



## ARTIFICIAL REEF MARKS 10 YEARS OF REBIRTH



Diver Jay Schwartz, mooring coordinator for the wreck of the HMCS Yukon for the San Diego Oceans Foundation, swims past the anemone-covered bridge of the wreck just two miles off the coast of San Diego. The wreck is now an artificial reef for marine life habitat, and was prepared and sunk for recreational divers to enjoy. The 10th anniversary of the Yukon's intentional sinking will be celebrated July 14-15.

PHOTOS BY RONAN GRAY | THE BEACON

## Sunken naval ship gives marine life a safe haven

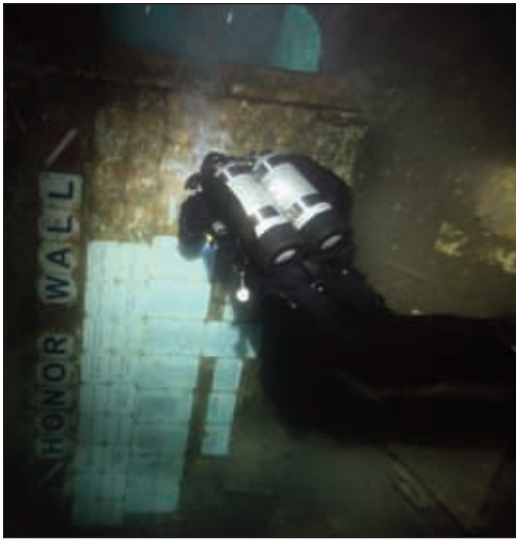
One dark night in July 2000, a 366-foot-long Canadian naval destroyer packed with explosives sat at anchor less than two miles west of the foot of Pacific Beach Drive. The deck was dark and there were no lights in the windows of the bridge.

By **RONAN GRAY** | THE BEACON

A small crew battled with an under-size pump below deck, struggling in vain to stem the flow of water that had begun to flood in through a hole in the hull near the waterline. The crew had radioed the Coast Guard for additional pumps,

but none would arrive in time. Shortly after abandoning ship a little after midnight July 14, the last group of men to set foot on the HCMS Yukon watched as she floundered and disappeared beneath the dark waves to the

SEE **SHIP**, Page 7



Schwartz enters the wreck of the HMCS Yukon in June to inspect and clean commemorative plaques placed inside before it sank off Mission Beach 10 years ago.

## Point Loma High's grads poised to make their marks



Students from the Point Loma High School class of 2010 launch their caps in the time-honored graduation tradition during commencement ceremonies June 18. PHOTO BY SCOTT HOPKINS | THE BEACON

By **SCOTT HOPKINS** | THE BEACON

Around 450 young men and women joined a distinguished legacy of graduates as Point Loma High School (PLHS) presented diplomas during its 85th commencement on June 18.

Under azure-blue skies, class members appeared from afar, their maroon-colored caps and gowns shimmering in the sun. As students in the PLHS orchestra played the first notes of "Pomp and Circumstance," an overflow crowd at Pete Ross Stadium strained to find sons, daughters, grandchildren and nephews. Walking two-by-two under a lacy arch, the procession entered Bennie Edens Field at 3 p.m.

SEE **PLHS**, Page 4

## And the winners are ...

The votes have been tabulated for *The Beacon's* annual Amateur Photo Contest. Check out the winners! **2**

## Case laid to rest

The book has been closed in the case of a Point Loma murderer who took his own life in jail. **3**

## Two years at sea

A Point Loma-based couple circumnavigates the globe, chronicles their adventures in a new book. **5**

## OB's gateway face-lift funded

By **ANTHONY GENTILE** | THE BEACON

For local residents, the wait for the Ocean Beach Gateway Project — the key entryway to OB — is nearly over. Construction will begin in October on the park at the northwest corner of Sunset Cliffs and West Point Loma boulevards, nearly a decade after the first funds for the project were secured.

"Obecians have donated money over the years for this. They've bought bricks and tiles [to bear their names as donors] and they've watched us put up signs," said Ocean Beach Com-

munity Development Corporation (OBCDC) member Ann Kelsey. "[Now] people are going to see action there."

On June 21, the nonprofit OBCDC learned the City Council had allocated \$241,000 for the project from Proposition 40, a state measure passed in 2002. That gave OBCDC a total of \$722,188 — enough to begin phase-one design and building tasks for the project.

"It's really going to brighten

SEE **GATEWAY**, Page 10

## Pyrotechnics show set to dazzle OB

By **ANTHONY GENTILE** | THE BEACON

Local skies will be lit up on the Fourth of July during the annual fireworks show at the Ocean Beach Pier.

The Ocean Beach MainStreet Association (OBMA) will host the annual show, after spending months preparing for it.

"The fireworks company does all the planning for it," said Denny Knox, OBMA's executive director. "We just tell them what kind of look we want and they take it from there and make suggestions on what we



Fourth of July fireworks illuminate the sky above the Ocean Beach Pier in 2009. COURTESY PHOTO BY JOE EWING

SEE **FIREWORKS**, Page 5

## OBMA urges crowd to keep marshmallow fight on sand

By **ANTHONY GENTILE** | THE BEACON

The annual Ocean Beach Marshmallow Fight — tradition that follows the Fourth of July community fireworks show from the OB Pier — turned a little wild last year, leaving a gooey mess on the streets and sidewalks.

The aftermath of last year's event has prompted Ocean Beach MainStreet Association executive director Denny Knox to encourage this year's participants to keep the fight on the beach during the event's silver anniversary this Fourth of July.

"Everybody is recommending

this year — even the marshmallow throwers — that we all keep our heads about it and don't take [the fight] off of the sand," Knox said. "I think they were just having so much fun [last year] and they got carried away."

Volunteers and local residents were left to clean up last year's mess on the morning after July 4. Knox said keeping the marshmallows on the sand should make this year's cleanup significantly easier.

SEE **OBMA**, Page 5



## Street fair flashback

A photo roundup of the 31st annual OB Street Fair and complete list of chili cook-off winners. **11**





## Readers make a stink

The results of *The Peninsula Beacon's* annual Amateur Photo Contest are in, and our readers have made their choice! During balloting at Saturday's Ocean Beach Street Fair and Chili Cook-Off Festival, 564 votes were cast for 27 unique submissions – and the first choice was a runaway victory. Placing first with 186 votes, far left, was this color-splashed sunset shot at low tide north of the OB Pier by Heather Monaghan. The second-place winner, center, drew 36 votes for Robert Sarmiento's nicely-framed, contrasted cave shot peeking out at the Cabrillo tidepools. And the third-place winner was no stinker, either. Just one vote behind – at 35 ballots – was one of the biggest talkers, and one which nearly everyone in OB could seem to identify with during the photo judging. Photographer Sarah Bennett captured her cat, Larry, making nice with five new skunk friends. Bennett said Larry's encounter was fortunately without incident. Congratulations to the winners and to all who participated. Many thanks also to our loyal readers who voted in this year's contest. **For photos of the 31st annual Ocean Beach Street Fair and a complete list of chili cook-off winners, see page 11.**



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# PCPB tabs Khalil to fill vacant seat

ANTHONY GENTILE | THE BEACON



Suhail Khalil

The Peninsula Community Planning Board (PCPB) appointed Suhail Khalil over four other candidates at its June 17 meeting to fill a vacancy left by the surprise resignation of a sitting board member.

Khalil received seven votes — more than half of the 12 total board votes.

“I want to thank all my supporters and PCPB for conducting a fair and honorable election to fill its vacant seat,” Khalil said. “I look forward to serving out the remainder of Dr. (Matthew) Sanicki’s term and wish him well in his future endeavors.”

Sanicki’s resignation was announced at the board’s May meeting. He cited increased office hours that would conflict with his attendance of future PCPB meetings.

Khalil, who served on the PCPB from 2007 until

the recent elections, will serve out Sanicki’s term through 2012.

After the board elected Khalil, numerous audience members expressed frustration with the appointment process, which several attendees said disenfranchised voters by putting the power with board members instead of the electorate.

The sentiments were similar to those expressed during an extended debate May 20, in which board and audience members weighed in with interpretations of the PCPB’s bylaws governing appointment versus general election.

Khalil’s appointment came after a general election and three subsequent runoffs in March and April.

Each of the five candidates for Sanicki’s seat was given five minutes to speak at the June 17 meeting and Norman Allenby, who also ran in the recent PCPB general elections, received the next-highest number of votes with four. The other vote went to Patti Rank, while no one voted for John Koufoudakis or Cynthia Conger.

“I am committed to public outreach, government transparency and accountability to ensure our quality of life,” Khalil said. “I will continue those efforts I initiated in 2007 for the greater good of our community.”

# SPAWAR Systems Center Pacific celebrates 70th anniversary

## Open house and time capsule dedication mark the occasion



Capt. Mark Kohlheim, the commanding officer of SPAWAR Systems Center Pacific in Point Loma, and technical director Carmela Keeney lock a time capsule during a recent open-house ceremony. The time capsule is expected to be opened again in 2040. OFFICIAL U.S. NAVY PHOTO

SPAWAR Systems Center (SSC) Pacific recently celebrated 70 years on Point Loma with an open-house celebration for employees, family and friends that included demonstrations of various technologies and the dedication of a time capsule.

From its beginnings as a radio tower in the 1940s to becoming a leader in command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance today, SSC Pacific and its various predecessor organizations have been on the leading edge of technology and providing revolutionary capability to the military.

“Throughout our 70 years, we’ve been involved in tens of thousands of programs,” said Carmela Keeney, technical director at SSC Pacific, during the time capsule ceremony. “We have made many significant contributions.”

She highlighted some of the early efforts, including the research and technology development that made possible the navigation of the USS Nautilus under the polar ice cap to the North Pole, the submergence of the bathyscaphe Trieste to the depths of the Marianas Trench and the design of the Polaris missile pop-up launch system.

Current efforts, Keeney said, focus on network-centric operations, including enhanced networks and communications systems, increased interoperability, networked sensors and knowledge-management tools.

Mementos from the various departments highlighting some of their greatest achievements and other contributions were locked away in a time capsule during the event in an

effort to preserve and honor the past 70 years. The capsule will remain locked until the centennial celebration in 2040.

“The contents are unique,” said Capt. Mark Kohlheim, commanding officer of SSC Pacific, during the ceremony. “We have some current documents and artifacts. And also some archive material.”

Contents include items such as unclassified briefings on today’s most advanced technologies, technical documents from various periods throughout history, photos of employees at the lab today, lanyards printed with the lab’s various names and other items. Navy officials said there is even a shorthand book published at the turn of the last century that belongs to the commanding officer’s administrative assistant.

Navy officials said that though some of the great ideas of today might be looked at differently in 30 years when the items are removed from the capsule, employees and the community will be reminded of the organization’s roots, transformations and goals.

If the next 30 years are anything like the past seven decades, the SSC Pacific is expected to remain an important part of Point Loma through its physical presence and economic impact.

