Night in auditorium.

#### **OB ELEMENTARY**

- Today, Feb. 12, Bank Day; artspace, dance, Spanish and yoga after-school clubs.
- Monday, Feb. 16, no classes in observance of Presidents Day.
- Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2:30 p.m., Garden Club meets in Room 6, yoga in Room 5.
- Wednesday, Feb. 18, 2:30 p.m., Chess Club meets, Go Green Ambassadors meet in Room 5.
- Thursday, Feb. 19, Bank Day; art, dance, Spanish after-school

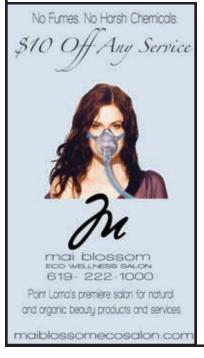
#### **SACRED HEART ACADEMY**

- Monday, Feb. 16, Presidents Day, no classes.
- Tuesday, Feb. 17, progress reports online for grades 4-8.
- Tuesday, Feb. 24, 1:30 p.m., Mardi Gras parade down Newport Avenue followed by Mardi Gras party at school.
  - Wednesday, Feb. 25, 10 a.m.,

SEE CALENDAR, Page 15

### **Mai Blossom Eco Wellness Salon**

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## CALENDAR

CONTINUED FROM Page 14

Ash Wednesday Mass at Sacred Heart Church.

#### SDCCD

• Thursdays, 10 a.m. to noon, San Diego Community College's Continuing Education Department offers free Qigong class, an ancient Chinese path to health. Classes take place at 3250 Fordham St., "A" building conference center. Walk-ins welcomed. For more information, call (619) 221-6973.

#### **SILVER GATE**

- Monday, Feb. 16, no classes in observance of Presidents Day.
- Wednesday, Feb. 18, 2 p.m., SSC/SGT meeting.
- Friday, Feb. 20, 7:15 a.m., Dads and Donuts.
- Friday, Feb. 27, 7:45 a.m., principal's chat with parents of students in grades 2 and 3.

#### ST. CHARLES BORROMEO

- Friday, Feb. 13, no classes.
- Monday, Feb. 16, no classes in observance of Presidents Day.

#### **SUNSET VIEW**

- Through Friday, Feb. 13, book
- Friday, Feb. 13, 9:10 a.m., flag ceremony led by kindergarten.
- Monday, Feb. 16, no classes in observance of Washington's Birth-
- Thursday, Feb. 19, 1:45 p.m., SSC meeting in library.
- Thursday, Feb. 19, 5:30 p.m., Family Art Night in cafeteria.

#### WARREN-WALKER

- Today, Feb. 12, 7:30 p.m., WWPA Parent Wine Social at Old Venice Restaurant.
- Friday, Feb. 13, jumproping for American Heart Association; parents invited to watch and participate.
- Feb. 16-20, no classes for Presidents Week.
- Saturday, Feb. 28, 9 to 11 a.m., registration for kindergarten evalu-

#### HEALTH

Today, Feb. 12, 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Point Loma High School hosts the San Diego Blood Bank bloodmobile at the small gym, 2335 Chatsworth Blvd. For more information, call (800) 479-3902, ext. 0.

Today, Feb. 12, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Point Loma Nazarene Univer-

model at - On

3900 Lomaland Drive. For more information, call (800) 479-3902,

#### **SENIORS**

Tuesday, Feb. 17, 10:30 a.m. to noon, Sharp Cabrillo Senior Resource Center hosts a free Alzheimer's support group in affiliation with the Alzheimer's Association for caregivers, family members and friends of patients with Alzheimer's Disease. The group meets at the Senior Resource Center, 3475 Kenyon St. No reservation is required and the group is open to the public. For more information, call (619) 221-3779.

Thursday, Feb. 17, 9:30 to 11 a.m., Sharp Cabrillo Senior Resource Center hosts a diabetes lecture and screening with a certified educator. The event takes place at the Sharp Cabrillo Medical Staff Conference Room, 3475 Kenyon St. Registration is required by calling (800) 827-4277.

