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Publication will resume Jan. 6.



THE PENINSULA BEACON

SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER GROUP

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2010

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OB Elementary students learn the real reason for the season

By **MARIKO LAMB** | THE BEACON

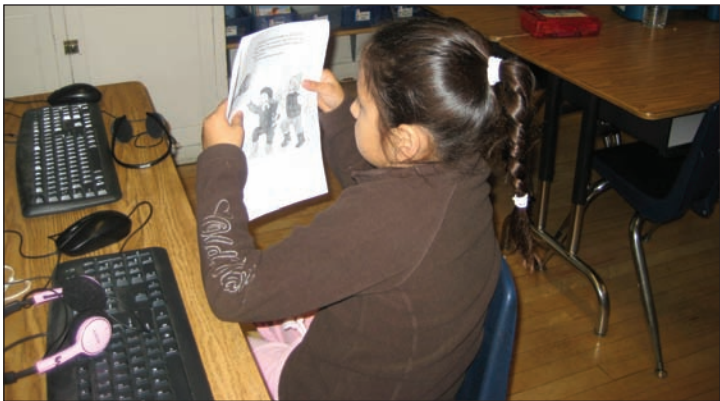
Students at Ocean Beach Elementary School are learning the true spirit of the holidays this season through a service-based learning project that not only advances their education, but also gives back to the community.

Second-grade students in Joy Wilson's class have been recording themselves on CD, reading aloud

classic holiday tales like "How the Grinch Stole Christmas," "Frosty the Snowman," "Henry and Mudge and a Very Merry Christmas" and "The Christmas Santa Almost Missed." The CD recordings and copies of the books were to be delivered to patients at Rady Children's Hospital on Dec. 17.

Student-teacher Chantal Dore,

SEE **READERS**, Page 7



An Ocean Beach Elementary School student does some preparation before a CD recording session designed to boost the spirits of terminally-ill students at Rady Children's Hospital who are unable to go home for the holidays. COURTESY PHOTOS BY CHANTAL DORE

GRAY WHALE JOURNEY: CHOREOGRAPHY AT SEA

Oceanic titans renew their magical migratory dance

By **KENDRA HARTMANN** | THE BEACON

It's that time again. San Diego residents and visitors from afar are preparing to don layers, pile into a boat and roll out to sea — all in the hope of catching a glimpse of one of the most spectacular migrations in the animal world. It's time to watch some whales.

Hornblower Cruises, which departs from San Diego Harbor, and H&M Landing, based in Point Loma, are two of the many options residents have for whale watching this year. Both tour companies offer twice-daily, 3½-hour cruises and both guarantee whale sightings — or else passengers are issued "whale checks" for another cruise. Hornblower, whose season was the first to kick off on Dec. 11, offers on-board naturalists from the San Diego Natural History Museum, who provide passengers with cetacean information and scientific facts about marine mammal behavior. Rebecca Milkey, director of marketing for Hornblower, said the company starts earlier than most because whales have often been sighted during this period in past seasons.



Passengers aboard Hornblower and H&M Landing whale-watching cruises often get a spectacular glimpse of the behemoth gray whales during their 12,000-mile, round-trip migration from the frigid Bering Sea to the warm lagoons of Baja California. PHOTO COURTESY OF BIRCH AQUARIUM

"We miss out on some great whale watching if we don't start earlier in the season," Milkey said. "We saw whales on our very first cruises last year, so we don't want to miss that."

SEE **WHALE**, Page 10

"We're a faith-based organization and it seemed kind of ironic to me to celebrate the birth of Christ and leave the least fortunate people in our community out of the ceremony. It seemed like a perfectly natural thing to celebrate Christmas by having a breakfast for those that don't have breakfasts or a family to go to."

— GLYN FRANKS, COORDINATOR, SECOND CHANCES BREAD OF LIFE



HUNGERING TO GIVE



Glyn Franks, right, works tirelessly each week to lead a team of volunteers, like Raquel Mills, left, with the Second Chances Bread of Life to feed the less fortunate in Ocean Beach. The organization held another food distribution Saturday at First Baptist Church to help the hungry as the holidays approach, with an all-out feast planned for Christmas Day. PHOTO BY JIM GRANT / THE BEACON

Selfless volunteer drives effort to help OB neighbors

By **ANTHONY GENTILE** | THE BEACON

When it comes to giving, Second Chances Bread of Life's generosity extends beyond the holiday season. The nonprofit, headed by Glyn Franks, has served up weekly meals to the Peninsula's less fortunate for the last 14 years — including welcome feasts on Thanksgiving and Christmas Day.