# Case closed for murderer who killed self

NEAL PUTNAM | THE BEACON

A judge on June 25 officially closed the case against Point Loma murderer Henry Lisowski after the man committed suicide in jail before he could be sentenced for killing his wife, Rosa Lisowski.

A death certificate was formally provided to the court to bring the case to an end.

Henry Lisowski, 69, took an overdose of two antidepressants, according to coroner’s officials. His body was discovered around 4 a.m. on March 25 in his cell at the Vista Detention Facility. He was pronounced dead about 45 minutes later, according to the certificate presented to San Diego Superior Court Judge John Einhorn.

A jury found Henry Lisowski guilty March 2 of first-degree murder with a special circumstance of murder

for financial gain. The body of Rosa Lisowski, 50, of Ocean Beach, was never found, but she was believed to have died on March 24, 2008. She was last seen walking her young son to Barnard Elementary School that day.

Henry Lisowski never testified in court but he wrote a letter to several people before his arrest, saying his wife died accidentally when she slipped and hit her head on his porch. Henry Lisowski said he put Rosa’s body in a dumpster because he didn’t think anyone would believe Rosa’s death was an accident. That letter was used as evidence against him in the trial. His suicide came about a week before he was to have been sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Prior to the murder, Rosa and Henry Lisowski were estranged and engaged in a bitter custody battle. The couple’s two sons are now living with relatives.

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## PLHS

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

Many of the graduates sported dark glasses and several waved to family members. The scholars split into two groups, taking their places in a field of white seats slightly behind both sides of a raised podium. The soon-to-be graduates, who had taken finals just days before, seemed to be struck with the realization that this long-awaited moment had finally arrived.

Associated Student Body President Ayan-na Diaz welcomed the crowd, asking visitors to stand as PLHS's choir joined the orchestra to perform a stirring version of "America the Beautiful."

Next, members of the school's NJROTC color guard marched forth with the colors and the orchestra performed the National Anthem.

Class of 2010 co-valedictorians Ashley Barclift and Miles Murphy — along with salutatorian Kevin Laube — were presented plaques by Capt. Paul Marconi, commanding officer of Naval Base Point Loma. Barclift and Murphy will attend Princeton, while Laube will enter Stanford.

In her commencement speech, Barclift called graduation "one of our first steps toward independence."

Murphy elicited laughter from the audience as his address satirized the teens' mysterious and magical overnight change from confused young people to those who had

"all the answers to everything."

PLHS Principal Bobbie Samilson began by asking students to wave to their families and give them a standing ovation for their nurturing and help through the years, before requesting a show of appreciation for the 130 faculty members at the school.

Samilson noted that 90 percent of the class of 2010 planned to further their education, landing \$600,000 in scholarship awards.

She urged graduates to "go beyond expectations. Surprise your parents, teachers, friends and yourself."

Newly-appointed District Superintendent Bill Kowba accepted the class, and the parade of graduates began.

School counselors read each student's full name as they walked up ramps to receive their long-awaited certification from Samilson, who shook each graduate's hand, as did Kowba.

Senior Class President Josh Morse led his classmates in the traditional moving of their tassels from the left side to right, wished his classmates well and then beckoned them to meet in the center of the field. The throng quickly assembled and, at precisely 4:40 p.m., hundreds of maroon caps were flung skyward to mark the ceremony's end.

Family members rushed onto the field, armed with digital cameras, flowers and balloons, to greet their new graduates.

For many, though, the ceremony was just the beginning of a longer celebration.



A Point Loma High graduate celebrates during commencement.

PHOTO BY SCOTT HOPKINS | THE BEACON



Balloons were a colorful and popular way for families and friends to celebrate the graduation of loved ones at Point Loma High School.

PHOTO BY SCOTT HOPKINS | THE BEACON

## PLHS CLASS OF 2010: What's Next?

Nearly 90 percent of Point Loma High School graduates plan to continue their education. Here are the categories of higher learning chosen by students. The most-chosen school and number of students is shown in parentheses:

- **University of California campuses:** 23 students  
(UC Santa Barbara and UC San Diego – 5 each)
- **California State University campuses:** 43 students  
(San Diego State University – 23)
- **California community colleges:** 197 students  
(Mesa College – 96)
- **California institutes:** 6 students
- **Out-of-state community colleges:** 4 students
- **California private universities:** 31 students  
(Point Loma Nazarene University – 8)
- **Out-of-state universities /four-year colleges:** 46 students  
(University of Oregon – 4)
- **International universities:** 1 student  
(Franklin College of Switzerland – 1)
- **Other: military service:** 7 students  
(U.S. Marine Corps – 7)

— Source: Point Loma High School

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## COMMUNITY BANKING ALIVE AND WELL IN S.D!

By: Raymond Simas

The turmoil in the banking industry over the past couple of years has led many to question the state of community banking in San Diego. This concern has been underscored by the recent closures of San Diego National Bank, La Jolla Bank, and 1st Pacific Bank of California as well as the fact that several other local community banks find themselves operating under strict regulatory

orders. With these community banks being taken over by larger out-of-town institutions, the natural fear is a loss of local decision-making and personalized service.

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Raymond Simas is SVP/Manager of San Diego Trust. Mr. Simas can be reached at 619-823-7505.

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AROUND THE WORLD IN 2 YEARS

# Point Loma couple circumnavigates globe

By SEBASTIAN RUIZ | THE BEACON

Before settling down to have a family, Christi Grab had always wanted to travel the world and write about it. Her husband, Eric, always wanted a boat. Together, the Point Loma couple was able to realize their dreams, circumnavigating the globe in a 43-foot motorboat as they traveled to tucked-away places around the world.

It's a feat only a handful of people have ever accomplished in such a small craft, Christi said.

"It was a lot harder than I thought it was going to be ... What it was like at sea and how difficult it was to cope," she said.

With only three days of experience at sea, the Grabs and a close friend who had more boating experience set off on the first leg of their trip in 2006, which lasted about 21 days. This leg took them through the Pacific Islands. After the first jaunt, the Grabs felt they had what it took to set off and complete the rest of their journey around the world — an adventure which ended early last year.

Between walks on active volcanic rims, swimming with dolphins and whales, and dining with international locals, the couple battled with slight forms of sea sickness and the perils of spending days on wavy seas.

Christi said she mastered the art of "propping myself up with elbows" and

successfully dealt with food falling from overhead compartments of their small Nordhavn power boat, aptly named Kosmos.

On top of setting up a blog detailing their two-year adventure from San Diego through French Polynesia, Europe, Asia, the Caribbean and back to San Diego, the Grabs also wrote a book about daily life at sea and their times in foreign countries.

The book is titled "The Unexpected Circumnavigation: Unusual Boat, Unusual People Volume 1: San Diego to Australia."

The couple spent most of their time on land visiting entire communities of

SEE BOOK, Page 9



Point Loma-based Christi and Eric Grab relax before SCUBA diving in the Red Sea off the coast of Egypt in May 2008. COURTESY PHOTO

## OBMA

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

"We're hoping people will respect the streets and the sidewalks and not do that again," Knox said. "If you stay on the sand, it just makes it so much better and so much easier to clean up."

In its 25th year, the marshmallow fight began in 1985 as a friendly rivalry between the Grosch and Zounes families, who hosted rival Fourth of July holiday parties. Grosch lived on Saratoga Avenue and Zounes lived on Muir Avenue.

Rich Grosch told *The Beacon* in 2002 that his friends and family from Saratoga Avenue were sitting near tower two at Ocean Beach — ready to roast marshmallows — when they found a better use for them. They threw marshmallows at the Zounes party down the beach.

A year later, Grosch moved to Muir Avenue near the Zounes, and Muir Avenue got its revenge on Saratoga Street with an onslaught of marshmallows. Ever since then, the marshmallow fight has been a post-fireworks tradition on Ocean Beach.



Marshmallows litter the street with a gooey mess in 2009. COURTESY PHOTO BY HAILEY AIKEN

## FIREWORKS

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

should have."

The 20-minute show costs \$25,000 and is paid for in part by the yearly raffle at the Ocean Beach Street Fair and Chili Cook-off Festival in June, Knox said. She identified two main no-nos for those who come to the fireworks display: don't bring your own fireworks and don't stand under the pier during the show.

"It's always fun. Sometimes they do a special OB thing with the name 'OB' in the show," Knox said.

Those planning to observe the OB fireworks show are encouraged to walk down to the beach, if possible, given anticipated heavy traffic on July 4. Another popular watch spot is the hill above Sunset Cliffs.

The OB Pier fireworks start at 9 p.m.

### Here's a look at other July 4 fireworks displays around San Diego:

- **La Jolla Country Club:** fireworks visible from Mount Soledad, approximately 8:20 p.m.
- **La Jolla Cove:** 9 p.m.
- **Mission Bay Yacht Club:** fireworks visible from Mission Bay, Mount Soledad and Pacific Beach, 9 p.m.
- **San Diego Bay:** "Big Bay Boom 2010," 9 p.m.
- **San Diego Symphony (Embarcadero):** 9 p.m.
- **SeaWorld:** fireworks visible from Mission Bay and Crown Point. "Shamu's SkySplash USA," July 4, 9:50 p.m.; "Into the Blue" July 3, 9:30 p.m.

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## GUEST COMMENTARY

State of the Real Estate Market  
for condos and townhomes

MARK MARQUEZ

In previous articles, I have evaluated the entire real estate market for the communities of Point Loma, Ocean Beach and Old Town. Each time, we have seen similar trends: significantly higher than average median prices, more average days on the market and a smaller number of sold listings in comparison to the county as a whole.

This time, we decided to take a closer look at one aspect of the market and focus on the trends we have been seeing for condos and townhomes in these three communities. The real estate market for these attached properties is actually quite similar to the county's numbers, making these three communities a lot more competitive in the real estate market for attached properties.

It's no surprise that even for attached properties Point Loma, Ocean Beach and Old Town continue to have year-to-date median prices that are above the county averages. However, the difference between the county median and these attached home median prices are less than what we normally see with median prices. In fact, Ocean Beach's year-to-date median price for attached listings is only \$55,000 higher than the county median of \$220,000.

Old Town's median price was only slightly higher than Ocean Beach's at \$292,000, and Point Loma, always substantially above the county, has seen a median price of \$485,000, year to date. While these may seem like considerable differences, when you compare them to the differences in detached home prices between the county and the Point Loma, Ocean Beach and Old Town areas, they are miniscule.

For single-family homes, the difference between the county and Ocean Beach, Old Town and Point Loma areas was \$234,000, \$339,000 and \$373,000, respectively. Having attached listings priced closer to the county's average make them much more likely to move quickly. Since the three ZIP Codes we are evaluating are desirable places to live, and the price is only slightly higher than other places in the county, it is likely that we will soon see more of these properties selling — and selling at a quicker rate.

