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Thursday, November 26, 2009

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Special section inside

www.SDNEWS.com ■ Volume 24, Number 45







Keeping abreast of cancer awareness

Men, women and children of all ages streamed through the streets of Point Loma and Ocean Beach on Nov. 21 as part of the annual Susan G. Komen for the Cure Breast Cancer 3-Day Walk that covered roughly 60 miles from Del Mar to Petco Park downtown. Walkers were treated to breakfast burritos, sodas and tissues along the way in Point Loma and Ocean Beach and supporters of the cause turned out in droves. Money raised by the walk benefits breast cancer awareness and research through the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation and the National Philanthropic Trust Breast Cancer Fund. COURTESY PHOTOS BY JIM GRANT

Holiday food/toy drive gears up to aid needy

By BART MENDOZA | THE BEACON

The holidays are a time of tradition, and residents of Ocean Beach have some of the most beloved events in the county right in their own neighborhood.

Events in the first week of December include the arrival of the community's Christmas tree to the foot of Newport Avenue on Dec. 1 at noon, with lights and a star placed on top the following evening. Meanwhile, on Dec. 3, children from area schools will be invited to decorate the enormous pine with handmade deco-Santa in attendance.

The biggest draw on the holi-

SEE CONCERTS, Page 10 December.



rations from 9 a.m. to noon with Wendy Bailey is among the scheduled performers during the Ocean **Beach Holiday Food and Toy Drive** at the OB Farmers Market in **COURTESY PHOTO**

Wild, crazy auction to drive campaign

By BART MENDOZA | THE BEACON

With the advent of holiday festivities each year, new and creative ideas must be formulated to defray the cost of bringing the community Christmas tree to Ocean Beach and to rekindle the latest installment of the community's food and toy drive for the less fortunate.

To that end, the Ocean Beach MainStreet Associa-

SEE **AUCTION**, Page 8

PL schools lobby to be heard as district's budget crisis deepens

By ANTHONY GENTILE | THE BEACON

As the San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD) grapples with a deficit of up to \$100 million, the Point Loma Cluster Schools Foundation (PLCSF) is asking to be a part of the school district budget discussion — and not just through a simple survey. The foundation of 10 local schools sent a letter to the district's board of education Nov. 17 asking exactly that.

As a result of the district's ballooning deficit since cuts were first

spokesman Jack Brandais said everything is on the table.

Money-saving ideas mentioned in June included class size increases, mandatory districtwide fourday furloughs, reductions in salaries and a number of staff positions being eliminated. With all those things under consideration, PLSCF wants to have a voice as budget decisions are made for the 2010-11 school year.

SEE **CLUSTER**, Page 8



As the city wrestles with a mammoth deficit, officials are eyeing cuts to lifeguard and fire services and even the removal of public fire pits like this one in Ocean Beach. Lifeguard stations may also be targeted.

Lifeguard staff reductions on table as deficit balloons

By ADRIANE TILLMAN | THE BEACON

The city is poised to make \$34 million in cuts to lifeguard and fire in the 2011 general fund.

"Since all departments have experienced budget reductions over the past two years, cuts that had minimal impact on core services have already been taken," wrote Fire Chief Javier Mainar in a Nov. 3 letter to the Fire and Rescue Department. "Consequently, recommendations for cuts to core services, where a majority of our

expenses occur, were inevitable this go round, given the size of our target.'

Fire and lifeguard stations may services to help bridge the city's beforced to close during this round anticipated \$179 million shortfall of budget cuts, according to

> "While I cannot yet share with you the specific cuts submitted, I can tell you they include both nonpersonnel expenses (supplies, services, outlay) and personnel expenses (overtime and staffing) throughout the department,' Mainar wrote.

> > SEE BUDGET, Page 3

Opportunistic Risk Taking

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Hodad's to host concert aiding local fire victims

By ANTHONY GENTILE | THE BEACON

Hodad's will lend a helping hand on Dec. 6 to a local father and son who fell victim to a recent residential fire.

will host a concert at the Masonic Lodge to raise money for George and Tristan Perry, whose home burned down last month.

all about fun," said Hodad's owner Mike Hardin. "Come and show up and give whatever you can. It will show Tristan and his dad that we really do rally together. This is how we do it."

The event will run from 1 to 6 p.m. and will feature donated burgers and drinks and live music throughout.

The primarily punk lineup features The Bordertown Skanks, Downspell, The Screamin Yee-Haws. The Milli Vanillis, DPI and a few other acts. All of the music will be local, and some of the bands feature folks from Hodad's itself.

"We've got about 45 employees now," Hardin said, "and about six bands represented here."

The Perry's house, located on the 4600 block of Lotus Street, was ravaged by flames Oct. 18 along with a detached garage and a neighbor's boat.

The fire caused an estimated \$150,000 damage.

Perry said. "I really believe if the

when they did it could have spread even more and it could have been really very bad.'

Tristan Perry worked at Hodad's as a volunteer and then as an employee starting about a year The Ocean Beach burger joint and a half ago. When the restaurant got word of the fire, it was Mike Hardin's son, Shane, who had the idea to help the Perrys.

"It just made sense," Shane "It's going to be a lot of fun. It's Hardin said. "I'd been to benefit shows before and there's a bunch of bands around here that play music. That was the first thing that came to my head after Hodad's."

George Perry, who works as a local mailman, said he was amazed when he heard about the concert and realized the support coming from the community.

"It blew me away when I found out his son started talking to people and really motivated some of the guys that work down there,' George Perry said. "It really is a very uplifting thing to know that so many people are so willing and eager to get involved in something like this and have worked hard to organize it."

George Perry said that rebuilding the fire-ravaged house is still a long way off. He and his son are still looking for a new place to live in the interim, living with friends and family until they land a more permanent home.

"For me, the toughest part is get-"The amount of damage could ting past it and still being able to go have been a lot worse," George over it and deal with the different things involved — having to find a fire department didn't get there place and get all this stuff," George



A relief concert will be hosted at Hodad's restaurant on Dec. 6 to aid an Ocean Beach father and son whose home and an adjacent garage were burned on Oct. 18. The fire caused an estimated \$150,000 damage. PHOTO BY PAUL HANSEN | THE BEACON

overwhelming.

George Perry expressed his gratitude to those involved with the planning and organization of the event. He said he appreciates their time and effort.

"There's no way I can express how much that means and how thankful I am," George Perry said.

Admission to the benefit concert is free, with Mike Hardin asking for donations to financially assist the Perrys.

Mike Hardin figures it is the least

Perry said. "At times it's almost he can do for the community he their local community might be has lived in his whole life.

> "Ocean Beach has made us what we are today. This is the original, this is where we started," Mike Hardin said.

'OB is the one that rallied around us; we never advertised," he added. "It's fitting that anytime we can do anything to help the community, we donate like crazy."

And while donations at the concert will help George and Tristan Perry replace some of the items they lost, seeing the support of

Mens Haircut - \$15

even more valuable.

"Feeling like people get it and there are people out there that want to help that care about the situation and what's going on," George Perry said. "That has a lot to do with it.'

Point Loma Masonic Lodge is located at 1711 Sunset Cliffs Blvd. in Ocean Beach.