"These meals are first and foremost for those in need, but it is extremely important to provide people an opportunity to come and serve and just share that peace and joy that they have with others," Franks said.

This Christmas, Franks doesn't have a wish list. Instead, he said he is hoping everyone will share goodwill with one another to celebrate the holidays. Putting others before himself, he and members of his organization will serve pancakes and chili at 8 a.m. Christmas morning at First Baptist Church in Ocean Beach.

"I'm trying to condense everything I own in the world down to a small duffel bag. We keep accumulating so many things that it just weighs us down. We all know that, and we repeat it," Franks said.

Second Chances Bread of Life has hosted an annual pancake breakfast for the last five years. The event has been held on Christmas Day during the last



Tony Severino, 93, has lived in OB since 1954 and had served in the Marine Corps for six years. Severino has been taking advantage of the OB food distribution for about six to eight years, he said. PHOTO BY JIM GRANT / THE BEACON

three years.

"We're a faith-based organization and it seemed kind of ironic to me to celebrate the birth of Christ and leave the least fortunate people in our community out of the ceremony," Franks said. "It seemed

like a perfectly natural thing to celebrate Christmas by having a breakfast for those that don't have breakfasts or a family to go to."

SEE **VOLUNTEER**, Page 5

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Showcasing the Peninsula's finest homes

ABOVE: Members of All Souls Episcopal Church led eager visitors through some of Point Loma's most spectacular residences this month during the 58th annual Saint Nicolas Home Tour — said to be the oldest home tour west of the Mississippi. Clockwise: Views outside and inside the homes — like this panorama from the lower deck home owned by legendary crooner Frankie Laine overlooking Shelter Island and San Diego Bay — were among the treasures of the tour. **RIGHT:** Featuring four distinct homes, visitors were treated to beautiful and imaginative architecture. **BELOW:** The insides of the homes were rich with warm, holiday-themed décor, adding a little seasonal spice to the tour.

PHOTOS BY MIKE MCCARTHY | THE BEACON



Members of the Peninsula-based Mothers and Daughters Club Assisting Philanthropies assisted with the tour outside the Laine home. The girls were, from left, Jona Plevin, Emma Celeste and Ragen Horan.



PCPB REPORT

Planners hear airport plans for air quality, environmental impacts

By ANTHONY GENTILE | THE BEACON

For the second straight month, the airport dominated discussion by the Peninsula Community Planning Board (PCPB). Three separate airport matters highlighted the board's lightly attended Dec. 16 meeting at the Hervey/Point Loma Branch Library.

San Diego County Regional Airport Authority officials returned for the second straight meeting, where representatives presented Lindbergh Field's air quality management plan. The plan outlines measures the airport can take to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions.

The plan identifies 14 different steps the airport plans to enact to limit its air pollution. The document also explains what elements the airport has the ability to control, which is primarily ground movement of flights.

The Airport Authority created the plan in March in response to a memorandum from the state Attorney General's Office. The air quality plan is online at <http://tinyurl.com/Airport-AQMP>.

Later in the meeting, PCPB Airport Subcommittee co-chair Suhail Khalil presented the board's comments in response to the airport's draft supplemental environmental impact report (EIR) that was presented at the Novem-

ber PCPB meeting.

After reviewing the response, the board decided to change it to specifically address the EIR and bring the document back for consideration at next month's meeting.

The public comment period on the report remains open until Jan. 4.

The report is available online at www.san.org/sdcraa/airport_initiatives/environmental/ceqa.aspx. Comments can be mailed, e-mailed, faxed or delivered in person to the Airport Authority offices. The Airport Authority's physical address is on the third floor of the commuter terminal, located at 3225 N. Harbor Drive. The mailing address is: San Diego County Regional Airport Authority, P.O. Box 82776, San Diego, 92138-2776.

Khalil also reported that state Sen. Christine Kehoe is reviewing the board's request for a state audit of Lindbergh Field and its flight operations. The PCPB submitted a formal request letter to Kehoe last month, and Kehoe is expected to bring the request before the state Audit Committee.

The next PCPB meeting takes place at 6:30 p.m. Jan. 20 at the Hervey/Point Loma Branch Library, 3701 Voltaire St.

For more information, visit www.pcpb.net.

CHANGE FOR THE BETTER

Point Loma alumna's Fashioning Change looks to make green impact

By ANTHONY GENTILE | THE BEACON

Most people are familiar with the phrase "go green," but not too many people know what it truly means. Eco-entrepreneur and Point Loma High alumna Adriana Herrera is looking to change that.

"To me, green means you're protecting your health, you're protecting the environment and you're protecting human rights," Herrera said. "We all have the opportunity every day, whether we're individual citizens or businesses of any size, to have a positive impact."