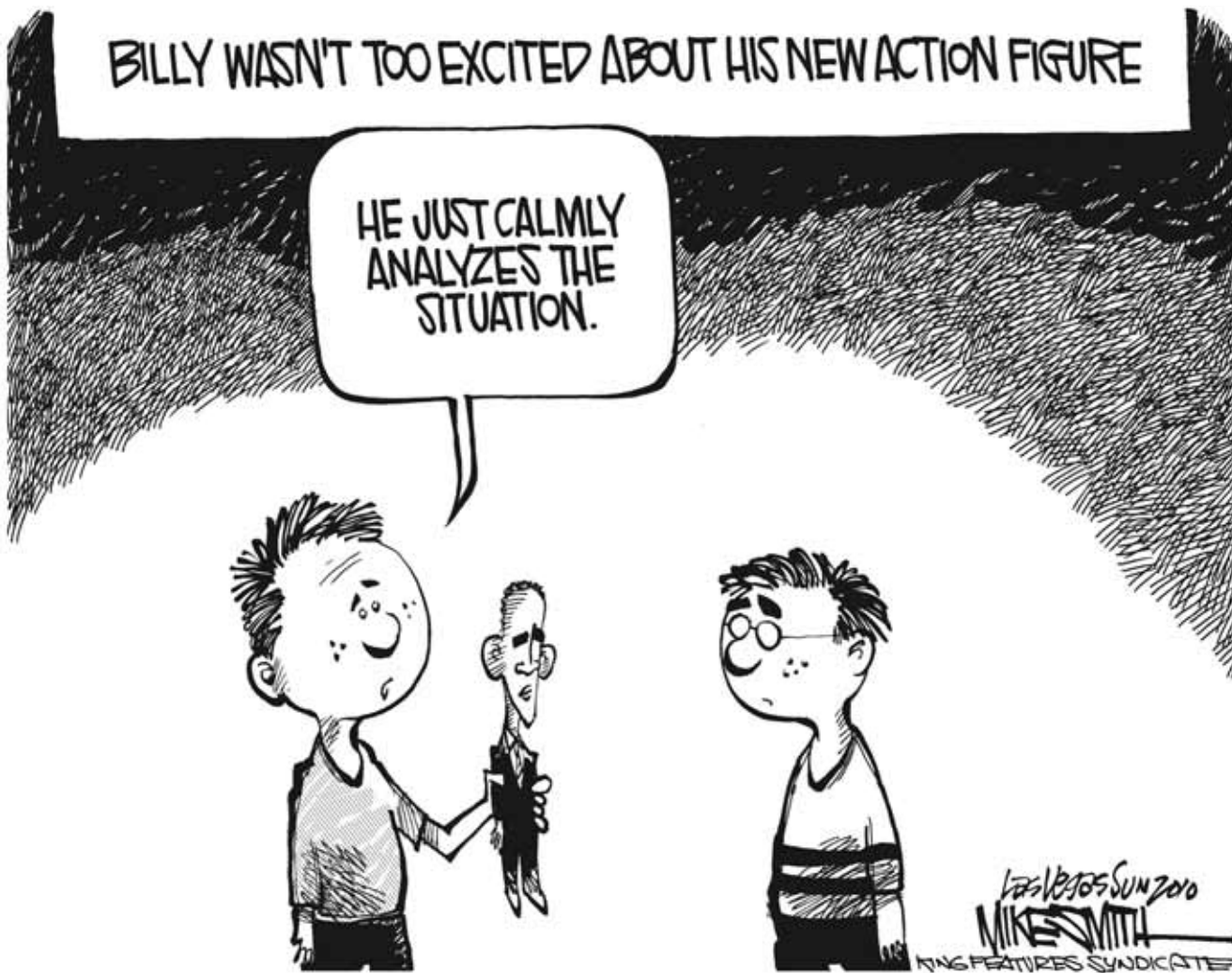
We are already beginning to see this trend take form. In Ocean Beach, the average number of days on the market for 2010 is 64. This is substantially below the county average; meaning properties in this area are competitively priced and selling quickly. Old Town is right on the county average, selling at an average of 81 days on the market.

As always, Point Loma is a bit of an outlier, with the average condo/townhome on the market for 100 days. This is likely longer due to the fact that the median price is still quite a bit higher than the county median and that there are not an abundance of attached properties in this area. It is interesting to note, however, that last month, Point Loma's average number of days on the market was 70, indicating that perhaps the properties in this ZIP Code will begin selling quicker as well.

With an increasingly competitive market in these three ZIP Codes, it is no wonder that the number of sold listings is also on the rise. In fact, Old Town has sold quite a few single-family homes and condos and at 52 sold listings year to date, the ZIP Code is actually in the top 25 percent for number of sold listings across the county. Ocean Beach is only slightly lower than the county average, having sold 32 attached listings to date. Point Loma is, again, slower to catch onto the trend, only selling seven properties year to date. However, three of those properties were sold last month, indicating much like the number of days on the market, that perhaps Point Loma is on an upward swing.

All in all, when you look at the market for condos and townhomes in Point Loma, Ocean Beach and Old Town, it appears to be a healthy and competitive market. With a slightly higher than average median price and properties that are moving quickly — combined with an uptick in number of sold listings — it looks as though this may be a good time to sell an attached property in these areas.

— Mark Marquez is president of the San Diego Association of Realtors. This periodic column is intended as a public service.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PCPB defies community  
voters, should be recalled

All Peninsula Community Planning Board (PCPB) members are elected by community residents to safeguard and protect community interests, not developer interests. Community interests must be paramount.

"Not so," says a cabal of lemming-like PCPB members. For the second time in a year, insurrection has occurred on the PCPB. It's not the residents against the PCPB, but the PCPB against the wishes of the residents and community.

First, this cabal of PCPB members refused to acknowledge the public outcry against the methane-gas trucking (which was also opposed by City Councilman Kevin Faulconer.) [We believe] these PCPB members stated through their chairperson they do not care what the community or Councilman Faulconer do, and that they still supported the trucking issue on the methane gas project.

Here we go again. Using a convenient resignation [situation], these same developer members on May 20 refused to consider a motion preventing them from appointing a community candidate to a vacant seat on the board [instead of a public vote].

On June 17, despite a large vocal protest by community residents, this same board appointed Suhail Khalil, a [former PCPB member] who had been rejected by the community not once, but on four occasions in four elections. Apparently, they are not only tone deaf, but what part of "no" do Chairperson [Charles] Mellor and members [Kevin] Brown; [Patricia] Clark; [Donna] Kaup; [Shelly] Kilbourn-McGee; [Jim]

Lester; and [Robert] MacCulloch not understand?

This is the second slap in the face this pro-developer majority board has handed the Point Loma community and democracy itself. [We believe] the community thinks it is time to petition the decertification and [launch a] recall of these members who refuse to listen and act on behalf of the residents of Point Loma.

Val & Jim Gilhooly  
Point Loma

Dogs and July 4  
fireworks are a bad mix

The Fourth of July is the worst day for dogs ending up in shelters and emergency hospitals and, unfortunately, too many end up dead in the road. They experience absolute terror from hearing the loud noises of the holiday.

Please keep your dog safely indoors during this special holiday. People love their dogs and they want to include them, but taking them along on a Fourth of July outing can lead to disaster.

Trish Hausman  
Ocean Beach

Air traffic nuisance  
becoming more pronounced

As an insomniac most nights, I relish the few hours/minutes of sleep I sometimes get each night. We are told we are not in the flight path, yet airplanes frequently go over the house; we are told that the airport closes at 11:30 p.m., yet those planes flying over

our house that is not in the flight path seem to do so after 11:30 p.m.

And now?

For the past six early mornings, loud helicopters have flown over the house between 3 and 4:30 each morning. Not little, quiet helicopters. No! Large, noisy ones.

I got up this morning to see if perhaps a helicopter might be rescuing someone/something in my pool. That would explain why it was going over the house. Unfortunately, or fortunately, there was nothing in the pool that needed to be rescued.

So ... if there is no rescue going on in my pool, why are the large helicopters — probably from Miramar — going over the house every morning and waking me up from the little sleep I do manage to get? Is there a "new flight pattern" the residents of Point Loma know nothing about?

Judi Curry  
Sunset Cliffs

## YOUR VIEWS

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Mannis Communications  
4645 Cass St. Box 9550  
San Diego, CA 92169  
Fax: (858) 270-9325  
Ad Fax: (858) 713-0095  
**beacon@sdnews.com**  
**(858) 270-3103**

**sdnews.com**

**PUBLISHER**  
Julie Mannis Hoisington  
(858) 270-3103 x106  
jmannis@sdnews.com

**EDITOR**  
Kevin McKay x131  
beacon@sdnews.com

**EXECUTIVE EDITOR**  
John Gregory x130  
bbp@sdnews.com

**SPORTS EDITOR**  
Anthony Gentile x135  
anthony@sdnews.com

**REPORTERS**  
Anthony Gentile x135  
anthony@sdnews.com  
Hillary Schuler-Jones x133  
hillary@sdnews.com

Debbie Hatch x142  
hatch@sdnews.com

**ACCOUNTING**  
Heather Glynn x103  
Patty Angley x120  
Accounts Receivable

**AD CONSULTANTS**  
Mike Fahey x117  
Sheri Starko-Jones x147  
Marjorie Kirby x122

Michael Long x112  
Ashlee Manzo x123  
Heather Snyder x115  
Deborah Vazquez x118

**CLASSIFIEDS MGR.**  
Heather Snyder x115  
heather@sdnews.com

**CLASSIFIEDS**  
Kim Donaldson x140  
kim@sdnews.com  
Steve Lieber x111  
steve@sdnews.com

**PRODUCTION MGR.**  
Casey Dean x107  
casey@sdnews.com

**PRODUCTION**  
Chris Baker,  
Anna Magulac

**PHOTOGRAPHERS**  
Don Balch, Ronan Gray,  
Paul Hansen, Jim Grant

**CONTRIBUTORS**  
Scott Hopkins, Bart  
Mendoza, Neal Putnam,  
Sebastian Ruiz, Hillary  
Schuler-Jones, Patricia M.  
Walsh, Joel Racicot, Joseph  
Greenberg

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**SUBMISSIONS** Letters and photo submissions are welcomed. Those accompanied by an addressed, stamped envelope will be returned. The editor reserves the right to edit for clarity.

**DEADLINES** All content must be received by 5 p.m. on the Thursday prior to publication.

**DISTRIBUTION** *The Peninsula Beacon* is available free every other Thursday.

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## SHIP

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

muddy bottom 100 feet below, where she rests today.

The fate of the Yukon — a Mackenzie-class destroyer that served in the Royal Canadian Navy and later in the Canadian Forces — had, in fact, been set in motion many years before. She was destined to be sunk in this very spot — just not so unceremoniously and anonymously in the middle of the night.

Her story begins with Dick Long, founder of San Diego-based Diving Unlimited International, a manufacturer of dry-suits for divers. Long had joined the non-profit San Diego Oceans Foundation (SDOF) in the late '90s after the group appealed to the local industrial and military community for help with their stewardship of the local ocean environment.

At the time, the city of San Diego had set aside an area off the Mission Beach coastline as a park called Wreck Alley, where artificial reefs could be created. The purpose of the park was twofold: to create new habitats for marine life and a world-class attraction for recreational SCUBA divers. Long took on the task of looking for ways to create artificial reefs in the park by diverting concrete debris headed for the city landfill to instead bolster the habitat project.