For more information on the benefit concert e-mail Celeste Abbott at mama_celeste@yahoo.com.

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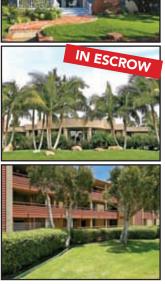
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Suspected drunken driver facing 2nd-degree murder

By NEAL PUTNAM | THE BEACON

A second-degree murder charge has been filed against an alleged drunken hit-and-run driver accused of striking a man on a motorcycle near the Sunset Cliffs Boulevard freeway exit and dragging the victim under her vehicle.

Claudia Gissela Herrera, 27, of San Diego, has also been charged with vehicular manslaughter with gross negligence while under the influence of alcohol, as well as a hit-and-run count for her alleged role in the accident that killed Eric Enockson, 36, on Oct. 16.

Court records indicate Herrera was convicted of drunk driving in 2002.

A judge set bail at \$1 million. The victim's family and friends have attended each hearing.

Enockson was riding his motor-

cycle around 2 a.m. on Interstate 8 when he was allegedly struck by Herrera's Chevrolet Astro van at a high rate of speed, court papers allege. The victim was rear-ended and caught underneath the van and was dragged for a distance.

Herrera reportedly fled the scene but officers arrested her on West Point Loma Boulevard. She has pleaded not guilty to all charges. If convicted of seconddegree murder, Herrera could face 15 years to life in state prison.

On Nov. 19, Herrera appeared before San Diego Superior Court Judge Michael Smyth, who set a

preliminary hearing for Feb. 11. Attorneys in the case could not be reached for comment at press

Herrera remains in the Las Colinas Women's Detention Facility on \$1 million bail.



Feeling a little crafty

Some forward-looking residents hoping for holiday bargains swooped on the Fall Arts and Crafts Fair at the Ocean Beach People's Organic Food Market on Nov. 21. The event provided various artisans and crafters an opportunity to showcase their wares on the sidewalk by the co-op. Above, Karollynn, 4, wears a freshly purchased bracelet made by the OB Angels. The OB Angels is a group of five neighborhood friends that makes jewelry and uses the proceeds to benefit endangered species. The OB Angels have helped two sea turtles in Mexico and a gorilla in Africa so far. Right, Anna Walsh, a 10th grader at High **Tech High International in Point** Loma checks out a mug with her mother, Cinday. PHOTOS BY PAUL HANSEN | THE BEACON



BUDGET

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

The city expects to finalize its budget cuts this month and implement the budget reductions by Jan. 1, 2010. The city will hold its first public hearing concerning the budget cuts on Dec. 7 and a second public hearing on Dec. 14, at which time City Council is expected to vote on the proposed cuts.

La Jolla lifeguard Gavin McBride said staffing levels have already been cut to a minimum and that the department may have to staff stations with one lifeguard or close them altogether.

McBride and other lifeguards have formed the San Diego Association for Lifeguards to inform the public about the pending cuts. McBride estimates 80 percent of the city's full-time lifeguards are members of the association.

Visit their website at www.sandal.webs.com.



Lifeguard officials are bracing for potential cuts as the city grapples with another mammoth projected deficit. Public hearings are set for December.

"Our mission is to let the people know what's going on," McBride said, speaking as a citizen on behalf of the association. "Our main purpose is to keep the level of staffing we have."

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Let's hop to it

Dance lovers of all ages are preparing for the popular second annual Winter Family Sock Hop at Loma Portal Elementary School on Friday, Dec. 4. The event, which is open to the community, will feature the **Dana Middle School** Jazz Band performing live 1950s and '60s music from 6 to 8 p.m. Food and root beer will be on sale and participants are encouraged to join the themed costume contest. For more information, e-mail akinseth@sandi.net. COURTESY PHOTO



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Tom Chapman



Judge throws seal ball back in city's lap

By ADRIANE TILLMAN | THE BEACON

The city is no longer obligated to shoo the seals from Children's Pool since a Superior Court judge dissolved the 2008 injunction this month.

Superior Court Judge Timothy Taylor indicated he agreed with the previous judge's rulings, but that new legislature has altered the case. Namely, State Senator Christine Kehoe introduced State Bill 428 to permit Children's Pool to also be used as "a marine mammal park for the enjoyment and educational benefit of children." The bill will take effect Jan. 1, 2010.

"It is the court's view that nothing would be gained by insisting on compliance with the earlier orders for the next 48 days," wrote Taylor in his decision.

The decision about what to do with Children's Pool now lies in the hands of City Council.

Paul Kennerson, the attorney from La Jolla who first sued the city to return the beach to its 1941 configuration as a pool for children, has not yet decided whether he will appeal.

"I'm not the only vote in the game," Kennerson said. "It's really a community issue. I pay a lot of attention to what the community says. It's not my beach or Valerie O'Sullivan's beach."

Kennerson represented swimmer and former La Jollan Valerie city for harassing the seals after swimming in the cove.

Kennerson opposed Kehoe's amendment to include a "marine mammal park" in the trust, calling



Julie Duepner holds a sign after a judge ruled the Children's Pool seals should no longer be forced to vacate the bach - while more than 100 seals rest on the beach below. PHOTO BY PAUL HANSEN | THE BEACON

it "unconstitutional."

"[The judge] gave every benefit of the doubt to the validity of the statute," Kennerson said. "I don't believe it's the right thing to do."

District 1 Councilwoman Sherri Lightner did not comment on the future of the beach, but spokeswoman Erin Demorest said Lightner is committed to upholding the law and court decisions.

If that's the new law, then we'll O'Sullivan who was charged by the have to figure how the city can work within the confines of the new law," Demorest said.

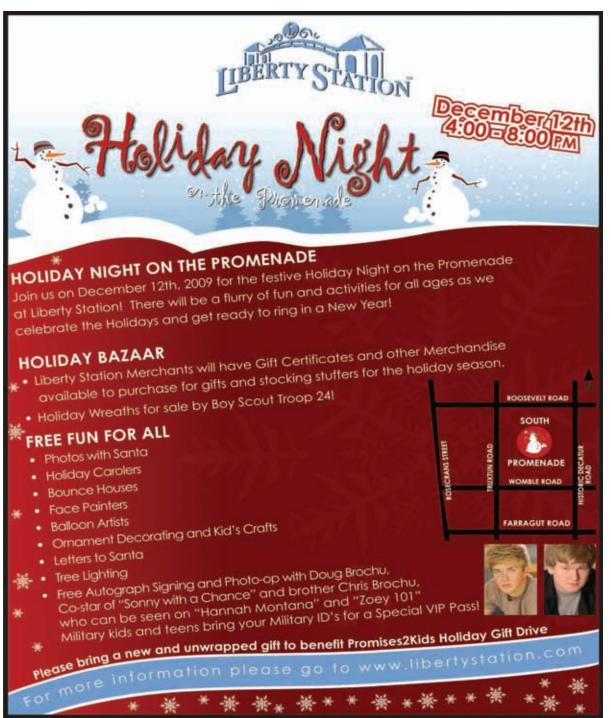
> Seal activist Bryan Pease, an attorney for the Animal Protection and Rescue League, applauded the

ruling as "a victory for seals, a victory for children and a victory for people who like to come to watch the seals.'