Creating positive global change is the fabric of Herrera's company — Fashioning Change — which launched online at the beginning of the month. The eco-friendly and ethical e-commerce company's aims to connect green businesses with green consumers, while eventually selling green products on its website.

"It is a company that is merging together technology, social activism, eco-friendly and ethical commerce and cor-



Eco-entrepreneur and Point Loma High alumna Adriana Herrera recently created Fashioning Change, a company designed to help consumers connect with green businesses. Herrera plans to make a positive change in the world through her startup business.

COURTESY PHOTO

porate social responsibility," Herrera said. "The company is really working to provide people with tools, information and opportunity to create positive change."

After graduating from Point Loma in 1999 and then UC Riverside, Herrera began her professional career doing non-profit work in San Diego. She eventually moved to Hawaii and started ERA Communications, a public relations company that worked with organizations that impact the world in a positive way.

"My whole goal since I was a little girl was to change the world, because that's how I was raised," Herrera said.

When her startup company that manufactured eco-friendly handbags didn't pan out, Herrera went back to the drawing board. That is where she came up with Fashioning Change, which she calls a combination of an eco-friendly version of online retailer Zappos and the fact-finding of a Michael Moore documentary.

"Access to information is a powerful thing because it can get people to act and people need tools on a daily basis because

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NEIGHBORS BEEF UP VIGILANCE

Loma Portal neighbors Chuck Wilson, left, and Mike Klose install a new Neighborhood Watch sign replacing the rusted and faded sign believed to be 30 years old. It is one of many new signs installed thanks to more than \$600 in donations from Loma Portal residents. In September 2009, about 70 homeowners on streets near Point Loma High School formed a pocket Neighborhood Watch emergency contact list and e-mail newsletter group. Since then, the group has hosted block party events, volunteered to help local schools and decorated poles for the holidays. Loma Portal residents interested in forming their own pocket Neighborhood Watch group, or joining in the current group, are invited to attend a presentation in January 2011. The next meeting with police officials is from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 12 at the Hervey/Point Loma Branch Library, located at 3701 Voltaire St. For details and to RSVP, call Bev Klose at (619) 222-1438.

COURTESY PHOTO BY PATRICIA M. WALSH

Warren-Walker G-Bots again fare well in robotics bout

By SUHAIL KHALIL | SPECIAL TO THE BEACON

After qualifying in November for regional competition, the Warren-Walker Middle School G-Bots went home with a fifth-place showing against 60 teams in the Southern California Championship FIRST Lego League Cup on Dec. 4.

The theme of this year's competition was "Body Forward," which focused on biomedical engineering. There were three parts to the competition: robotics design and performance, a bioengineering presentation and core values (Teamwork).

The G-Bots designed and programmed a Lego robot that would perform special missions in 2.5 minutes all by itself. Each team was allowed three tries to complete the missions and the highest score was counted.

For the bioengineering project, the G-Bots researched lower-body prosthetics. They were able to attend a prosthetic workshop for challenged athletes, took a tour of a prosthetic manufacturing facility and observed the challenged athlete triathlon in October.

The G-Bots' presentation consisted of a 2.5-minute presentation on the lower-body prosthetics of past, present and future, and a 2.5-minute rap — with the help of garage band — about a soldier who comes back from war with an amputated limb and who finds a whole new life through the use of prosthetics designed by the G-Bots.

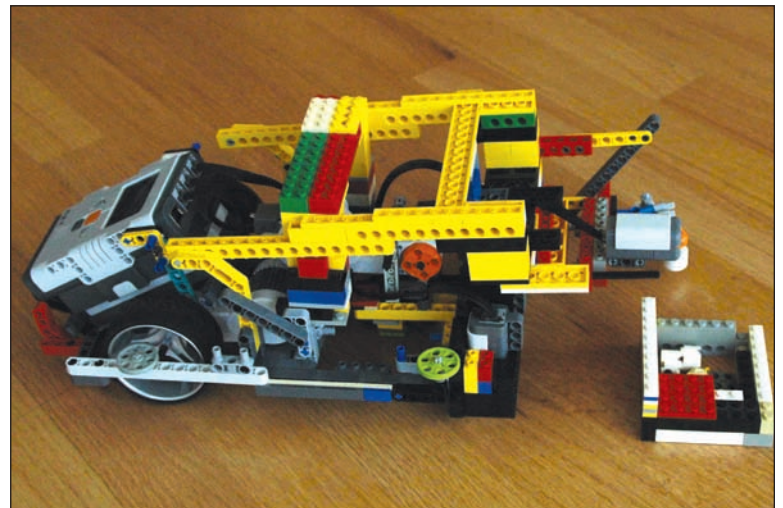
Finally, the G-Bots were interviewed as a team about the value of teamwork, what they learned throughout the challenge process, and what it means to exhibit "gracious professionalism."