Wednesday, Feb. 25, 9:30 to 11 a.m., Sharp Cabrillo Senior Resource Center hosts "Life Estate Gift Annuity vs. Reverse Mortgage" seminar. A free consultation is available. The event takes place at the Sharp Cabrillo Medical Staff Conference Room, 3475 Kenyon St. Registration is required by calling (800) 827-4277.

#### **ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT**

Today, Feb. 12, 7:30 p.m., the Point Loma Nazarene University's Center for Politics and Public Service hosts the PLNU orchestra performing "Lincoln Portrait," featuring composition by Aaron Copland





event takes place at Crill Hall, 3900 Lomaland Drive. Admission is free. For more information, call (619) 849-2344 or e-mail laurieoliver-@pointloma.edu.

Feb. 14-15, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Saturday) and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Sunday), 2009 California Open Wildlife Festival wildfowl and fish carvers' competition takes place at the Corky McMillin Event Center at the NTC Promenade of Liberty Station. The event features wildfowl art and the crafting of the traditional hunting decoy. Admission is \$5; children under 12 free. For more information, call (619) 588-7141 or e-mail bobberryfishcarvings@cox.net.

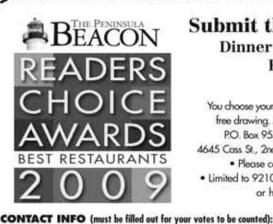
bloodmobile at Cunningham A & B, in tribute to President Lincoln. The versity of Houston, performs with a Visions." A First Friday public Baroque pipe organ. The event reception with the artists is slated takes place at All Souls' Episcopal Church, 1475 Catalina Blvd. A donation of \$5 is requested. For more information, call (619) 223-6394, ext. 13.

> Friday, Feb. 20, 7 p.m., a traveling mission-youth group from 1st Presbyterian Church of Caldwell, N.J. will join local talent in a performance of "Jesus Christ Superstar." The free event takes place at the Westminster Presbyterian Church, 3598 Talbot St. and benefits local youth, mission and music ministries. For more information, call 223-3193, or (619)www.westminstersd.org.

Through Feb. 27, the San Diego Monday, Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m., Dr. Watercolor Society (SDWS) presents Robert Bates, professor of organ at an exhibition of original watercolor or visit www.peninsulasingers-Moores School of Music at the Uni- paintings entitled "Valentine sandiego.org.

for Feb. 6 from 5 to 8 p.m. The exhibit will feature about 100 paintings by SDWS members both for display and sale. The gallery is located at the NTC Promenade, 2825 Dewey Road, #105. Gallery hours are Wednesdays through Sundays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. There is no admission cost. For more information, call (619) 876-4550, or visit www.sdws.org.

Mondays, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. through June, the Peninsula Singers rehearse for upcoming performances and seek new members. Rehearsals take place at the Hervey/Point Loma Branch Library, 3701 Voltaire St. For more information. call (619) 804-6079, (619) 222-0429, e-mail sarahsuhonen@hotmail.com,



No

E-1

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• Please complete at least 50% of the ballot. • One ballot per person. Limited to 92106, 92107 & 92110 • Ballots must be postmarked, submitted online,

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17. Pet Friendly Restaurant

18. Best Place to Dance \_\_\_\_\_ 19. Live music 20. Happy Hour 21. Best Comfort Food

22. Late Night Eatery 23. Place to go on a Budget 24. Place for a Birthday Party \_\_\_\_

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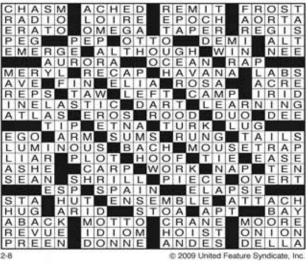
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#### MISCELLANEOUS

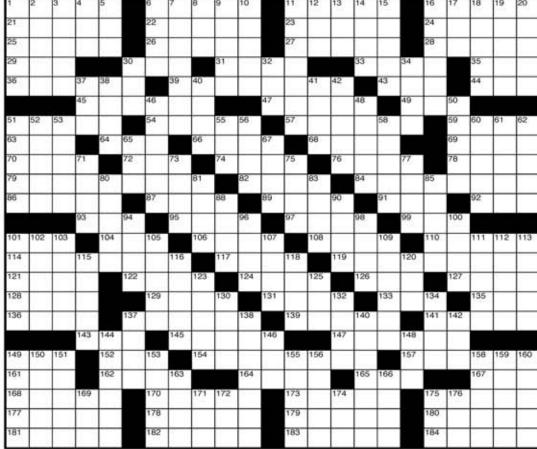
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# CROSSWORDS