The City Attorney's Office also issued an e-mail to applaud the rul-

'In February, our office recommended that the City of San Diego sponsor legislation to change the terms of the trust to give the City discretion on use of the beach, wrote City Attorney Jan Goldsmith. "Today's decision means that the issue can now be decided by the City Council and Mayor, the way public policy issues are supposed to be decided."





NewsBriefs

Assemblywoman to host party, canned food drive

State Assemblywoman Lori Saldaña will host a fifth annual holiday party on Thursday, Dec. 3 to launch a canned food drive to benefit needy families.

The event is designed to assist struggling San Diego families and will also include an opportunity to meet with Sandaña on past, current or future legislative issues of interest.

The event takes place from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Lincoln Military Housing Recreation Center, 1895 Tattnal Way at Liberty Sta-

Participants are asked to bring canned goods or any non-perishable food items to help a family in need.

Light hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be served.

To RSVP or for more information, call (619) 645-3090.

Fundraiser set for PLHS history awards event

Point Loma High School will launch an effort Nov. 28 to generate funding for the school's fifth annual History Awards Banquet at the Bali Hai restaurant

on Shelter Island.

School officials are encouraging residents and students to purchase books between 10 a.m. and 9 p.m. at Bookstar, 3150 Rosecrans Place, to help fund the end-of-year ceremony rewarding excellence in the academic field of history for about 200 students in grades 9 through 12 at Point Loma High.

Each student who attends the awards banquet will receive a Cross pen, a certificate of achievement and some will receive monetary scholarships.

For more information, e-mail Patrick McElhaney with the school's Social Studies Department at pmcelhaney@sandi.net.

Schroeder inducted into musical 'Wall of Fame'

Dell Schroeder, a local music teacher and Peninsula resident who heads the popular Band at the Beach program, has been inducted as a member of the College of Music's "Wall of Fame," sponsored by Florida State University (FSU) Band Alumni.

The induction took place during Homecoming festivities in Tallhassee, Fla. on Oct. 30 and

The award is based on accomplishments in the field of music education as well as participation in FSU Band Alumni activities, that include her serving on

the FSU Band Alumni Board of Directors.

Schroeder has long been an advocate of music education in school curriculum, and is a supporter of Community Council for Music in Our Schools.

Her music camp, Band at the Beach — a program founded 21 years ago — works in direct support of instrumental music programs at Dana Middle School, Correia Middle School and Point Loma High School (PLHS).

Schroeder has been honored by PLHS Band Boosters at "Rhapsody on the Point" and has received two PTA Honorary Service Awards for her volunteer work in the schools.





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DEC. 3, 6:30 to 9:30pm OB TREE AUCTION Sunshine Company Saloon

www.OBTownCouncil.org Ocean Beach Christmas Tree Festival Committee is a sub-committee of the Ocean Beach Town Council.

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or Claudia//Gerry: 846-6269

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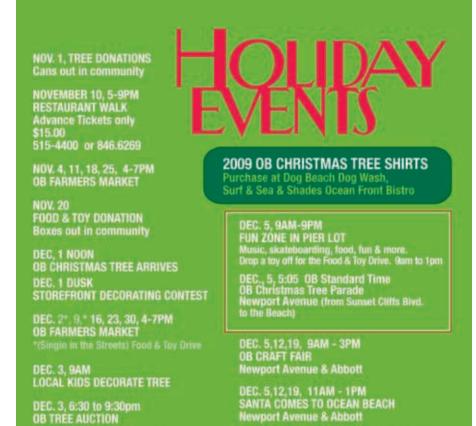
Beacon throughout the holidays, starting Nov. 27th. Special rates offered for O.B. Merchants. The OBMA will run a special cover page (example top left) on Dec. 3rd in all four papers and Dec. 17th in the Beacon.

Contact Mike Fahey for more details. (858) 270-3103 x117 mikefahey@sdnews.com









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Thanksgiving top day for cooking fires

NFPA urges cooks to stand by their pan to prevent fires

COURTESY NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

Keep a lid nearby

when you're

cooking to smother

small grease fires.

Association (NFPA) is calling on cooks across the nation to include fire safety in their recipes because Thanksgiving is the leading day for home cooking fires. U.S. firefighters responded to roughly 1,300 home fires involving cooking equipment on Thanksgiving in 2007, roughly three times the daily average of cooking fires, according to NFPA.

"Incorporating fire safety into your holiday preparations can mean the difference between putting on a fantastic holiday

feast for family and friends or having call the fire department to put out a fire," said NFPA's Lorraine Carli, vice president of communica-

Cooking is the leading cause of home fires. Between 2003 and 2006, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated average of 150,200 home structure fires involving cooking equipment per year, according to the newly released NFPA report "Home Fires Involving Cooking Equipment." These fires caused an annual average of 500 civilian deaths, 4,660 civilian injuries and \$756 million in direct property damage.

Other key findings from the report on fires during 2003-2006:

- Cooking equipment was involved in 40 percent of all reported home fires, 17 percent of home fire deaths, 36 percent of home civilian injuries, and 12 percent of the direct property damage resulting from home
- Unattended cooking was by far the leading contributing factor in these fires. Something that could catch fire was too close to the equipment ranked second and unintentionally turnea on or not turnea on ranked third.
- reported home cooking fire Website at http://www.nfpa.org.

he National Fire Protection injuries occurred when victims tried to fight the fire them-

> NFPA recommends the following cooking safety tips:

Cook with Caution

Be on alert! If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol, don't use the stove or stovetop.

Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, grilling or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.

If you are simmering, baking, roasting or boiling food, check it regularly, remain in the home

while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.

Keep anything that can catch fire — oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels

or curtains — away from your

If you have a cooking fire....

Keep a lid nearby when you're cooking to smother small grease fires. Smother the fire by sliding the lid over the pan and turn off the stovetop. Leave the pan covered until it is completely cooled.

For an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed.

If you try to fight the fire, be sure others are getting out and you have a clear way out.

When in doubt, just get out! When you leave, close the door behind you to help contain the

Call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number after you leave.

- Based in Quincy, Mass., NFPA has been a worldwide leader in providing fire, electrical, building and life safety to the public since 1896. The mission of the international nonprofit organization is to reduce the worldwide burden of fire and other hazards on the quality of life by providing and aavocaung consensus coaes and standards, research, train-• Three-fifths (57 percent) of ing, and education. Visit NFPA's



Letters to the Editor

One-size-fits-all approach doesn't serve all schools

The observation by the Point Loma Cluster Schools Foundation that the San Diego Unified School District's "one-size-fits-all solutions" ("Meaningful cluster role in budget process," Nov. 19 Beacon, page 6) cannot adequately address the individual and diverse needs of our schools is timely and accurate. No two schools, like the neighborhoods they are located in, are alike.

The district recently modified its one-size-fits-all template to expand 16 high school stadiums by deciding not to install permanent lights at the Point Loma High School stadium under Prop S, the \$2.1 million bond measure passed in November 2008 to repair, renovate and revitalize 181 neighborhood schools. The district's one-size template for stadium expansions calls for the addition of thousands of bleacher seats, permanent lighting, additional playing fields and, among other things, a press box with an elevator at each school.