Of the 60 competing teams, the G-Bot's top robot performance score resulted in a three-way tie for fifth place.



Members of the 2010 G-Bots team from Warren-Walker Middle School participate in a robotics design interview Dec. 4 during the Southern California Championship FIRST Lego League Cup. The team fared well enough for a three-way fifth-place tie among 60 teams in the competition. The G-Bots include team leaders Ken and Lynn Collins, and members Hans Vonk, Spencer Collins, Ziven Vonk, Aden Khalil, Larsen Hayes, Vicente Juarez, Evan Khalil, Brendon Leahy.

COURTESY PHOTO



The G-Bots' creation in the 2010 competition.

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Wishing everyone on the Peninsula a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



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Nonprofit outreach group grows under teen leadership

By **DEBBIE HATCH** | THE BEACON

The cooler temperatures are heating up fall fashions. Soon enough, holiday deals and the famous Black Friday will be in the foreground of many young women's minds. For some

less fortunate girls, however, fall feels different because they may not have experienced the feeling of receiving newer, trendier clothing.

My Girlfriend's Closet (MGC) is a nonprofit organization started by high school girls and their mothers from Point Loma

and Ocean Beach. The organization collects slightly worn clothing and gives it — at no cost — to girls and young women, ages 12-22, who are in need. The distribution is done at events typically held at the Portuguese SES Hall in Point Loma.

"[Clothes] are a form of expression and they reflect how I am feeling that day," said Meghan Zander, board member of MGC and a Point Loma High School senior.

While she acknowledges the importance of fashion, she said she also knows it's not everything.

"When we first started, we wanted to target the foster-care group," said Denise Seymour, one of the founding adult members.

However, as word of the organization's free clothing distributions spread, so did the organization's reach.

"We don't turn anyone away," Seymour said.

Girls and young women in need of clothing, shoes and accessories are welcome to attend the distribution events — which are typically advertised through announcements in *The Beacon*, on the organization's website, through teachers and social workers and generally word of mouth.

"We try to make it look like a little boutique," Seymour said.

The rules for "shoppers" at the events change and are reformulated each time.

For example, young women currently get two tickets for jeans and perhaps three tickets for accessories. Before, they just received two bags and were permitted to fill them with whatever items they selected.

"It's a work in progress," Seymour said.

SAY San Diego — a comprehensive social-service agency serving youth, families and communities — taps into My Girlfriend's Closet as a resource, said Ellen Yaffa, director of development for SAY.

"One young woman received these clothes and she was thrilled beyond belief," Yaffa said. "She felt as though it was a boost beyond measure that she could have such a thing."

The clothing items, while not new, are in good condition and are often highly recognizable fashion brands. Some of the young women who receive the clothing have never had trendier clothes.

"It's been a resource that we've been thrilled to have," Yaffa said.

An anonymous legal secretary was among the founding mothers. She took it upon herself to achieve nonprofit status for MGC. Her peers said previously such a status was too difficult to establish and they discouraged her, Seymour said.

"She didn't stop, just quietly went along her way and was successful with her first attempt," Seymour said. "My understanding is that it is kind of unheard of."

The theme of dedication continues even now, six years into the existence of My Girlfriend's Closet.

MGC appears to be on the verge of a growth spurt. The teenagers who run the organization — alongside their mothers and adult members — are taking MSG's mission to local schools and hoping to form My Girlfriend's Closet clubs as a way to get more young women involved and receive more donations.

"It was a really great community service project because girls could relate to shopping and could relate to what it feels like to have a nice outfit," Seymour said.

The most recent distribution event in August attracted hundreds of "shoppers" and about 50 to 70 volunteers, in addition to about two dozen volunteers who already serve year-round.

MGC members said they are having a hard time collecting large-size clothing, however.

"It just breaks our hearts to have these girls come, maybe stand in line for an hour and half, maybe find a purse or shoes and couldn't find any clothes that fit," Seymour said.

When items are found, it is like a golden treasure hunt.

For more information, or to learn about the next distribution event, call (619) 884-0844, or visit www.mygirlfriendscloset.info.