#### **ACROSS**

- Gorge Was painful
- Send payment
- Rime Walkie-talkie
- 22 River in France
- 23 Period 24 Large artery 25 A Muse
- Last Greek letter Candle
- 28 Philbin of TV
- Wood pin Energy
- 31 Director Preminger
- Actress Moore Elevation (abbr.) Come out
- Notwithstanding that "Heads I —, tails..."
- 44 Born (Fr.)
- Goddess of the dawn Sea 49 Knock
- Streep
- Actress Si Sum up City in Cuba
- Work places, for short

   Maria
  Fish paddle
- Essayist's pen name Parks or Ponselle
- 69 Land measure
- 70 Agents 72 Shooting 74 Departed Agents Shooting marble
- Bivouac Of lustrous colors (abbr.)
- 79 Not springy
- Flit Knowledge
- 86 Book of maps
- Love god Crucifix 91 Batman and Robin, e.g.
- Poor grade Gratuity
- Sicilian volcano

- Provide with weapons
- Finds the total of Ladder part Men's formal wear
- Softly radiant
- Great baroque composer 119 Build a better
- 121 Perjurer 122 Conspiracy 124 Animal foot
- 126 127 128 Cravat Facilitate
- Tennis great Arthur Complain
- 131 133 Labor Short sleep

- 139
- Snort sleep
  Sawbuck
  Penn or Connery
  Piercing in tone
  Fragment
  Not hidden
- 141 Not fildden
  143 Psychic's ability (abbr.)
  145 Where Jerez is
  147 Pass by
  149 Depot (abbr.)
  152 Crude dwelling
  154 Set of clothing
  157 Affix
  151 Embrace

- Embrace Like a desert region
- 164 Ancient Greek walkway
- Fitting Kind of window
- 168 By surprise 170 Catchword 173 Marsh bird

- Clement Clarke
- 177 Musica 178 Linguis 179 Raise Musical show Linguistic expression
- 180
- 182
- Bulbous plant
  Primp
  English poet
  Mountain range
  in South America
- 184 Reese the singer

#### **DOWN**

- 3 Proverb
- 6 Succulent plant
- 7 Liken 8 Hasten

- 30 Miles gallon

- 48 Twangy 50 Homely 51 Callas or Muldaur

- 56 Multicolored
- Wetland plant "— a boy! Remotely

- Narrow wood strip Telegram
- Newman or McCartney Chinese or Japanese, e.g.
- 81 Portable beds
- 83 de force 85 Traveled way

budget with their existing lender.

140 Wash 142 Animal doc

- 169 Pool stick
- Can Weight unit

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- Thin pancake Zenana
- Pose for an artist Bovine sound
- 9 Fungus of plants
  10 "— of a Salesman"
  11 Fix up a photo
  12 Pollution control org.
- 13 Swab 14 Covered with buttercream 15 Pitched
- 16 Hot cereal 17 Fish eggs
- 18 Pipe or barrel 19 Set of steps 20 Eat a little of
- Overly
  Actress So
  Shaft of light Sorvino
- Body of water Shoestring
- 41 Equipment 42 Widespread destruction 46 Highly decorated
- 52 Occurrence
- Force back Totality
- 58 Called 60 Harsh in tone
- 61 Salt water
- 75 Horse's gait
- 144 Emotionally upset 146 After deductions 148 Hit lightly
  149 Keen
  150 Fleshy underground stem
  151 Century plant
  153 Fainthearted
  155 Coffee variety
  156 Mogul
  158 Seething
  159 Holiday song
  160 "Laughing" animal
  163 Extinct bird
  164 Animal friends
  169 Pool stick 148 Hit lightly