The prudent and neighborly decision to not install permanent lights was a big step in meeting the unique needs of the school's confined urban campus, which is cradled by Loma Portal, one of the city's oldest and most established residential communities with unique homes that date back to the 1920s. The neighborhood has narrow streets illuminated by cement pole street lights in the middle of intersections and lacks the infrastructure to accommodate an expansion to night-

The district is also re-evaluating a restroom/concession/ticket facility that would have had a multitude of permanent and dev astating effects on Loma Portal, and ultimately the school. With respect to safety, the district has

committed to conducting traffic studies to resolve currently unmanaged and growing traffic around the high school, which is especially hazardous during large events held at the stadium.

Pro Point Loma, a community group dedicated to promoting and protecting our students. schools and neighborhoods, applauds the district for realizing that one size does not fit all, and including all individuals and groups in meaningful and transparent participation in the pro-

We look forward to the district's continued good-faith deliberation and individual consideration of construction at Point Loma's neighborhood schools as it works to arrive at appropriate case-by-case solutions that will serve future generations of students, families and homeowners in the community.

> Patricia M. Walsh **Pro Point Loma** propointloma@gmail.com www.propointloma.com

Skatepark safety enforcement misguided

The morning of Nov. 18, my son, a professional skateboarder, was teaching a five-year-old how to skateboard at the Robb Field Skateboard Park. However, San Diego police officer Gerry Waclawek showed up and kicked all the kids out of the park.

My understanding is that Officer Waclawek kicked the kids out because they weren't wearing safety equipment. I understand that the officer was just doing his job. But here's what the law reads:

According to the state's SB115800 (A) section 831.7, as amended: "Neither a public entity nor a public employee is liable to any person who

participates in a hazardous recreation activity ..." (skateboarding was added to the list of hazardous recreation activities).

SD115800 (A) also states "a local public agency that owns or operates skateboard parks shall have the authority to determine if helmets, knee pads, and elbow pads are an appropriate requirement for use by persons at skateboard parks, or specific areas thereof, which are within the local public agency's jurisdiction."

It would seem reasonable to me that, 1). since the city and it's employees are exempt from lawsuits stemming from injuries at city-owned skateparks, and 2.) the city has the authority to determine if safety equipment is a requirement (or not) then the city of San Diego should post warning signs at the park "skateboard at your own risk" and let the kids skate. Skateparks are made for skateboarding, and just like other sports, there are obvious inherent risks associated with it.

The officer also told my son that he can't teach skateboarding at the park! According to a U.S. Product Safely Commission recommendation, a skatepark is an ideal place to learn how to skateboard. If a skateboard park is the only legal place to skate, then where are kids supposed to learn how to skateboard?

If the city of San Diego insists on enforcing safety equipment at skateboard parks then I suggest it bring back Park and Recreation Department supervision and stop wasting the taxpayers' money and taking valuable police time away from fighting real crime. Besides, I'm sure the police are tired of being playground monitors.

Former Ocean Beach Town Councilman; former advisor to the National Skateboard Association; chairman of the Ocean Beach Skate Park Committee

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the views of this newspaper or staff. **SUBMISSIONS** Letters and photo submissions are welcomed. Those accompanied by an addressed, stamped envelope will be returned.

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TIDE LINES

For polyclad worm, sex and swordplay are synonymous

By JUDITH LEA GARFIELD | THE BEACON

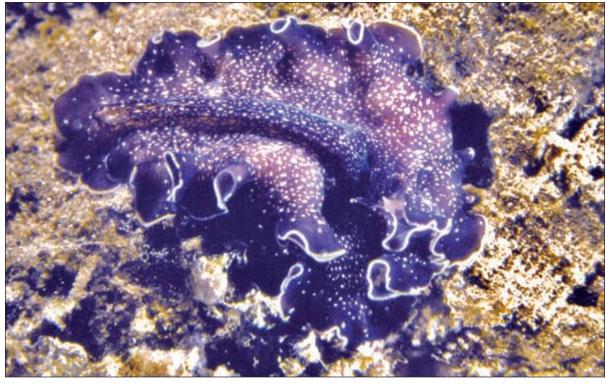
Tape worms, round worms, heart worms. Are gummy worms the only worms we like? If you're a diver, the answer is no because of polyclad worms, a group of free-living (nonparasitic) marine flatworms that are beautiful, delicate and elusive. Polyclad means "many branches" and designates how the gut is divided into many branches as it radiates away from the mouth, which is located on the body's underside. The earliest living animal survivors to hunt prey, polyclads typically engulf their prey whole, which includes invertebrates such as mollusks and crustaceans. Having a mouth part located on the body's underside makes catching prey convenient because all they have to do is slide over the top of the victim and suck it in.

Local flatworms I see in the La Jolla Ecological Reserve display an exaggerated, ruffly edge and belong to the genus Pseudobiceros. This polyclad genus has the only members that actively swim to notify predators, like fish, that they taste nasty. Studies have shown that the worms harbor a toxic mucus coating that closely resembles ciguatara toxin. This is the powerful nerve poison famously found in puffer fish and the Japanese delicacy fugu. For it comes to breathing, polyclads don't fret their lack of gills because they can exchange gases across

their entire surface.

Living life on all things solid and often out in the open means that temperate polyclads like ours mostly run the color and pattern gamut, from vanilla to chocolate, to match the rocks and sediment over which they slither. They get around by flattening an already-flattened body against a substrate as if vacuum sealed. When they find a crack or tiny hole, they suck themselves in like smoke drawn into a fan. Some Pseudobiceros sp. may be separate species or simply variants of one species. If they are the same species, there must be some advantage to the color shift, but this is unknown.

Polyclads may be among the simplest of all animals but their reproductive system is among the most complex in the animal kingdom, and not only because they are hermaphrodites. Unlike most animals, where male or female gonads are sequestered in an egg or sac of sorts, polyclads have both kinds of reproductive cells scattered throughout their body. Being hermaphroditic suggests they have difficulty finding each other since having both male and female gonads is useful when one's sexual options are severely limited, like when encounters with potential mates are extremely rare. I know I those who dare, bon appetit. When rarely find them. However, even for marine flatworms, some Pseudobiceros sp. take the cake when it comes to external genital parts



At about 2.5 inches long, this Pseudobiceros sp. may be a dark-colored variation of the more commonly found creamy polyclad worm. © 2009 JUDITH I FA GARFIFI D

and two male ports. Male ports are used like hypodermic needles to inject sperm into the opposing worm's tissues. A couple of Pseudobiceros species are known to "penis fence," a dueling behavior that involves stabbing your opponent with sperm. Some researchers view it as the flatworms' way to get a leg up on fertilizing each other's eggs while minimizing the sperm received

But why have a two-to-one ratio of male to female parts? Throughout the animal kingdom, males generally invest far less energy by fathering offspring than females do by nurturing the brood, such that strategies for populating the future

because they have one female pore gene pool aren't equal for both sexes. In general, being male means spreading seed as widely as possible (quantity), while being female means being particular (quality). This conflict assures a healthy mixture of genetic traits. However, as hermaphrodites, Pseudobiceros species don't have these checks and balances. Having two male ports balances out the energy investment against having a female pore, thereby assuring a robust population. At least this is one thought

Polyclads are so fragile, the researchers who study them must be gluttons for punishment. Besides being no more than a few millimeters thick (or should I say thin),

when polyclads become stressed, which readily happens, they selfdestruct by dissolving in their own enzymes. How depressing to get back to the lab and find your day of difficult field work disintegrating into mucus before your eyes. If these challenges aren't daunting enough, they are very hard to find. Polyclads themselves can relate. En

— Judith Lea Garfield, biologist and underwater photographer, has authored two natural history books about the underwater park off La Jolla Cove and La Jolla Shores. www.judith.garfield.org. Questions, comments or suggestions? Email jgarfield@ucsd.edu.