As Long researched similar projects in the U.S. and abroad, he came across the Artificial Reef Society of British Columbia (ARSBC) in Canada. The ARSBC is a non-profit society that creates reefs from decommissioned Canadian naval ships.

"That's nice," Long recalls telling them after their first meeting in 1997. "But I'm into concrete, not ships."

Shortly afterward, the ARSBC called

him to say it had an extra ship it didn't have a place for. Long reported back to the SDOF and Project Yukon was launched.

"We paid about a quarter of a million dollars for the ship," said Long, "and they were supposed to clean it up and give it to us ready to sink."

However, after having it towed down to San Diego at a cost of \$80,000, Long said the Oceans Foundation discovered the Yukon wasn't clean enough to meet U.S. standards for sinking as an artificial reef. The use of a berth in San Diego Bay was donated by the Port Authority, and an army of volunteers set to work on what would turn out to be a 14-month cleaning project.

Hundreds of volunteers worked tirelessly to strip the Yukon of hazardous materials, wiring, glass and paint in preparing her for a new life as an artificial reef.

"Without those people, we would've never made it," Long said.

On that July 14 day in 2000, it was supposed to be a major celebration; the culmination of all those volunteer efforts. Events had been planned; a flotilla of boats was to be packed with excited onlookers and media representatives from all over the world, and were set to sail out to Wreck Alley for the sinking. There was to have been helicopters in the air and crowds watching from the shore.

There had even been a raffle slated to select the person who would have the honor of pushing the plunger to detonate the explosives in the bow and the stern. These expertly-placed charges were supposed to explode, tearing holes to flood the ship in a controlled manner and precisely send her to the bottom in an upright position.

It was all set to be a major event, but apparently the HMCS Yukon had other

## INTO THE DEEP

A series of events are planned July 14-15 for the 10th anniversary of the intentional sinking of the Canadian naval destroyer HMCS Yukon. The scuttled ship was towed from San Diego Bay and sunk at Wreck Alley off the Mission Beach coastline to form an artificial reef to create new habitats for marine life and a world-class attraction for recreational SCUBA divers.

ideas. Soon after being towed away from the dock in San Diego Bay, her boiler room began to flood.

Once onsite off Mission Beach, she was anchored and the crew set about controlling the leak.

There were holes cut in the side of the hull for divers to use for safe entry and exit when exploring the ship underwater. The holes were covered with plywood sheets for the evening to prevent waves splashing inside.

As the evening wore on, however, the surface swell changed direction. The Yukon was anchored at three points and was unable to turn around to face the new swell direction. Waves started to push water past the plywood covers and into the hull. Soon, the volume of incoming water exceeded the capacity of the only pump aboard. The call to abandon ship went out at 12:25 a.m. as the Yukon slowly slipped below the surface. Instead of coming to rest in an upright position, as planned, the Yukon came to rest lying on her port side.

Jay Schwartz, a retired commercial airline pilot, was at work "36,000 feet somewhere over the middle of America" that

morning when his co-pilot asked him if he had heard about the early demise of the Yukon.

It was a bittersweet moment for Schwartz, who had spent 14 months volunteering on the cleanup crew for the Yukon. He was supposed to have been one of the first divers to descend on the wreck after the sinking as part of a check-out team that would inspect the wreck before it would be declared open for all divers.

Instead, Navy explosive ordnance disposal divers were the first to descend. They recovered the charges that hadn't been detonated, clearing the way for Schwartz and his team to do their check-out dives.

Since the sinking in 2000, thousands of divers have visited the wreck. Long said a study by the University of California estimated the Yukon brings \$4.5 million into the San Diego economy from visitors who travel here just to dive the wreck.

"The city of San Diego gets 10 percent on everything that goes on at Mission Bay and San Diego Bay," said Long. "That means they make \$450,000 every year — year after year — and they only put \$50,000 into it."

Today, Schwartz still helps maintain the Yukon through his volunteer work with SDOF. On June 21, he was aboard the Lois Anne dive charter at Seaforth Landing, headed out to the wreck for some last-minute preparations before the 10th anniversary of the Yukon's sinking.

Schwartz descended along the mooring line, which he maintains on the wreck as part of his role as the SDOF mooring coordinator for the Yukon. Looking down from the surface, the yellow mooring line disappeared into the dark blue water. This diver joined Schwartz that day.

As we descended, bright white anemones began to appear out of the gloom first. Then, slowly, geometrical lines began to form, tracing out the shape of the Yukon. Visibility was about 50 feet and the wreck was rich with marine life. Jellyfish floated motionless amid a large school of sardines circling above the anemone-encrusted hull.

Schwartz pointed out a plaque near the bridge bearing the name "Milt's Tilt" as we made our way inside the ship to the "Wall of Honor," a bulkhead covered with plaques bearing the names of many of the volunteers and sponsors who helped to get the Yukon here.

Schwartz has spent the last four months carefully removing marine growth from the plaques in preparation for an upcoming 10-year anniversary celebration set for Wednesday, July 14 and Thursday, July 15.

On July 14, the SDOF will host an event at the High Dive Bar and Grill (1801 Morena Blvd.) from 6 to 10 p.m. Local divers will be encouraged to dive the Yukon that day and bring their photos or video with them to the bar. The bar will donate 10 percent of the evening's proceeds to the SDOF.

On July 15, the California Ships to Reef Association, (CSRA) a splinter group of the SDOF that is dedicated to sinking more ships as artificial reefs, plans to stage an underwater press conference on the wreck and hide a time capsule to be recovered on the 20-year anniversary.

The CSRA will be holding events at the Maritime Museum of San Diego on July 14 as well, including a raffle for divers to join them on the wreck for the press conference the next day.

This time, hopes are high that the HMCS Yukon will cooperate with the planned celebrations.

## HEALTH &amp; BEAUTY

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Every year 1.5 million people become sick or severely injured by medication mistakes and 100,000 of them die. All of these deaths are preventable but if you are caring for an elderly parent or relative, how do you protect them? One way is to contact the RN Care Managers at Innovative Healthcare Consultants for advice and an assessment of your loved ones needs.

According to the national Medication Error Reporting Program, similar drug names accounts for up to 25 percent of the errors. Adderall, a stimulant used for ADHD, could be confused with Inderal, a beta-blocker used for high blood pressure, and Paxil, an antidepressant versus Taxol, a cancer drug and the similar-sounding Plavix (an anti-clotting medication). The error can happen in many different ways. Was the doctor's handwriting illegible, did the name go into the pharmacy computer incorrectly, or did the swap occur when the wrong drug was pulled from the shelf? The nurses at Innovative check each medication against doctor's notes, hospital and skilled nursing facilities to ensure that medication errors do not occur.

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NEWS**briefs****Armed robber strikes OB gas station**

The San Diego Police Department's Robbery Division is investigating the June 20 armed robbery of the Shell Station at 4974 Voltaire St. in Ocean Beach.

According to police reports, a 5-foot-8-inch, 140-pound white male suspect entered the gas station shortly after 5:30 p.m., displayed a handgun and demanding cash and cigarettes.

After receiving an undisclosed amount of cash and cigarettes, the suspect fled on foot on southbound Sunset Cliffs Boulevard. At the time of the robbery, the suspect was wearing a white T-shirt and blue jeans.

**PLHS's Silberman a National Merit finalist**

Alex Silberman, a fresh graduate of Point Loma High School (PLHS), has excelled with academic distinction — and the accolades keep coming.



ALEX SILBERMAN

Silberman has been a Gold Scholar recipient three of his four years at PLHS and was a Silver Scholar recipient during his sophomore year.

In February, Silberman was notified that he was a National Merit finalist. He is the only one from Point Loma High School. Of the 1.5 million entrants across the country, some 50,000 with the highest PSAT Selection Index Scores qualify for recognition in the National Merit Scholarship Program. Of the

50,000 high scorers on the PSAT, 34,000 receive letters of commendation.

Silberman was notified June 18 (PLHS graduation day) that he was selected as the winner of a National Merit Scholarship by National Merit University of Southern California Scholarship.

Silberman has been admitted into the USC School of Cinematic Arts. He received a Presidential Scholarship for being a National Merit finalist. He will receive a half tuition scholarship for four years. He was admitted to an honors program, the Thematic Option, limited to 200 entering freshmen.

**Book details plight of homeless man who died**

San Diego author h. Alton Jones will soon launch his new book, "The Man on the Bench," which chronicles the life of a mentally-ill homeless man who came to Point Loma and sat on the same bench for 20 years before his death. Jones will host a public event Thursday, July 15 from 6 to 8 p.m. at The Wine Pub, 2907 Shelter Island Drive, to autograph copies of the book and discuss his relationship with the subject of the book — schizophrenic Jeffrey Pastorino. Pastorino came to Point Loma in the early 1990s. He sat down on a bench and soon became a fixture at the corner of Rosecrans Street and Avenida de Portugal. When he died in August, most residents didn't know his real name or his history, but seemingly everyone had seen the man on the bench.

Over a period of many years, Jones slowly built a relationship with Pastorino and ultimately became a trusted friend. The book not only gives insights into the world of a severe schizophrenic, but also tells the story of how Jones tracked down

the Pastorino family and resurrected the history of the man who touched the hearts of so many Point Lomans.

"The Man on the Bench" is available through Barnes and Noble, Amazon and other book sellers.



A new book by author h. Alton Jones, "The Man on the Bench," chronicles the plight of a mentally-ill homeless man who became a fixture in Point Loma before his death last year.

COURTESY PHOTO

**OBMA still selling street fair T-shirts**

The Ocean Beach MainStreet Association (OBMA), which organized the pop-

ular OB Street Fair and Chili Cook-Off Festival on June 26, still has event T-shirts and tank tops available, according to OBMA officials.

They will be for sale at the OBMA farmers market booth every Wednesday and at the OBMA office (1868 Bacon St., #A) Mondays through Fridays. All proceeds from the T-shirt and tank top sales help pay for the Fourth of July community fireworks display at the Ocean Beach Pier and for beautification projects in OB.

To purchase items or for information, call (619) 224-4906 or visit [www.oceanbeachsandiego.com](http://www.oceanbeachsandiego.com).

**Fresh & Easy to host free summer barbeque**

In celebration of the summer grilling

season, Fresh & Easy Neighborhood Market has again partnered with Neil Strawder, a.k.a. Bigmista, an award-winning grilling expert, to barbeque for its customers at various stores throughout the summer.

Fresh & Easy officials are inviting neighbors to bring their friends and family to enjoy the free barbecue at its Point Loma store on Saturday, July 17 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Catalina Boulevard location.

Strawder will be grilling the Fresh & Easy Grill Pack, which consists of chicken, Italian pork sausages and quarter-pound beef patties, and serving high-quality sides to customers, along with providing grilling tips. For more information, visit [www.freshandeasy.com](http://www.freshandeasy.com) or [www.bigmista.com](http://www.bigmista.com).