Young shoppers line up outside the United Portuguese SES Hall in Point Loma during a recent clothing distribution by the nonprofit organization My Girlfriend's Closet. COURTESY PHOTO

Christmas Worship Guide 2010



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11:00 p.m. Solemn High Mass of the Nativity

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10:00 a.m. Said Mass with Carols

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Tables and racks hold a bounty for disadvantaged young women during a recent distribution. COURTESY PHOTO

MY GIRLFRIEND'S CLOSET

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The 19th Annual Turkey Coloring Contest Winners



Coldwell Banker Branch Manager Tisha Quadros gave gift cards to the following winners: Ashley, Ciara & Ella. West Coast Escrow Manager Brent Butler gave a gift card for Best of Show to Waverly. Also pictured is Agent Phyllis Whitebread.

Pt. Loma Office: 2727 Shelter Island Dr., 619.224.5111. Ocean Beach Office: 1851 Cable Street, 619.225.0800.



NEWS**briefs****Home-invasion robbery leads to two arrests**

Police officials swarmed a home in the 2900 block of Chatsworth Avenue after six armed men forced their way into a nearby residence on Santa Cruz Avenue near Cable Street on Dec. 16, robbing the home's occupants of cell phones, a laptop computer, a safe and marijuana, according to authorities.

Two men were arrested outside the Chatsworth Avenue home and four others were detained for questioning, police said.

The incident unfolded shortly after 2 a.m. when the suspects forced their way into the back door of the Santa Cruz Avenue home wielding handguns and expandable batons.

From witness accounts, officers descended on the second home, where a police helicopter overhead spotted two suspects trying to flee.

Investigators said no one was injured in the initial home-invasion robbery, and police and sheriff's officials are searching for a link between the case and another home break-in four hours earlier in Rancho San Diego.

Cabrillo park officials close trail for repairs

Officials at Cabrillo National Monument in Point Loma temporarily closed the loop trail immediately south of the Old Point Loma Lighthouse for repairs. The public closure, which began Dec. 16, is expected to remain in effect until Jan. 1.

The closure was announced to initiate repairs to the concrete walkway, the trail itself and to all park facilities located along it. The action included the kelp forest and whale overlook, said park officials.

Other whale-watching sites will still be open to visitors on the bluffs overlooking the ocean directly west of the Old Point Loma Lighthouse. For more information, call (619) 557-5450, or visit www.nps.gov/cabr/.

City opens tree recycling sites

The city will operate its 37th annual tree-recycling program beginning Dec. 26, collecting trees through Jan. 23.

The city will open 16 drop off locations including Ocean Beach Robb Athletic Field, 2525 Bacon St. The sites are open daily during daylight hours.

To find out about additional sites, visit www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/.

VOLUNTEER

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

The local organization hosts an annual Thanksgiving Dinner in Ocean Beach, which served turkey and all the fixings to nearly 500 needy locals last month. It also hosts weekly feedings every Saturday morning at First Baptist Church and The Orchard, a senior living community in Point Loma.

"What makes it work continuously is everybody focusing on it and donating to it with their time and talent and treasure," Franks said. "I'm always pleasantly surprised to see who shows up every week and everybody is very faithful about it."

Franks received the calling to begin working for peace in the 1970s and has followed that path ever since. In the '80s, he found himself drawn to prison ministry and fellowship, a track that eventually led to giving back in his own community.

"I'm convinced if a man follows his

passion, he never works a day in his life," Franks said.

Over the years, Second Chances Bread of Life has donated hundreds of thousands of pounds of food within Point Loma and Ocean Beach. Despite the hefty numbers, Franks said he does not consider the organization's charitable activity a burden.

"It sounds like we're doing a lot, but it's really easy," Franks said. "The volunteers do all the work, the churches provide the space and Feeding America and San Diego Food Bank provide food. The system has gotten to where it's a very simple thing."

While reluctant to receive recognition for his selflessness and compassionate outreach behind the scenes, Franks is quick to hand out praise. He expressed sincere appreciation to the core of current volunteers and the thousands of others who have helped Second Chances Bread of Life through the years.

"There is not enough to be said about them extolling their virtues," Franks said.

The same can be said for Franks.

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GUEST COMMENTARY

**The following is an open letter to
City Councilman Carl DeMaio:**

Just a quick note to indicate that I thought you “hit the ball out of the park” at [the Dec. 14] NTC/District 2 town hall forum [you hosted]. I found your sincere, honest approach to the city’s financial crisis enlightening and a ray of sunshine in the “dark clouds” which hang over San Diego’s city government.

If you and [District 2 City Councilman] Kevin Faulconer can convince the Mayor [Jerry Sanders] and others on the City Council to implement your “roadmap and actionable items,” we might see real reform in my lifetime here in San Diego.

We definitely need to get our financial house in order: reduce waste and redundancy in departmental budgets (zero-based processes), limit/cap spending growth, increase and streamline competitive public bids with tighter controls and accountability, change future pension programs for city workers to align with the public sector, and finally — and most importantly — revisit all existing pension programs and implement legal remedies to reduce the spiraling costs in pension benefits afforded current and past retirees.