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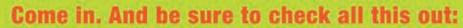
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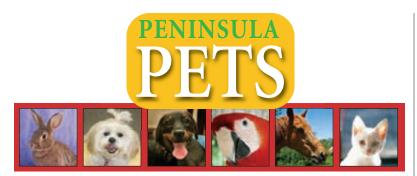
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San Diego, CA

Black Friday looms for shoppers downtown

By ANTHONY GENTILE | THE BEACON

With the holidays inching closer and closer, the shopping season is looming, as is the day notoriously known as the busiest shopping day of the year — Black Friday.

Downtown, dreary-eyed shoppers are sure to scour Horton Plaza on Black Friday, which occurs on

"There is never a dull moment at Horton Plaza on a Black Friday," said Westfield Horton Plaza marketing director Rebecca Handels-

Horton Plaza opens at 8 a.m. Nov. 27, with Macy's giving shoppers a head start at 5 a.m.

Planning

The best shoppers know preparation is the key to a successful Black Friday run. Handelsman recommends a solid game plan which can involve newspaper ads and even the Internet.

"Check the newspaper and develop a plan of attack for yourself," Handelsman said. "Look for the good sales and identify the retailers you want to hit.'

Parking

It all starts in the parking garage. Scoring a good parking spot is key to getting off to a good start. Handelsman recommends heading for higher ground, particularly levels four and above. That's where the mall entrances are.



Fair warning for bargain-hunters hitting the downtown area Nov. 27: be prepared for the crush of holiday shoppers as Black Friday looms.

"A lot of people will circle the lower levels waiting for someone to leave and it creates a backup," Handelsman said. "People think the first couple levels are the best parking, but the reality is then you have to go up a stairwell or an elevator and weave your way up into the

Horton Plaza is divided into two garages — designated by fruits and vegetables — that look like one big garage. While seemingly nutritious, this can get confusing, especially at the crack of dawn. Handelsman said to remember the fruit or vegetable on the pillar in front of you and to use the store near where you entered as a reference in order to cut down on post-shopping carsearch-time.

Horton Plaza offers free threehour parking validation, with a station located near the food court. Hardcore shoppers who spend \$500 or more on Black Friday can park all-day for free just by providing their receipts.

CLUSTER

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

"Our cluster has been advocating for more control to the clusters, to the communities where the schools are at, because one size does not fit all," said PLCSF president Christy Scadden. "We want to be able to sit down and have a say, to have a seat at the decision-making table."

Scadden said the foundation would participate in the community-at-large survey presented by the district earlier this month. But she also said the survey alone is not a satisfactory solution.

"We actually want to contribute and collaborate," Scadden said. "We want to sit down at the table with the decision makers and look at possible solutions and how we can get more control for the clus-

According to Scadden, the foundation does not believe making changes across the board within the SDUSD is the best decision. Foundation members think cuts should be tailored to individual schools and communities.

choose as being important in their cluster might look different from one side of San Diego to another," Scadden said. "It makes sense for communities to be able to decide what's best for them.'

District board of education representative John de Beck — who represents the majority of schools in San Diego's beach communities, including Ocean Beach and Point Loma — said he has read the PLCSF letter.

He said he agrees with the foundation's wishes, but explained the PLCSF could not participate in the district's Budget Reduction Alternatives to Conserve Education (BRACE) committee.

They're right that they should have had at least an opportunity," de Beck said. "I would have suggested for them to be on [BRACE], but that committee is basically a superintendent operation, not a community operation.'

De Beck considers the idea of choosing a number of small school programs to be cut as a form of cannibalism. He wants to come up with a larger-scale solution to fight the mammoth budget problem.

"If they [school foundations] is "Things that some schools might want to say something, let them www.pointlomacluster.com.

say something big instead of talking about which little thing we're going to whittle away at," de Beck said. "We need to propose something that makes everybody bear the burden.'

De Beck's wide-scale solution to solve the district's budget crisis is furloughs throughout the school year. He said these periodic days off would save the district about \$6 million per day.

"I want to leave everything alone and just cut the days," de Beck said. "That won't mean any layoffs and that won't mean we lose any talent."

Over the next three weeks, community members have a chance to provide input at five town hall budget meetings. The first meeting was held Nov. 19 at Serra High and future meetings will be held Dec. 3 at San Diego High, Dec. 8 at Madison High. Dec. 9 at Mission Bay High, and Dec. 14 at Porter Elementary North.

All meetings run from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

For more information, visit www.sandi.net/budget. The Point Loma Cluster Schools Foundation online

AUCTION

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

tion (OBMA) will host its annual Ocean Beach Christmas Tree and Toy Drive Auction at the Sunshine Co. Saloon on Thursday, Dec. 3.

we do each year," said OBMA spokeswoman Claudia Jack.

While the proceeds raised vary from year to year, Jack said the fundraising is crucial to the success of the event.

"It's hard to say how much might

be brought in ... but I can say that by Citybeat magazine's Ed Decker this event is very important in having these events take place," Jack

Auction items include everything from mountain bikes to gift baskets, according to Jack.

'The community donates every-"This is the major fundraiser that thing from shops to individuals, so we get a real nice array of unique items," Jack said. "It's a wonderful way for Ocean Beach to come together."

Clothing items will be modeled by employees of Temptress salon, while the auction itself will be done

and Adrian Ortiz.

"For a lot of people, this is one of the highlights of the year," Jack said. "It's a lot of fun and the night goes by really fast."

Anyone wishing to donate items to the auction is urged to call (619) 846-6269.

The Ocean Beach Christmas Tree and Toy Drive Auction takes place at the Sunshine Co. Saloon, 5028 Newport Ave., beginning at 6:30 p.m. The event is for those 21 and up. For more information, visit www.oceanbeachsandiego.com.

Young PLNU cross country team shows off its mettle

By KEITH ANTIGIOVANNI | THE BEACON

The Point Loma Nazarene University (PLNU) Sea Lions women's cross country team placed 17th in a field of 32 teams in the National (NAIA) meet Nov. 21 in Vancouver, Wash.

"We've been very fortunate this year to have both a young and a good team," said PLNU cross country coach Jerry Arvin.

seventh straight Nationals appearance with an inexperienced team Erbacci and Ashley Szabo. – five freshmen, one sophomore and one junior.

The event was a 5k competition and involved 32 teams and approximately 300 to 350 participants. San Diego County rival Cal State San Marcos won the team event with 137 points, followed by Golden State Athletic Conference

(GSAC) rival Biola (140), Malone (Ohio) with 163 points, Simon Fraser (195) and GSAC rival Azusa Pacific, which finished with 199

The young PLNU runners had Athletic Interscholastic Association to adjust to a muddy track and rainy conditions of the Pacific Northwest.