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[peninsulahearingcenter.com](http://peninsulahearingcenter.com)**Who is Dena Riso, Au.D.?**

Dena is a native of San Diego who recently opened Peninsula Hearing Center in Point Loma. She earned a Bachelor's Degree in Communicative Disorders from San Diego State University and her Doctorate in Audiology from AT Still University in Mesa, Arizona. She is a licensed (dispensing) Audiologist in the state of California, as well as a Fellow with the American Academy of Audiology and California Academy of Audiology.

Having devoted the last 10 years to helping those with hearing and balance disorders, she has experience with both pediatric and adult patients and believes in educating her patients about the effects of hearing loss. Through testing and counseling she works with her patients to help them develop a successful and healthy hearing plan to improve their quality of life.

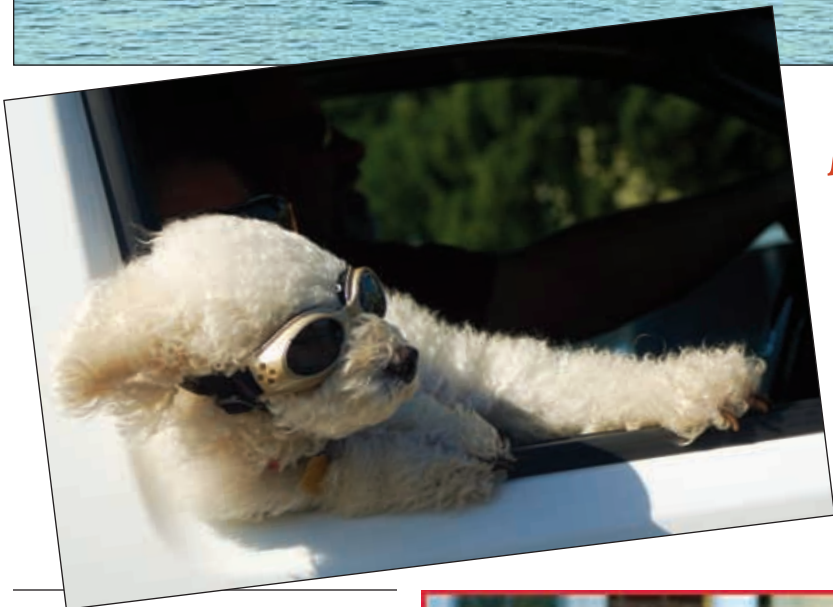
She is happy to talk to you or a loved one about any issues you are having with your hearing or hearing aids.



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As summer begins to hit high gear and with heat on the way, Peninsula residents are starting to find creative ways to get out and enjoy the scenery. Above, a local takes a joyride in a "water Woody" around San Diego Bay while, at left, one excited pooch sports his "doggies" during a ride down Newport Avenue in Ocean Beach. **PHOTOS BY JIM GRANT | THE BEACON**

PHOTOS BY JIM GRANT / THE BEACON

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For many modern families, there comes a time when it becomes necessary to provide daily living care to an elderly or ailing family member. Many individuals and families who decide to provide this constant care themselves will eventually find themselves burnt out and with nowhere to turn. The Neighborhood House Association's Adult Day Health Care Center (ADHC) recommends planning for respite care as early as possible, in order to provide the highest quality of life to both the family member in need and the family member(s) charged with their care.

"Even the most seasoned and patient caregiver gets to the point where they need support in handling their loved ones' needs," said ADHC Director Jennifer Hurlow-Paonessa, LCSW. "That's why programs like ours are so important to the community."

ADHC is a community-based program that supports families' efforts to keep their loved ones at home rather than prematurely placing them in a nursing home. The program helps families manage the health, cognitive and rehabilitative needs of family members experiencing a loss of functioning and/or decline in health.

"Being involved in the ADHC has increased the quality of my mother's life immeasurably. The socialization, recreation and therapies have made it possible for her to live at home," said Lois Thomas, the daughter of an ADHC participant.

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"ADHC is my home away from home. Being here has helped me become more social and my memory has improved," said ADHC participant Ramona, age 62. "This way I don't feel lonely or like I'm a burden to my family."



Desmond Field, left, of Point Loma said he feels better-prepared for his higher education because of the local ATLAPA Foundation's personalized mentorship program. COURTESY PHOTO

## Local student enters college more prepared

By THOMAS YAHNER | SPECIAL TO THE BEACON

Desmond Field, a student-athlete from Point Loma, is entering the collegiate arena more prepared than average because of his experience with the ATLAPA Foundation (TAF).

Field, a competitive and traditional martial artist, will be attending Norwich University in Vermont this fall, where he will continue the way of the warrior-scholar.

To cement his dreams, Field has gone the extra mile by enrolling in a personalized mentorship program through TAF, an organization dedicated to young student-athletes pursuing their athletic and academic dreams at the collegiate level.

Focusing not only on academics, tutoring and SAT scores, TAF strives to develop life skills and character traits that will help the student-athlete flourish both on and off the field.

"Things like being able to shop for groceries or do their own laundry are essential skills often overlooked by parents when sending their kids off to college," said Ilka De Leon, founder of TAF. "A lot of emphasis is often placed on grades and test scores, but the ability to perform

the basic routines of daily life can also determine success or failure of a new freshman."

Field is one of TAF's first "graduates," having completed the program successfully from start to finish. Taking full advantage of the mentorship, SAT/ACT preparation, life skills education and tutoring provided by the foundation's enrichment instructors, he said he feels much more confident entering the next leg of his academic journey.

"My only regret is that TAF wasn't around when I was in eighth grade or a freshman," Field said. "The program was that good. The younger students entering now are going to get 2,400 points on their SAT exams and be able to go wherever they want."

Field said he was impressed with how the enrichment instructors adapted to any subject matter.

He also claims to have gained valuable life skills rarely touched upon by American high schools.

"We were prepped on what dorm life would be like and how to cope with being on our own," said Field. "Topics such as time management, stress and even simple things like making sure we

shop for groceries and do our laundry when we get to college."

Another key element aiding in Field's self-development was TAF's focus on social and emotional management and conflict-resolution education — a non-traditional element of education that helps student athletes act responsibly when dealing with stressful or confrontational situations.

The object is to equip them with the tools necessary to rationally deal with negative emotional triggers — things that could possibly resort to behavior that can hinder or prevent them from achieving their long-term goals.

"The ability to apply conflict resolution and social/emotional management to any situation teaches TAF students to think before they act, which could be the difference between staying in school or getting kicked out, or avoiding violent reactions which could also impact their ability to stay in school," said De Leon. "The focus is that one second of thought could eliminate impulse and assure a better outcome for that student."

For more information about The ATLAPA Foundation, call (619) 471-7582 or visit [www.atlapa.org](http://www.atlapa.org).

## GATEWAY

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

up the entryway for Ocean Beach," Kelsey said. "It really does lift people's spirits when they're driving home and into their own community and they can see that it's beautiful."

Since receiving its first grant in 2002, OBCDC has garnered numerous donations from community members and local government funds alike to support the project. Of the current total, \$20,000 came from county Supervisor Greg Cox's Neighborhood Reinvestment Program and \$100,000 came from District 2 City Councilman Kevin Faulconer and the city's Community Development Block Grants program.

"I support the Gateway Project because it will help revitalize the Ocean Beach community and will turn an existing empty lot into an attractive and

welcoming gateway with an oasis of raised gardens, walkways and benches," Faulconer said. "The gateway will also facilitate the safe transit of pedestrians, cyclists and handicapped between the adjacent recreational fields and sidewalks leading into Ocean Beach."

Now sitting on a vacant concrete and dirt lot, the Gateway Project will be a community park upon completion. The park will include open space, indigenous vegetation, benches, a public art plaza and connections between local bike paths.

"This park is going to be what OB is really all about," Kelsey said. "It's not a big, bright sign. It's not going to be a big industrial park. It really is going to reflect the people of Ocean Beach."

Phase one of the Gateway Project, which Kelsey said is close to 75 percent of the total work, is slated to be completed early next year. During that time, the OBCDC will need to raise \$219,000

in additional funds to launch phase two of the project. This work would begin after phase one is finished, so long as the additional money is raised.

"We're an all-volunteer board and we need all the help we can get," Kelsey said. "It's not just a call for donations. It's a call for action, and we're always looking for volunteers."

One way locals can help support the Gateway Project — while grabbing a physical piece of OB in the process — is by purchasing a personalized brick on the park's retaining wall. A brick can be purchased for a tax-deductible donation of \$200 or \$1,000.

"You can buy a normal-size brick or a larger 12-inch tile and you can personalize it to own a part of Ocean Beach yourself," Kelsey said. "You can put your family name or your business name."

For more information about the Gateway Project or the OBCDC, visit [www.obcdc.org](http://www.obcdc.org).





## Street fair splashes OB with summer fun

Funseekers turned out by the thousands on June 26 for the 31st annual Ocean Beach Street Fair and Chili Cook-Off, featuring five live stages, a Wonderland children's area, an Artists' Alley and more food and drink booths than you could shake a shish kabob stick at. Counterclockwise, Olivia Beard of Ocean Beach paints her square on the popular community mural. Aaron Cheatham of Vokab Kompany powers up with some chords on the main stage near the OB Pier. A trio of Point Loma revelers – longtime OB Street Fairgoers – strike a pose. Dylan, 6, girl at left, and Jadon, also 6, have their hair painted with wash-out spray by Renovations Hair Salon in Ocean Beach. Below, readers wind around *The Peninsula Beacon* booth during the street fair to vote for their favorite in the *Beacon's* annual Amateur Photo Contest (winners on page 2). PHOTOS BY JIM GRANT | THE BEACON



Members of Team El Guapo Chili celebrate their first-place win of the People's Choice Award, Amateur Division in the the Ocean Beach Chili Cook-Off competition on June 26. Team members, dressed as the Three Amigos – and performing the hilarious movie dance to boot – were, from left, Eric Gwiazdowski, Jeff Talerico and Mike McCormick.

PHOTO BY JIM GRANT | THE BEACON

## Chili cook-off contestants turn up the heat in OB

The Ocean Beach MainStreet Association (OBMA), which organizes the annual OB Street Fair and Chili Cook-Off Festival, revealed the winners of the chili cook-off segment of the festival.

The winners, by division, were:

### AMATEUR DIVISION:

- Judges Award, first place: Mark Gottics (\$200)
- Judges Award, second place: Matt Lee (\$150)
- Peoples Choice, first place: Mike McCormick (\$250)
- Peoples Choice, second place: Lindsey Roland (\$150)
- Peoples Choice, third place: Daniel Miley (\$100)

### RESTAURANT DIVISION:

- Restaurant Judge's Choice, first place: Bravo's (\$200)
- Restaurant People's Choice, first

place: The Vine (\$250)

### NON-CASH WINNERS:

- Best Decoration: Kenny & April Rosner
  - Best 92107 Entry: Steve Dohrman
  - Hottest Chili Award: Gerald Tamashiro
  - Judge's Special Award: Mike McCormick
- Congratulations to the winners!