Unfortunately, poor city management in the past created this current financial mess, and now is the time for all current elected officials to step up to the plate and create an air of transparency and honest negotiations with the multiple city unions.

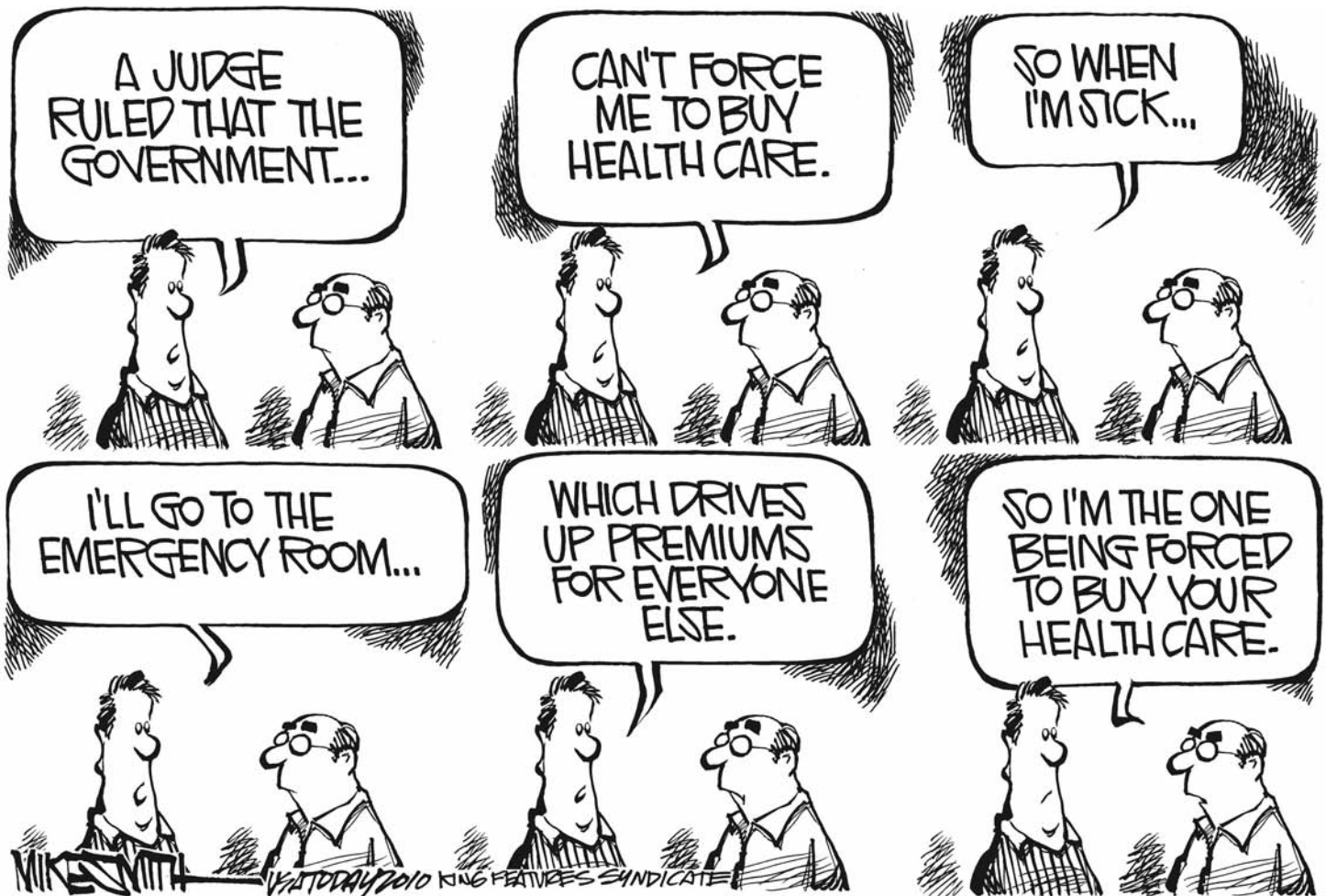
I believe a majority of San Diego residents/taxpayers are behind real reform here in San Diego and they know it will take some difficult discussions and concessions on the part of San Diego city employees’ unions to help right the city’s financial stability. Given the 10 percent-plus unemployment rate in our county, I truly believe now is the time to set the unions straight. I’m not sure they want to force an economic strike and allow the city to hire replacement workers.