Individually, the Sea Lions were without their top runner, Katie Kunz (All-GSAC honors in 2008), because of injury. PLNU's top three The Sea Lions arrived at their runners on Saturday were freshmen Breelan Matanga, Gina

> Matanga placed 60th overall with a time of (19:27), Erbacci was 86th (19:45) and Szabo finished 101st (19:53). Sophomore Genieva Ozuna finished with a time of 20:25, freshman Cat Saylor with a time of 20:48, juniors Jennifer Reynolds in 20:58 and Bailey Massenburg with a time of 21:30.



A young, but aggressive Point Loma Nazarene University cross country team made its mark in the National Athletic Interscholastic Association meet on Nov. 21, faring 17th in a field of 32 teams nationally on Nov. 21.

was the freshmen who carried the top runner in five of the seven

The women's roster included team throughout the year as Kunz nine freshmen, five sophomores, struggled for most of the year with three juniors and one senior. But it a foot injury. Erbacci was PLNU's

races this year and the freshmen finished at or near the top in every

In the first race this year at UCSD, the Sea Lions' top six runners were freshmen. At the Aztec Invitational, then at Willimette (Salem, Ore.) and then at Vanguard, the top three runners were

Kunz had her strongest finish in the fifth race at Biola. It was the freshmen and Kunz again in the GSAC Tournament, with Matranga finishing first for PLNU, followed by Erbacci and Kunz. Matrange and Erbacci each earned All-GSAC

Arvin, in his 16th season as head coach of both the men's and women's cross country teams at Point Loma, admitted to being pleasantly surprised by the performance of the women this year.

"We typically have more seniors on the team and we'll get a few freshmen," Arvin said, "but this year we had a whole group of them come in. It has been a learning experience for them. But they adjusted very quickly to college life. Overall it is a strong group.

PLHS football squad powers into CIF playoffs with home-field advantage — sort of

By SCOTT HOPKINS | THE BEACON

Point Loma High School's (PLHS) football team earned a first-round bye and a home game in CIF Division III playoffs. But don't look for a game Friday, Nov. 27 at Bennie Edens Field.

Because there are no permanent stadium lights at PLHS, the 7-3 Pointers, seeded No. 3, will play host instead at Mesa College, 5.5 miles from their Peninsula campus in a 7 p.m. quarterfinal kickoff.

All CIF playoff games — with the exception of final round games at Qualcomm Stadium next month are played at night.

The Dogs, who finished in second place (3-1) in the Western League behind undefeated Mission Bay, will meet 8-2-1 Mt. Miguel, which was also a second-place finisher at 3-1-1 in the Grossmont South League behind undefeated Valhalla.

down to Valhalla (36-29) and currently own a three-game winning streak.

The Pointers enter the match sporting a four-game winning streak themselves. They have also benefited from a week off, while the Matadors were busy defeating Hoover High last week 45-14.

During the recently completed season, the Pointers amassed 890 yards through the air, split between

The Matadors lost by a touch-quarterbacks Keegan Fitzgerald and Sean McKaveny.

> Davis Callejon (20 receptions) and Jordan Sparkman (15) were most frequently targeted.

On the ground, Leslie Rogers, who played in only half of the team's games because of injury, led the team with 459 yards. The team's total of 2,069 yards was split between a number of talented running backs.

Defensively, Anthony Joyner was

top Dog in tackles (82) and sacks (11.5). Curtis Deitz, Sean Stepina and Christian Hayward each recorded more than 40 tackles.

Hayward (8) and Mike Montesano (5.5) followed Joyner in sacks.

The San Diego Unified School District plans to install stadium lighting at Point Loma, which will soon celebrate its 85th year. The plan, however, has drawn strong opposition from some neighbors living near the campus.



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New Wine Pub hoists a toast to a social and eclectic experience

By LAURIE SMITH | THE BEACON

Hardly open a month, The Wine Pub on Shelter Island has already become a favorite neighborhood meeting spot. As if the pub had occupied the spot for decades, the bartender greets customers by name as they arrive for an intimate dinner with friends, or a glass of wine at the bar to meet new ones.

Owners Sandy and Andy Hanshaw, who live two blocks away, said they wanted to create a friend-

ly, comfortable neighborhood pub.
"It's like 'Cheers,'" Sandy Hanshaw said. "You feel like you're at home when you come in. We try to remember everybody's name and what they like to drink.'

The Wine Pub, which plans a grand opening in early December, features 25 domestic and New World wines — all available by the glass, as well as local, handcrafted beers. And the menu includes selfdescribed "cheeseboards, grownup comfort food and delectable desserts." Customers can bring home a bottle of their favorite wine because all wines offered by the glass may also be purchased by the

Having spent 20-plus years in the hospitality industry, Sandy Hanshaw suddenly found herself out of her job with a major hotel chain as a result of the economic downturn in travel and tourism. Rather than wallow in self-pity, she took the opportunity to create a business from a 12-year hobby.

"I've had a passion for wine for a long time," Sandy Hanshaw said. "I felt like it was time to step back and look at what it was I really wanted to do — and to stop thinking about what I wanted to do and actually do

Choosing the pub's featured wines, while a difficult task, was initially based on Sandy Hanshaw's personal taste.

"I started with things that I like, but it's an educational process," she said. "The distributors are helpful and we do a lot of tasting to educate our palates. We tried to cover the bases of what people might want."

Staff wine tastings are held frequently to create a consistency of information offered to their cus-

Customer service, Sandy Hanshaw stressed, is of utmost importance, and the handpicked staff is a testament to that conviction. Con-



The newly opened Wine Pub, located on Shelter Island Drive, is slated for a grand opening in early December. Shown are, from left, owners Andy and Sandy Hanshaw, manager Sean Murphey, bartender Corey Sinclair, server Kerri Burke, and chef Liz Baird. PHOTO BY LAURIE SMITH | THE BEACON

versation flows easily between Porter; and the lively Green Flash manager Sean Murphy, bartender Corey Sinclair and guests as wine knowledge is exchanged.

The warm and inviting atmosphere lends itself to discussions among patrons. The décor is contemporary without pretension and the feel continues out to the large patio that features a unique, rectangular fire-pit and heaters, allowing customers to enjoy the outside even on chilly winter nights.

Fear not, beer lovers. The finest available handcrafted beers are also offered at The Wine Pub. That's where Andy Hanshaw comes in.

The three beers on tap (Trumer Pils, a German-style pilsner; awardwinning Deschutes Black Butte Brewing 30th Street Pale Ale) are among the finest craft beers available, according to Andy Hanshaw.

The art of understanding beer also turns out to be an educational experience.

"I'm always learning and appreciating beer for what it is ... and what it's become," Andy Hanshaw said. "San Diego has become known as a top — if not the top — market for craft beer in the coun-

In a show of community, The Wine Pub acquires local goods whenever possible. For example, the pub's bread comes from Con Pane and the chocolate truffle desserts from The Elegant Truffle

- both just around the corner.

The food menu features a small offering of starters, paninis and specials that include what has fast become a signature dish — the trio of beef sliders and decadent desserts such as classic vanilla crème brulee with fresh berries.