130 Blueprint 132 Ship part 134 Pillar 137 Sharp projection 138 Slender and graceful 140 Wash

Ignore Percussion instrument

Item used on stage Eastern servant

98 Tangle 100 Turnstile 101 Raines and Fitzgerald

102 False appearance103 Nebraska city105 Protective covering

109 — pig 111 Angry 112 Light-ray device 113 Exhausted 115 Goddess of peace

116Flies high 118Ring 120 Red or Black

123 Worthless talk 125 Cal. abbr. 130 Blueprint

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7516 Miramar Ave	4BR/4BA	\$2,895,000	Maxine & Marti Gellens • 858-551-6630		
5859 Box Canyon Road	4BR/5BA	\$3,295,000	Maxine & Marti Gellens • 858-551-6630		
7536-7544 Draper	3BR/3.5BA	\$799,000-\$899,000	Bob Bates • 858-273-2121		
784 La Canada	4BR/3.5BA	\$1,895,000	Alfonso Aldrete ● 858-245-2344		
1919 Spindrift	3BR/2.5BA	\$3,995,000	Brant Westfall ● 858-922-8610		
		ENCINITAS · 1pm-4pm			
418 Sylvia St.	3BR/2.5BA	\$918,000	Alexandra Mouzas / Iberia Homes • 619-518-2755		
		SUNDAY FEB 15 · LA JOLLA · 11am-4pm			
7536-7544 Draper	3BR/3.5BA	\$799,000-\$899,000	Howard Bear ● 858-273-2121		
		12pm-3pm			
7421 Via Capri	4BR	\$2,148,000	Jim Mc Inerney / Prudential CA Realty • 858-551-7233		
		1pm-4pm			
1265 Park Row	4BR/3BA	\$2,600,000-\$2,950,876	David SchroedI ● 858-459-0202		
9740 Keeneland Row	4BR/2.5BA	\$895,000	Maria Wolf ● 858-731-6352		
7912 Calle De La Plata	4BR/4BA	\$1,395,000	Mercedes Penner ● 858-361-5562		
345 Ricardo	3BR/2BA	\$1,490,000	Marta Schrimpf ● 858-361-5562		
5730 Dolphin Place	5BR/6BA	\$8,500,000	Maxine & Marti Gellens • 858-551-6630		
7516 Miramar Ave	4BR/4BA	\$2,895,000	Maxine & Marti Gellens • 858-551-6630		
5834 Rutgers Road	5BR/5BA	\$2,995,000	Maxine & Marti Gellens • 858-551-6630		
1309 Kaimalino Lane	3BR/3BA	\$1,250,000-\$1,400,876	Maxine & Marti Gellens • 858-551-6630		
5859 Box Canyon Road	4BR/5BA	\$3,295,000	Maxine & Marti Gellens • 858-551-6630		
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7555 Eads Ave. #4	2BR/2BA	\$975,000-\$1,100,876	David SchroedI ● 858-459-0202		
6875 Via Valverde	5BR/3.5BA	\$1,975,000	Lauren Lombardi ● 619-757-4339		
6417 La Jolla Scenic Dr. So	4BR/3.5BA	\$2,750,000	Margo Rogers • 858-354-4108		
2075 Via Sinalda	4BR/2.5BA	\$1,900,000-\$2,200,876	Susana Corrigan ● 858-414-4555		
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329 Bonair #2	1BR/1BA	\$719,000	Darlene Allen ● 858-492-8459		
		PACIFIC BEACH · 1pm-3pm			
2387 Wilbur Ave.	4BR/3BA	\$848,999	Marie Tolstad ● 858-705-1444		
10100	0DD/4 55 *	POINT LOMA / OCEAN BEACH · 1pm-4pm	0. 1 11. 0 0.00 0		
1246 Savoy Street	3BR/1.5BA	\$987,500	CindyWing.Com • 619-223-9464		
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3827 Nipoma, 92107	2BR/2BA	\$325,000	Tami Fuller ● 619-226-TAMI (8264)		
47401/414	EDD/4 50 *	SATURDAY & SUNDAY FEB 14 & 15 · LA JOLLA	Observation and Address of the Addre		
1712 Valdez	5BR/4.5BA	\$5,295,000-\$5,795,000	Sharok Eslamian ● 858-449-0501		
MISSION HILLS • 1–4pm					
909 Sutter #204, 92103	2BR/2BA	\$395,000	Tami Fuller ● 619-226-TAMI (8264)		

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