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## World Cup fever strikes Ocean Beach

U.S. soccer fans explode with emotion at the Harp in Ocean Beach as United States midfielder Landon Donovan converts a penalty kick against Ghana in the second half of their World Cup Round of 16 match on June 26. The U.S. eventually lost to Ghana 2-1 in extra time.

PHOTO BY JIM GRANT | THE BEACON



## Padres facing a dilemma at trade deadline

### Should Friars stand pat after hot season?

By ANTHONY GENTILE | THE BEACON

Before the start of the season, most analysts predicted 2010 would be a rebuilding year for the Padres. Three months into the season, however, the Padres are still at the top of the National League West, coupling strong pitching and smart baseball to become one of the league's biggest surprises.

Along with those not-so-lofty pre-season predictions came the assumption that when the July 31 non-waiver trade deadline rolled around, the Padres would be sellers, looking to move their players with high price tags for cheaper talent. Such a move would continue to build the team while maintaining the payroll figure mandated by management.

The Friars' front office made a similar trade in 2009, when they sent ace pitcher Jake Peavy to the Chicago White Sox for four players, including current starting pitcher Clayton Kershaw. When the trade happened on Aug. 1 last year, the team was 19 games under .500 and last in the division.

Now, with multiple games over .500 and with one of the National League's best records through June, the Padres' front office must decide this month whether the team will be sellers, stand pat with current players, or even look to add a player or two who could make the difference in the race for a division title late in the season.

The decision is not an easy one for management and General Manager Jed Hoyer to make.

If the Padres decide to be sellers at the deadline, the two most moveable players on the roster — and the two frequently mentioned — are first baseman Adrian Gonzalez and closer Heath Bell. Gonzalez (\$4.875 million) and Bell (\$4 million) make up 23 percent of the Padres' total 2010 payroll of \$38,199,300.

If the Padres trade Gonzalez, an internal replacement would likely be Kyle Blanks, who is currently in the minors after hitting .157 in 103 at-bats to start this season.

Bell could be replaced as closer by middle relievers Luke Gregerson or Mike Adams, but the Padres might not want to mess with the core of a bullpen that has been one of the best in baseball so far this season.

Should the Friars be in the surprising role of buyers when the trade deadline comes on July 31, the team would probably look to add power to their lineup. In spite of the Padres' success this year, their hitters are near the bottom of the league in home runs and batting average.

The Padres could also opt to stand pat at the deadline, counting on their bats to heat up and their pitchers staying healthy in what is shaping up to be a four-team race in the NL West. Their decision could depend on what the division rival Rockies, Dodgers and Giants do next month.

For a team that has a shot at the playoffs for the first time since 2007, the Padres would be best served to shop the market at the trade deadline for ways to make this year's team a stronger contender.

Whatever decision the front office makes next month, it will affect the team for a few seasons to come.

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## OTL tourney to swing into action for 57th year at Fiesta Island

By AMBERLY DRESSLER | THE BEACON

The 57th annual Over-The-Line Tournament will keep Fiesta Island true to its name when modified softball enthusiasts take a swing starting July 10-11, concluding July 17-18.

Nearly 60,000 spectators are expected to flock to Mission Bay for one of San Diego's most popular summer traditions. The event, sponsored by the Old Mission Beach Athletic Club (OMBAC), mixes spirits, sport, entertainment and food — all while raising money for charities.

Created in Mission Beach, OTL is comprised of four innings and no base running, with the objective to hit the ball "over the line" roughly 55 feet in front of the batter. The double-elimination competition begins at 7:30 a.m. and ends at dusk. More than 1,200 three-person teams will compete.

Historically, teams keep OMBAC on its toes with creative and colorful team names. This year, however, the OTL committee was a bit disappointed with names lacking the double entendres organizers are accustomed to — names typically not suitable for print seemed more popular.

While uninhibited names add to the experience, OMBAC member Duke Marston believes the competition element keeps chaos at bay on the bay.

"It's a sporting event with a party atmosphere," Marston said. "If it were just a party, it would be tough to keep control. With 50 games going on at a

time, with six players per game, that's 300 people playing all the time all day long.

"Four thousand people are entered in the tournament in one way or another. There are a great number of people out there because they love the sport," he said. "Then, there are lots of others who come out because they heard it was such a fun time, and that's fine. But it's a sporting event."

Opening weekend is expected to be the most festive, as spectators enjoy a "special" break in the beach's booze ban. The city issued a special event permit, which allows the consumption of alcohol in designated areas during predetermined times.

There are, however, other banned "Bs": no bottles, no bowlers (dogs), no babies, no birds and no boas (snakes). There is also limited bike use.

Marston has a recommendation for those with more reserved taste.

"If you wanted to come out and just get the flavor of the sport, come out the second weekend," Marston said. "If you want to see the whole spectrum, the whole deal, come both weekends. By the second weekend, we get the seeded teams. By the last Sunday, it's not very much party at all, it's all sporting event."

For information on complimentary bus transportation, reserved parking and other details about OTL, visit [http://www.ombac.org/over\\_the\\_line/index.html](http://www.ombac.org/over_the_line/index.html).

Admission is free.



Point Loma Nazarene University surf team members, from left: Milton Karahadian (club advisor), Eric Allen, Troy Mothershead (third place in longboard), Hunter Lysaught (second place, men's), David Daly with second place overall as a team trophy). Also on the team and not shown: Taylor Leopold, Nate Chesnut, Marissa Eveland and Elena Antichevich.

COURTESY PHOTO

## PLNU flexes muscle in surf nationals

Point Loma Nazarene University's (PLNU) surf team was on fire at the National Scholastic Surfing Association's (NSSA) College Division Nationals on June 16 at Salt Creek.

Spurred on by excellent surfing conditions, the Sea Lions as a team earned 2nd place in the nationals. PLNU was considered by far an underdog in a field dominated by such larger schools as the University of California, Santa Barbara;

University of California, San Diego; San Diego State University; Cal State San Marcos; University of North Carolina, Wilmington; University of Central Florida and others.

Still, the Sea Lions, with an enrollment of 2,500 students, stayed focused and aggressive in the surf. Individual trophies were earned by Troy Mothershead with a third-place finish in the longboard and Hunter Lysaught (team

captain) with second place in the men's shortboard.

The NSSA finals, ongoing through July 3 at Huntington Beach, are sponsored by Nike 6.0 and Fox College Sports. The Fox College Sports crew filmed the entire event and it will be shown in a premier show on Friday, July 2 at 4 p.m.

— Staff and contribution



The 57th annual Over-The-Line Tournament — a mix of sports, social activity and party — kicks off at Fiesta Island the weekend of July 10-11 and concludes July 17-18.

PHOTO BY CASEY DEAN | THE BEACON

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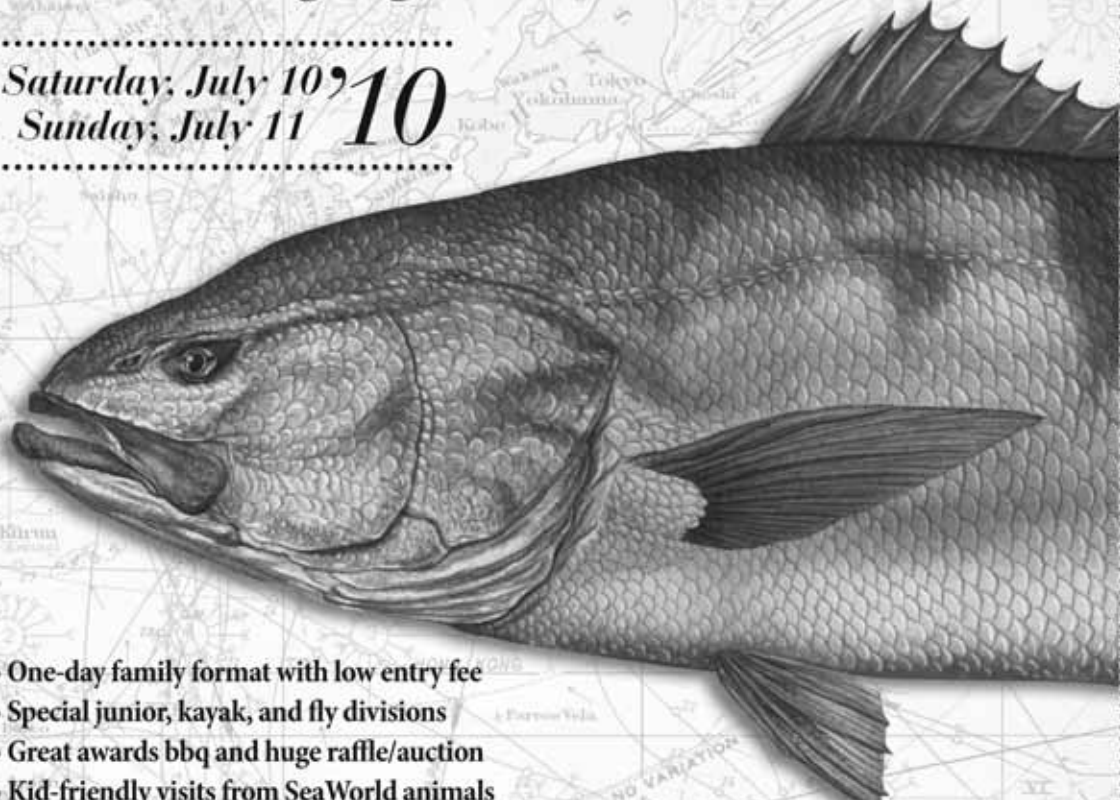
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## Point Loma's Circa Now to light up Humphreys

By BART MENDOZA | THE BEACON

There is no shortage of great rock 'n' roll bands in Southern California, but few have the over-the-top showmanship of Circa Now, which performs at Humphreys Backstage Lounge on July 15.

Two-time San Diego Music Award nominees, the trio — all Point Loma residents — recently released its sophomore album, "Hotter Than A Pistol," and will be heading out on tour this fall. The band already has dates with '70s classic rocker Pat Travers and '90s hit-makers Sprung Monkey under their belt. But the band is looking to cast its net as wide as possible.

"These guys have the right idea," said the album's producer, Alan Sanderson, who is best known for his work with The Rolling Stones and Fleetwood Mac. "It takes a bit of luck to make it in this business, but the key ingredients are still great songs and determination.

"This is a band that has that and then some, especially live," he said. "They truly have a 'take no prisoners' live approach that is rarely seen these days."

It's a testament to their live power that the band is legendary for once having played a show as a drum and guitar duo when their bassist was unable to make the gig. Even with their power cut by a third, they still managed wow the crowd.

Consisting of frontman Josh Pann (vocals, guitar, songwriter), Scotty Stover (bass, vocals) and Justin Botello (drums), the group has honed its sound on vintage rock 'n' roll, with echoes of T-Rex, the MC5 and Stones within their songs.

"We love the classics," Pann said. "It's one of the reasons we love playing with artists like Pat Travers. As musi-



Over-the-top showmen Circa Now brings its "take no prisoners" approach to Humphreys Backstage Lounge on July 15.  
COURTESY PHOTO

cians, those older tunes and older musicians offer a learning experience that's invaluable."