Chef Liz Baird creates every dish from scratch using only the very freshest of ingredients. The modest-size menu allows Baird an attention to detail that invites exceptional mouth-watering dish-

Guests, however, often come from other area restaurants for after-dinner fare.

"A lot of people come in after dinner from Old Venice or Roseville," said Sandy Hanshaw. "We have great after-dinner ports, sherries and dessert wines paired with a nice almond tart. It's a great way to end the evening.'

Sharing the local wealth is "all good" to the Hanshaws.

"We just want a thriving little village, and it only takes a little bit from everybody [to achieve]," said Sandy Hanshaw.

The Wine Pub is open seven days a week from 4 to 10 p.m. and until midnight on weekends, with happy hour Sunday through Thursday from 4 to 6 p.m. Happy hour features \$4 beers (the three on tap), two white wines and two red wine selections. For true connoisseurs, the pub also offers a wine club membership.

The Wine Pub is located at 2907 Shelter Island Drive, #108. For information, call (619) 758-9325, or visit wwwthewinepubsd.com.

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day calendar for music fans, however, is also one of the most recent creations: The Ocean Beach Holiday Food and Toy Drive at the OB Farmers Market, scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 2 and Wednesday, Dec. 9 from 4 to 7 p.m. Coordinated by local musician Chuck Schiele, the music series is in its fifth year. But it has quickly become one of the key holiday gigs for local musicians, each of whom donate their services out of holiday good-

Each December, 10 to 15 artists take part each evening, each playing 15-minute sets in an effort to collect non-perishable food items and new, unopened toys for some of the area's needy families.

"These two evenings of music are sort of an add-on to the efforts of the Ocean Beach MainStreet Association (OBMA)," Schiele said.

He said the coordination of so many artists and logistics is worth the effort.

"People have asked me if putting something like this together is hard, but really it's not a big headache,' Schiele said. "It's fun and it always feels good to be able to help the community."

He said booking each date is actually pretty easy. After five years, many local performers already have it on their radar for the holidays.

"At this point, there is an overflow of requests for artists wanting to take part," Schiele said.

Among the performers scheduled to perform Dec. 2 are Jefferson Jay, John Miller, Sara Petite, Chelsea Flor and Siren's Lure. On Dec. 9, the show will include Wendy Bailey, Joe Rathburn and Chris Leyva. Schiele will host and

perform each of those Sundays, with Joey Harris, Coco & Lafe and Will Harris among the confirmed performers yet to settle on which of the two dates to perform.

Concertgoers will hear a mix of originals and holiday classics.

The performers choose their own selections," Schiele said. "We do encourage a few holiday tunes in the mix, but it's up to them and the originals always seem to go down well."

Schiele said the musicians are often among the first to help whenever help is needed.

"Not only do all the artists play for free, but many of them also bring items to donate as well," Schiele said. "When you consider that they also have to deal with traffic, gear and crowds, I'm extremely grateful that so many want to be a part of these con-

Seventy families were aided by the 2008 goodwill efforts, according to Claudia Jack of the OBMA, which partners with realty association PLOBRA during the drive.

For anyone wishing to contribute, but who can't make one of the shows, donation boxes have been set up around town, including at Shades Oceanfront Bistro, Pruitt Realty and U.S. Bank. Larger donations to the program can be made by calling Jack at (619) 224-4906.

In addition, Union Bank also has an "angel tree" in its lobby.

"Customers adopt them [angel ornaments] and then the gifts are brought to the Food & Toy Drive," Jack said.

All the donated items will be collected at the Point Loma Masonic Lodge, with the sorting taking place on Dec. 15, 17 and 18 from 5 to 8 p.m. On Dec. 19 at 9 a.m., organizers begin distributing boxes of

Bailey, who performs on Dec. 9, www.oceanbeachsandiego.com.

said the "giving" aspect is most important in the event.

The idea of music being able to help in any small way is awesome,' Bailey said. "Being able to participate in something like this, with so many of my peers, is really nice. But helping the community on top of that makes this feel like something special going in.'

For Leyva, the event brings back special holiday memories.

"I really look forward to playing every year," Leyva said. "It makes me think of when I was a child and how special that time of your life is. After all, there's nothing like being a kid during the holidays.

Leyva considers participation to be partial pay back for his own happy childhood.

"I remember how happy I was at Christmas to get a present and what a wonderful feeling that was," Leyva said. "I would hate to think that a child or family doesn't have a good holiday. If I can help in any way, I'm in."

Even after five years of organizing these concerts, Schiele said his enthusiasm hasn't diminished a bit. He said he plans for the musical event to remain a fixture for years

"This annual mix of music and giving at the Ocean Beach Farmers Market is a tradition now, and more importantly, it's a success,' Schiele said. "It works. Last year. attendees donated two truckloads of items for the drive. The idea that this wouldn't continue is unthinkable."

The free Ocean Beach Holiday Food and Toy Drive event takes place Dec. 2 and Dec. 9 at the Ocean Beach Farmers Market, Newport Avenue and Bacon Street beginning at 4 p.m. The events are open to all ages. For more information.

Holiday 2009 Gift Guide 2009

mozana rocks! Piedra del amore - larimar

Larimar, discovered in 1973, is a stunning Caribbean blue that matches the sea of its home in The Dominican Republic. Originally dubbed "Atlantis Stone," larimar is a variety of pectolite, an acid silicate hydrate of calcium and sodium. Although pectolite is found in many locations, none have the unique volcanic blue coloration of Santo Domingo's larimar. Beside its worth as a very rare precious stone, healing powers are also attributed to larimar. Edgar Cayce named larimar one of the "Spiritual Stones" that opens to new dimensions and facilitates angelic communication. It radiates love, peace and promotes tranquility. It effortlessly induces a deeply meditative state and naturally raises the consciousness and harmonizes body and soul to new vibrations. Larimar is said to bring in the goddess energies. It is a powerful throat chakra stone and excellent for mothers during and after pregnancy. It is an excellent stone for those seeking a soul mate and helps to heal past-life relationships and trauma. In the Dominican Republic, larimar is called "piedra del amor," love stone, and it is believed to have the ability to draw ones soul mate. I just received a shipment from the Bahoruco Mine. Come by and see this beautiful rock!



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mozana

beads and stones

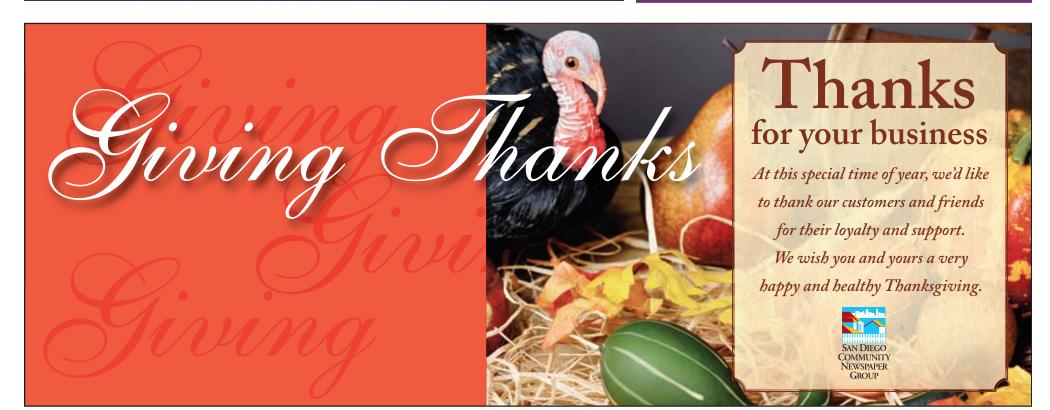
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According to a report by the Alzheimer's Association of Los Angeles & Riverside, CA, there are approximately 3.3 million long distance caregivers in this country with an average distance of 480 miles from the people they care for. The report also states that 15 million days are missed from work each year because of long distance care giving. Seven million Americans provide 80% of the care to ailing family members and the number of long distance caregivers will DOUBLE over the next 15 years.