I’m sure there would be 10 to 20 qualified applicants for every job in city government and the new, qualified employees would be happy to have a secure paycheck and health and retirement benefits (even with significant employee contributions). It’s time for the mayor and City Council to stop threatening the citizens with fewer core services (police, fire and emergency medical response) and get to the business of finding real solutions to the city’s financial ills. The “Roadmap to Recovery Plan” is the first tangible action plan I have seen from anyone in city government (where is our “strong mayor form of government?”); please tell your colleagues to get off the political stump and get to work. I cannot begin to tell you how disgusted I get with the amount of time the City Council wastes on stupid measures. One example: condemning Arizona for its immigration law SB 1070.

As you heard [Dec. 14] from the 60-plus residents here at NTC tonight, we want action and leadership NOW from our mayor and City Councilmembers.

Please accept my thanks for your willingness to step outside your comfort zone and act on behalf of all San Diego residents/taxpayers — not just those lucky enough to have you represent their interests in District 5. I believe you showed us real leadership and vision tonight, and I believe the folks from District 2 are on your side in the upcoming fiscal challenges ahead. I hope that Kevin [Faulconer] supports this “Roadmap to Recovery” in future City Council votes. We missed him and/or his representation at the meeting tonight to show solidarity for fiscal reform in San Diego.

John Pedersen
Point Loma



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Buying a new bike? Buy local

If a new bike is on your list this season, consider the value of purchasing it at your local bike shop. Whether it be a street bike, mountain bike, cruiser or kid’s bike, these bikes will eventually all need a little TLC over the years — and there’s nothing better than to be close to your bike mechanic.

The two local bike shops — Bernie’s in OB and Terrarhythm on Voltaire — both offer the resources, as well as the service. If there isn’t a bike on the floor, check out the catalog and order from there. They have wonderful options and offer a wide variety of bike accessories. But more importantly, they offer a great service for the community and will always help you maintain your new bike.

After buying and riding a new bike, most of the time it will need to be adjusted, as cables tend to stretch out. How convenient it is that the bike shop is within a few miles and can easily be accessed. Or, possibly there is an unusual noise or the misfortune of a flat tire — again another reason to be close to someone who is willing to help.

I have been a regular customer at Terrarhythm since they opened and have bought a kid’s bike, tandem, hybrid and now a custom tour bike. I love them all and they all stay nicely tuned.

This is one of the best opportunities to support your local shop. Enjoy the season, and I hope to see more riders in 2011. San Diego is a beautiful area to ride and with the help of your support and The Bicycle Coalition, our streets will become safer for all of us who ride the roads. We are looking forward to the many improvements this next year. Thank you again for sharing the road and keeping an eye out for bikers.

Nicole Burgess
Ocean Beach

New technology affects this generation

Today’s society has completely evolved into what is called a “modern society” with its new technology. It has changed us into something completely different than other decades. We have converted VCRs to CDs to iPods. Our cell phones — once the size of bricks — are now the size of your hand. Even the method for researching is different, thanks to the Internet.

But what good does this do us? Even though we have advanced so much, the personalities of people seem to have been downgraded. Because of our obsession with texting through phones, teenagers will text

almost anywhere, causing them to be disrespectful in places where they are supposed to be respectful. Not only that, but teenagers can cheat with the camera in their cell phones.

Then, there is the Internet. It distracts teenagers easily, and [causes them] to not focus on the necessary things. When doing homework, the majority of teenagers are easily distracted through YouTube videos, Facebook, music, etc.

Teenagers seem to put more attention toward video games and the Internet than they put toward outdoor activities and extracurricular activities — something that can help them develop character or help with applications in college. Sitting in front of a computer or TV for violent entertainment is not going to help teenagers in any positive way.

As amazing as the new technology is, it can [make us become] more disrespectful human beings. Not only that, but it has changed our generation into a generation that is completely different than generations in the past few decades. We can only hope that the next generation will have a better outcome than today.

Carolina Esquivel
Student at High Tech High School in Point Loma



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OPINIONS Signed letters to the editor are encouraged. All letters must include a phone number for verification. The editor may edit letters for clarity and accuracy. Letters should be 350 words or less. Views expressed are not necessarily the views of this newspaper or staff.

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.