A prolific songwriter, Pann notes Circa Now only performs one cover tune: a storming take on the Rolling Stones "Paint it Black."

"We did have that in the set before we started working with Sanderson," Pann said. "We liked it because it's a pop song, but still has a dark edge."

For his own material, Pann prefers to

SEE CIRCA, Page 17



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CIRCA

CONTINUED FROM Page 16

keep things amped up and lyrically direct.

“I like songs to have a relation to everyday things,” Pann said, “rather than coming up with things that only deep people understand.”

While the title “Hotter Than A Pistol” seems custom-made for a rock

band, Pann said it comes from an unlikely source.

“I don’t remember the name anymore, but it comes from an old Western movie I watched with my grandfather,” Pann said. “When that phrase was said, it just hit me. I knew I’d use it eventually.”

He said the album itself took months of preparation to get its nine tracks down.

“We worked everything out well in

advance to maximize our time in the studio,” Pann said. “You don’t want to waste time going over a part when you’ve got someone like Sanderson behind the control board.”

Though Pann has an arsenal of guitars, he tends to stick to one: a 1981 Sunburst Telecaster.

“It was made the same year I was born,” he said. “It’s been modified for me. At this point, it’s a major part of my playing. Other guitars are nice, but

this one is a part of me.”

Though Circa Now’s album has only recently been released, band members are already working on a followup offering.

“Really, we started as soon as we left the studio with ‘Hotter Than A Pistol,’” Pann said. “I don’t want to stand still and I’d like to have more new music out by this fall, if possible. The music business is an uncertain thing and we want to keep up the momentum.”

**Circa Now:**

**9 p.m., Thursday, July 15 at**  
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# Cosmopolitan Hotel blends Old-World charm with modern conveniences

By HILLARY SCHULER-JONES | THE BEACON

San Diego's oldest building will soon become the city's newest attraction as officials finalize a multi-million dollar construction project on the Cosmopolitan Hotel and Restaurant, located at 2660 Calhoun St. in Old Town.

The building began as the home of San Diego pioneer Juan Bandini in 1827 and became the hub of high society in the mid-19th century. Bandini and his wife threw elaborate parties and balls at the site until Bandini sold the property to Albert Seeley in the 1860s. Seeley and his wife, Emily, expanded the footprint, added a second floor and turned the property into a thriving hotel, which was a popular destination for both locals and travelers through the mid-1870s.

Fast-forward more than 125 years, and the hotel is now being restored to its former grandeur.

Owner and concessionaire Chuck Ross, proprietor Joseph Melluso and a team of archaeologists and historians have worked over the last 2 1/2 years to revamp the establishment, which will include 10 guest rooms, indoor and outdoor bars and a restaurant menu masterminded by former Prado

executive chef Jeff Thurston, according to Melluso. The restaurant is scheduled to open in late June, and rooms at the hotel will be available starting July 9.

"My goal is for people to come here and experience staying on a precious property — something historic and modern day that allows them to experience the history and the vibe of the years that have gone by, the travelers that have come through, stories, knowledge about the time periods, and just feel the essence ..." Melluso said.

Perhaps most unique is the hotel staff's commitment to preserving the history of its most thriving era. Melluso and historian Bruce Coons of the Save Our Heritage Organisation sourced all of the hotel's furniture from antique stores and dealers across the country who specialized in the period from 1862 to 1874, when the hotel was most popular. They also worked with artisans and craftspeople to reproduce lighting fixtures, wallpaper and decorations from the era.

At the wooden indoor bar, which was built in the 1850s, bartenders will serve only handcrafted cocktails authentic to the time period, using liquor that was typically consumed at

## CELEBRATING COSMO

The Cosmopolitan Hotel will hold a grand opening gala on Friday, July 9 from 7 to 10 p.m. to celebrate the first night that rooms will be available to guests. Tickets for the event, which include 19th-century musical entertainment and unlimited food and drink, are \$85 per person or \$150 per couple, and 50 percent of proceeds from ticket sales will benefit Meals on Wheels.

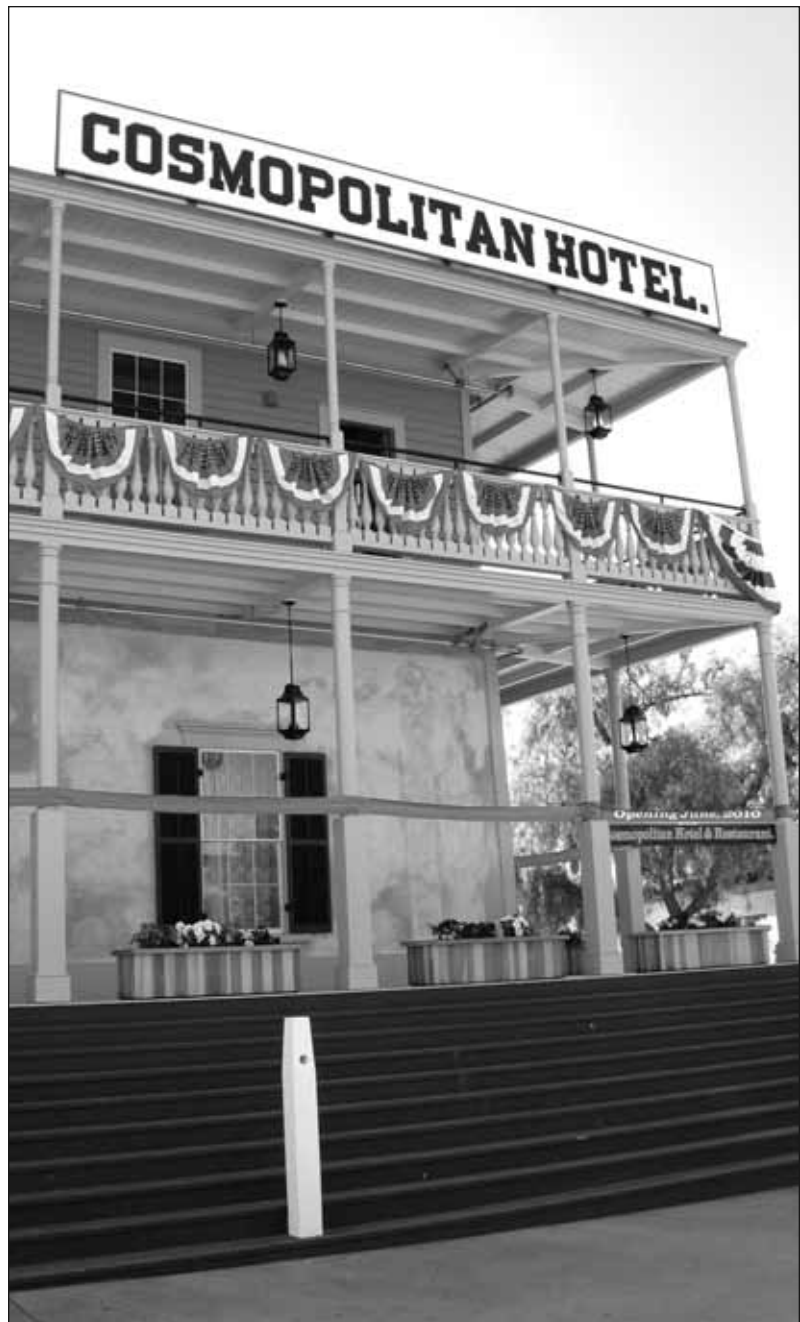
Hotel reservations for that night will be awarded to the highest bidders in an ongoing online auction that continues through July 6 at noon on the hotel's website, [www.oldtowncosmopolitan.com](http://www.oldtowncosmopolitan.com); 100 percent of those sales will also be donated to Meals on Wheels.

that time, like muscal, bourbon and rye whiskey.

In the restaurant, Thurston created a menu that incorporates foods that were widely available in California during that time period.

"We were provided with a list by the

SEE COSMO, Page 21



Cosmopolitan Hotel and Restaurant, the city's oldest building, has been restored to its former glory in Old Town and will soon be unveiled to the public.

PHOTO BY HILLARY SCHULER-JONES | THE BEACON

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This list is not exhaustive, so please feel free to come in for a free consultation to determine if any of these procedures will work for you.

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SUDOKU

			5		7			
							1	
	4	8						5
1			3				4	9
2					8		3	
	6				9	1		7
	1	5	2			6		
7			1	3			5	

Level: Advanced

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1	8	5	1	3	9	6	2	4
6	1	2	5	4	7	9	8	3
4	3	9	8	6	2	5	1	7
8	9	3	4	2	6	1	5	7
5	6	4	1	7	8	2	3	9
7	2	1	3	9	5	8	4	6
3	4	8	6	5	1	7	9	2
2	7	6	9	8	3	4	1	5
9	5	7	2	4	1	3	6	8

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### Art Ignites Minds this Summer at the San Diego Art Department

Discover, imagine, and explore your creativity this summer at the San Diego Art Department. SDAD offers four weeks of full day camps for ages 6-12 beginning July 12th running through August 13th. This year we are featuring a Teen Week for ages 12-17 (July 26-30th) focusing on Skateboard and Logo Designs. Camps take place in our professional art studio located in the heart of North Park's arts district. The weekly hands-on art activities provide students with the opportunity to let their artistic expression flow through painting, drawing, comic illustration, sculpture, print making, watercolors, skate board design and much more. On the last day of camp the students' work is exhibited in the gallery for parents and family members to view. "Get your art on" this summer at The San Diego Art Department! Less.

Please call 619-299-4ART for more information and to register.

### Introduction to Blues/Summer Day Camp: "The Gateway to All Music"

This summer Blues Lovers United of San Diego offers a week long Summer Day Camp for kids 11-15 at the Epicentre in Mira Mesa.

Camp runs Aug. 9-13 from 9am-2pm and includes a concert on Friday, Aug. 13, 6-7 p.m. The camp will be run by professional blues musicians.

You will leave the week with: Guaranteed improved musical skills, a harmonica, a personalized percussion instrument, your own blues nickname and an appreciation of the fun, creativity and power of music

For specifics, visit [blusd.org/2010/05/first-ever-bits-summer-camp/](http://blusd.org/2010/05/first-ever-bits-summer-camp/)

### Expanding The Horizons Of San Diego Youth

For over forty years, the Community Campership Council has provided memorable summer experiences for deserving San Diego children by funding a week at camp in partnership with 24 area American Camp Association accredited camps. We believe that the camp experience helps kids get to know our outdoor world, make new friends, learn new skills and values and socialize with a diverse group of

campers. This broadens their perspective about the kind of life they can build for themselves if they work hard, treat people fairly and set goals for themselves. Many of the children in our community will go from days filled with the familiar structure of school to ones filled with loneliness and the television and video games providing companionship while parents work. You can help change this! show and how to draw like a fashion designer. We'll teach you about color analysis and wardrobe planning. You'll learn what a mood board is, and in fact create your own! You'll learn the basics of sewing and go home with a skirt that you sew yourself! We are also pleased to announce FCC graduate and Project Runway season 7 contestant Jesus Estrada will make a special guest appearance to inspire young fashionistas. He'll answer your questions and share his experiences.