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Nov./Dec. A Look Ahead

COMMUNITY/CIVIC

Through Friday, Nov. 27, applications accepted for the Dec. 5 30th annual Ocean Beach Christmas Tree Festival Parade. Applications will be reviewed and a letter of acceptance with rules and regulations will follow. To obtain an application or for more information, call (619) 515-4400, e-mail obparade@yahoo.com or visit

www.obtowncouncil.org/calendar .html.

Wednesday, Dec. 9, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Point Loma Garden Club hosts its free, annual Holiday Tea and Bazaar event featuring handmade holiday decorations, food and crafts. Items also include wreaths, swags, table decorations, potted plants, jams, jellies and baked goods. The event takes place at the S.E.S. Portuguese Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal. For more information, www.plgc.org.

HEALTH

Wednesday, Dec. 2, 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Point Loma High School hosts the San Diego Blood Bank's bloodmobile in the small gym of the school, 2335 Chatsworth Blvd. For information, call (800) 479-3902, ext. 0.

SCHOOLS

CORREIA

- Tuesday, Dec. 1, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., PIQUE (Class 6); 6 to 7:30 p.m., PIQUE.
- Dec. 2-9, 8:30 to 4 p.m., Scholastic Book Fair.
- Wednesday, Dec. 2, CalSOAP and GEAR UP Career Day; 4 to 5:30 p.m., SSC meeting.

DANA

- Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2:30 p.m., 6th grade student recognition assembly in Jackson Theater.
- Wednesday, Dec. 2, 5th grade student recognition assembly in Jackson Theater.
- Wednesday, Dec. 2, 4:15 to 6 p.m., SSC/SGT meeting in PD room.
- Friday, Dec. 11, 7 p.m., Winter Theater Showcase in Jackson
 - Friday, Dec. 18, 6:30 p.m.,

Dana Instrumental Music Winter Concert in Jackson Theater.

- Tuesday, Dec. 8, ASB cookie dough distribution after school. Pick up orders in Room 103.
- Wednesday, Dec. 9, 6:30 p.m., Dana Association meeting in library.
- Friday, Dec. 11, 7 p.m., Winter Theater Showcase in Jackson Theater.
- Friday, Dec. 18, 6:30 p.m., Dana Instrumental Music Winter Concert in Jackson Theater.

LOMA PORTAL

- Monday, Nov. 30, 5:30 p.m., Foundation meeting in library.
- Friday, Dec. 4, second annual Winter Family Sock Hop. Free, all-ages swing dance lessons from 5:30 to 6 p.m.; 6 to 8 p.m., Dana Middle School's Jazz Band plays '50s and '60s favorites. The event includes food and root beer sales, crafts for all ages, a photographer and classic cars on display. For more information or to volunteer, e-mail akinseth@sandi.net.
- Friday, Dec. 11, awards assembly in auditorium.

OB ELEMENTARY

- Monday, Nov. 30, parent/teacher conferences all week; minimum days.
- Thursday, Dec. 3, all classes walk to beach to decorate OB Christmas tree and visit with Santa

POINT LOMA HIGH

• Saturday, Nov. 28, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., PLHS History Awards Banquet fundraiser at Barnes & Noble Bookfair, 3150 Rosecrans St. Ten percent of the proceeds raised benefit the awards banquet. For more information, e-mail pmcelhaney@sandi.net.

SILVER GATE

- Nov. 30-Dec. 4, parent/teacher conferences 12:35 p.m. dismissal.
- Friday, Dec. 4, 7:45 a.m., principal's chat with parents of children in grades 2 through 4 in library.
- Dec. 7-11, 7:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., book fair.

• Thursday, Dec. 10, 4 to 8 p.m., school fundraiser at Fresh & Easy (955 Catalina Blvd.). Five percent of the sales is donated to Silver Gate. Keep receipts and turn in through the second week of January.

SUNSET VIEW

• Thursday, Dec. 3, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Art Corp Family Night in auditorium.

SENIORS

Wednesday, Dec. 2, 1:30 to 3 p.m., Sharp Healthcare's Senior Resource Center hosts "Negative Impact of Hearing Loss." The lecture is free and takes place at the Point Loma Presbyterian Church Library, 2128 Chatsworth Blvd. Registration is required by calling (800) 827-4277.

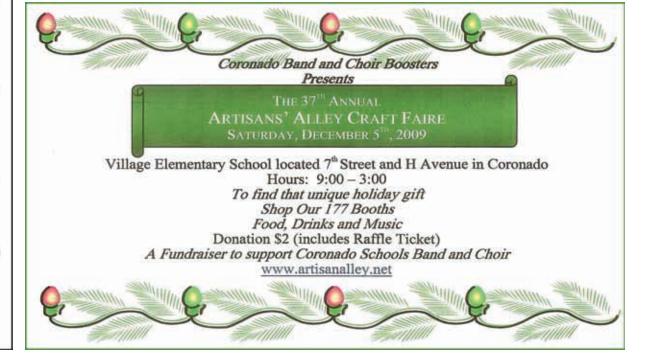
Monday, Dec. 7, 9:30 a.m. to noon, Sharp Healthcare's Senior Resource Center hosts a free hearing screening by audiologists at the Point Loma Presbyterian Church Library, 2128 Chatsworth Blvd. Appointments are required by calling (800) 827-4277.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Monday, Dec. 7, 7 to 11 p.m., the award-winning Robin Henkel Band with Horns! Performs at Humphrey's, 2303 Shelter Island Drive. The show is for those 21 and up. Tickets are \$8.

Dec. 4-6 and Dec. 10-13, the New Americans Museum hosts 'Body Narratives: Expression Through the Human Form," featuring artwork from mysterious wrapped figures to lyrical floating bodies and from figurative abstractions to a houdini-like escape performance. An artists' reception is slated for Friday, Dec. 4 from 5 to 8 p.m. Exhibition times are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The museum is located at 2825 Dewey Road, Bldg. 202, Suite 102. For more information, visit www.ntcpromenade.org.

Through Jan. 17, Quilt Visions/Visions Art Quilt Gallery hosts a new exhibit, "Interpretations 2009." An opening reception takes place Saturday, Nov. 14 from 5 to 7 p.m. The admission to the gallery, located at 2825 Dewey Road, is free. Gallery hours are Tuesdays through Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For information, call (619) 546-4872, or visit www.quiltvisions.org.



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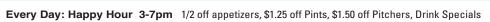
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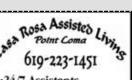
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