Find out how by contacting the Community Campership Council, 7510 Clairemont Mesa Blvd, 92111, 858-268-9888, [www.kidstocamp.org](http://www.kidstocamp.org)

### Jade Dragon Yoga Shala, Grand Opening

San Diego's newest yoga studio, owned by Bradlee & Jennifer Frierott. With extensive experience & friendly expertise, Jennifer & Bradlee use vinyasa styles to present and explore the subtle, dynamic techniques of yoga. Both owners have over 10 years

experience in the international yoga scene, and have lived in India & the Himalayas studying yoga, under the rich influence of several traditions. Between them, East-West concepts of human potential merge. Yoga, Taoism, Poetry of the Heart, are some of their inspirations.

Bradlee & Jennifer are also long time massage therapists, who now study Acupuncture & Chinese Medicine at the Pacific College of Oriental Medicine. Jennifer also leads the pre/post-natal yoga program at the Sharp Mary Birch Hospital for Women.

Shala is a very old Sanskrit word meaning holy place, sanctuary, refuge. We invite you to experience yoga's potential. You will learn tangible techniques for physical, mental & spiritual transformation. 3453 Ingraham, PB, 858-740-0070, [JadeDragonYogaShala.com](http://JadeDragonYogaShala.com)

### Mission Bay Aquatic Center

The Mission Bay Aquatic Center is your gateway to Fun-on-the-Water! MBAC offers classes and rentals in wakeboarding, surfing, sailing, kayaking, rowing, and stand up paddling year-round, and is host to The Watersports Camp, a YMCA adventure sports camp in the summer and spring. Known for it's friendly/professional staff, and attention to safety, the MBAC is the perfect place to learn a new water-sport, or to hold your next group event. It is owned and operated by Associated Students of San Diego State University and University of California San Diego Recreation and is open to the public. Check out all the MBAC has to offer at their website at [mbaquaticcenter.com](http://mbaquaticcenter.com) or give them a call at (858) 488-1000

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## COSMO

CONTINUED FROM Page 18

historians at Old Town State Park of typical ingredients and items that would have been plentiful and abundant and used at the time that the Cosmopolitan Hotel was in its hey day, so what we've done with that is taken those items and then interpreted them in a modern-day kind of way to appeal to the modern-day diner," Thurston said.

When the restaurant opens, it will be headed by Amy DiBiase, who has held executive chef posts at Roseville, Laurel Restaurant and Baleen, Melluso said.

As for the guest rooms, each has a unique layout, furniture and bathroom fixtures, and visitors will soon be able to choose which room they want to book based on images on the Cosmopolitan's website.

The historic details even extend to

the silverware in the dining room. During an excavation at the site, archeologists found a piece of flatware originally used at the hotel, and the restoration team ultimately decided to use replicas of that silverware over a more intricate design.

"We had found something more elaborate at one point that we all got excited about, but Bruce said, 'This is what was found on the property, this is what we should use,'" Melluso said.

The Cosmopolitan will celebrate its grand opening with a free public festival July 10 starting at 1 p.m. The event will feature stagecoach rides, strolling actors, horse saddling and tacking lessons and live music. At 4 p.m., local religious institutions will perform a multi-denominational blessing ceremony on the steps of the hotel, and at 8 p.m. the Zirc Ubu circus will take the stage to showcase 19th-century inspired acts.

For more information, visit [www.oldtowncosmopolitan.com](http://www.oldtowncosmopolitan.com).



The warm interior of the historic Cosmopolitan Hotel in Old Town. HILLARY SCHULER-JONES | THE BEACON

BUSINESS**brief**

## Local man tabbed for multiple boating roles

Point Loma resident Neil Wilson has been hired for the dual role of marina manager for Fifth Avenue Landing, LLC, a megayacht marina in downtown San Diego, and as director of business development for Marine Group Boat Works, LLC, a megayacht repair center in Chula Vista.

At the marina, Wilson will be responsible for managing slip reservations, increasing public awareness and drawing in new clients, while his position at Boat Works will require him to define scopes of work and liaise with megayacht owners.

Have a business idea or story tip? E-mail us today at [beacon@sdnews.com](mailto:beacon@sdnews.com)!

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## Introduction to Blues Summer Day Camp

Aug. 9 - 13 9am-2pm at the Epicentre in Mira Mesa

Looking for musicians of all levels, ages 11-15. Learn to jam with lots of hands-on instrumental time. Guaranteed to improve your musical skills. Get your "Blues Tag" nickname, a harmonica, personalized percussion instrument, and appreciation for the fun, creative power of music.



Blues Lovers United of San Diego (619) 256-1124 [www.blusd.org](http://www.blusd.org)

Summer Camps. With our Amazing Weekly Themes (Jungle Safari, Beach Bash, Star Wars, Princess & Pirates, Super Sports, Disco Dance Party, Super Heros...) days are filled with fun activities, games, obstacle courses, crafts, general activities and snacks/lunch. The end of each week is the Gym Ventures Olympics where parents, grandparents and friends are invited to come and see what our super star campers have learned throughout the week. Don't let another Summer go by without coming to Gym or Kid Ventures Sizzling Summer Camps.

We are conveniently located off the 15 Freeway by the Grand/Garnet exit. Call us today at 858-272-2266 or check out our websites [www.gymventures.com](http://www.gymventures.com) & [www.sdkidventures.com](http://www.sdkidventures.com) for camp information and to register.

## SD French-American School

Join San Diego French-American School campers for "Le Tour du Monde." See schedule below. No prior knowledge of French or Spanish is necessary. All are in French and English, except those in Spanish (S) or English only (E). Camps that are morning or afternoon only are a.m. or p.m., otherwise, camps are all day 9-4. More camps available July 26-30.

## Ages 5-12

7/6-9: Up in the Air; Circus (Eng; a.m.) Circus/Performing Arts, Crazy Chem Works (E; a.m.) Nature et Decouverte (p.m.) Surf (p.m.)

7/12-16: Castles, Garden and Nature: (a.m., p.m., or all day)

7/19-23: Mexican Arts and Crafts (a.m., p.m., or all day) Clay Animation Movie (p.m.); Nasa Academy (E; a.m.) Surf (a.m.)

## Ages 3-5 - A.M. only or all day

7/6-9: Uno Dos Tres Vamonos/Playball (S); Ia Ora Na! Tahiti/Playball; Discover Amazing Artist/Playball

7/12-16: Vamos a Explorar/Playball (S); Nature et Decouverte/Playball; Discover Amazing Artist/Playball

7/19-23: World Movement Music/Playball (E); Nature et Decouverte/Playball

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# open house directory

## la jolla

Sat 1-4pm	7585 Eads Ave. G	2BR/3BA	\$775,000-\$850,000	Claudette Berwin • 858-361-7448
Sat 1-4pm	1934 Caminito El Canario	3BR/2BA	\$1,100,000	Kate Adams/Andrew Jabro • 858-525-5498
Sat 1-4pm	8080 La Jolla Scenic Dr. North	4BR/4.5BA	\$4,400,000	Joan Brown • 858-459-5521
Sat 12-3:30pm	8121 Camino del Sol #101	2BR/2BA	\$950,000-\$1,050,876	Matt Glynn • 858-869-7661
Sat 1-4pm	800 Prospect St. 4-F	2BR/2BA	\$1,650,000	Lynn Walton • 858-405-3931
Sat 1-4pm	7344 Brodiaea Way	2BR/2.5BA	\$1,999,000	Jasmine Wilson • 858-204-6885
Sat 1-4pm	2143 Via Don Benito	5BR/4BA	\$2,890,000-\$3,400,000	Debbie Keckeisen • 858-997-7986
Sat 1-4pm	1590 Coast Walk	5BR/6BA	\$7,500,000-\$8,500,000	Gregg Whitney • 858-204-6161
Sun 1-4pm	909 Coast #23	2BR/2BA	\$1,395,000	Greg Noonan • 858-551-3302

## pacific beach / mission beach / crown point

Fri 1-4 Sat 12-4 Mon 1-4pm	1369-75 Grand Ave. 2BR+DEN/2.5BA	\$599,000	Kathy Evans • 858-488-7355	
Fri 1-5pm	3916 Riviera Dr. #101	3BR/2.5BA	\$1,199,000	Shawn Grant • 858-717-7720
Sat 1-4:30pm	1116 Felspar St.	2 Houses one Lot	\$999,000	Matt Jenner • 858-603-1812

## point loma / ocean beach

Fri & Sat 1-4pm	4659 Tivoli	2BR/2BA	\$695,000	Gina Fraser Hixon • 858-405-9100
Sat 1-4pm	3222 Macaulay St.	3BR/1.5BA	\$599,000-635,000	Cindy Wing • 619-223-9464
Sat 1-4pm	4552 Long Branch Ave.	2BR/2BA	\$709,000	Cindy Wing • 619-223-9464
Sun 1-4pm	1064 Anchorage Lane	3BR/2.5BA	\$1,195,000	Elizabeth Courtier • 619-813-6686
Sun 11-4pm	425 San Geronio St.	1000 Sq. Ft. Lot	\$1,375,000	Robert Realty • 619-852-8827
Sat & Sun 1-4pm	4251 Orchard Ave.	3BR/3BA	\$690,000-\$735,000	Cindy Wing • 619-223-9464
Sat & Sun 11-4pm	3851 Liggett Dr.	3BR/2BA	\$795,000	Robert Realty • 619-852-8827
Sat & Sun 11-4pm	3204 Hill St.	3BR/3BA	\$995,000	Robert Realty • 619-852-8827
Sat & Sun 11-4pm	3658 Dudley St.	3BR/3BA	\$995,000	Robert Realty • 619-852-8827
Sat & Sun 11-4pm	820 Bangor St.	3BR/2BA	\$2,200,000	Robert Realty • 619-852-8827

## clairemont

Fri 1-3 Sat 2-4pm	3042 Courser Ave.	4BR/2BA	\$595,000	Joe Koors • 619-410-4213
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- **Friday, July 23, 6:30 and 9 p.m.,**  
Joel McHale, \$57
- **Saturday, July 24, 7:30 p.m.,** Barenaked Ladies with special guest Angel Taylor, \$63
- **Sunday, July 25, 7:30 p.m.,**  
Lyle Lovett and his Large Band, \$60
- **Wednesday, July 28, 8 p.m.,**  
Pat Benetar and Neil Giraldo, \$55
- **Friday, July 30, 8 p.m.,**  
Russell Peters, \$55
- **Saturday, July 31, 7:30 p.m.,**  
Boney James, \$50
- **Thursday, Aug. 5, 7:30 p.m.,**  
Michael McDonald, \$70
- **Friday, Aug. 6, 8 p.m.,** Ringo Starr and his All Starr Band featuring Edgar Winter, Gary Wright, Rick Derringer, Richard Page (Mr. Mister), Wally Palmar (Romantics) and Greff Bissonnette, \$135.



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