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READERS

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who co-teaches the class with Wilson, came up with the project idea after speaking with a family friend in Boston who had a terminally-ill child in the hospital two years ago. "One thing they expressed to me was that they [terminally-ill patients] get lonely," Dore said. After some brainstorming, Dore came up with an idea that would advance her students' reading ability while also helping children who were unable to be home for the holidays. "While they're giving back to the community, they're also learning to read," said Dore. "They're becoming better students and better citizens." The dual lesson did not go unnoticed by the students themselves. "We're helping ourselves and other people," said second-grader Kaitlyn Monroe. For Monroe, the project means

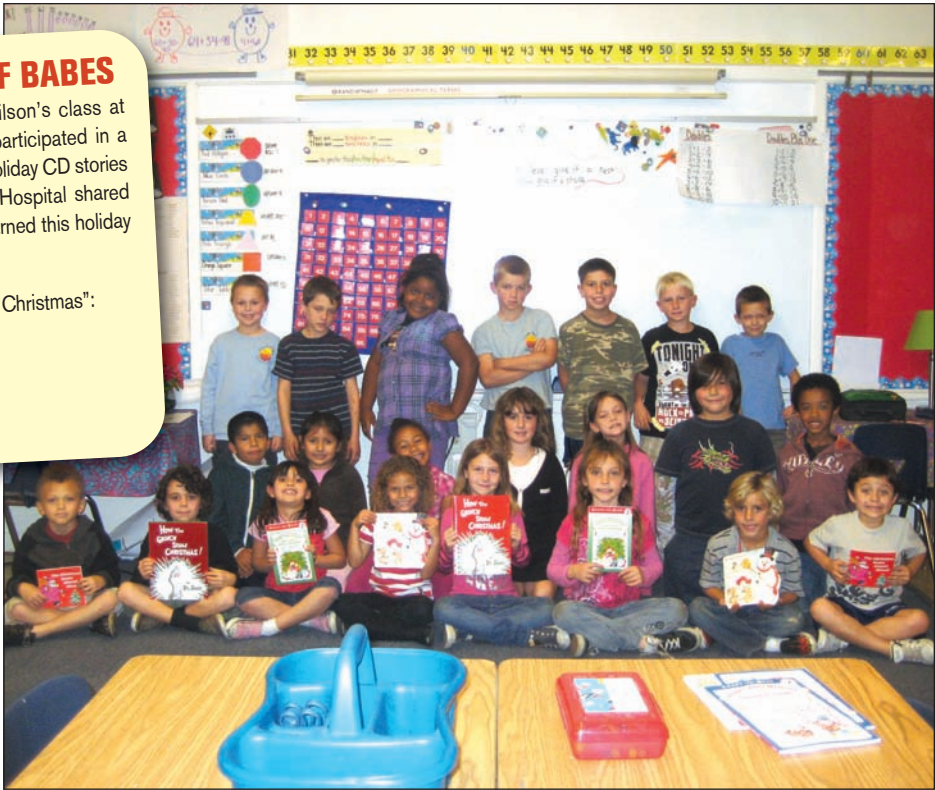
more to her than simply recording her voice for a nameless patient. She has a cousin of the same age in the hospital, and she plans to deliver her recording of "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" to her cousin during the holidays. "She can become a better reader [too]," Monroe said. Classmate Isaac Ross said delivering CD recordings in conjunction with the books makes reading easier to his young peers. "They can listen and look at the pictures at the same time to figure out a word," Ross said. Ross offered up the holiday lesson learned this season: "Be nice to each other, and help others." "I think we're doing something really nice for these kids. All they do is lay in the hospital all day, so now they have something to do," said classmate Ethan Hazlet. "We're lucky," said student Thor Willink. "They're bored. All they have is themselves," he said. Several students in the class have

OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF BABES

Some second-grade students in Joy Wilson's class at Ocean Beach Elementary School who participated in a special project to read aloud and record holiday CD stories for terminally-ill kids at Rady Children's Hospital shared their innocent observations of lessons learned this holiday season. Among the gems:

- On the moral of "How the Grinch Stole Christmas":
"Don't be a thief"
- On the moral of the holidays:
"TV rots your brain."

even taken it upon themselves to write letters to children in the hospital to be delivered with the CDs and books Dec. 17. Just as the Grinch's heart grows three times bigger in the end of the children's novel, the second grade class at Ocean Beach Elementary is learning that they too can triple their compassion and help the community this holiday season.



Ocean Beach Elementary School teacher Joy Wilson and her second-grade class.



Adriana Herrera
COURTESY PHOTO

HERRERA

CONTINUED FROM Page 2

they want to go green and want to lighten their impact, but they don't know how," Herrera said. "We really want it to be practical, supportive and really understandable by people." Through online applications and interactions, Fashioning Change will help consumers lessen their impact on the world and bring eco-friendly small businesses to the forefront. "I believe that everyone should have access not only to eco-friendly products, but also to healthy, organic products that

we put into our bodies," Herrera said. "The problem is that people can't find them because they are small designers passionate about their work and their design, but they don't have the marketing sense or the business sensibility to get themselves out. So we're empowering them as small businesses." Herrera said she has already been in contact with vendors all over the world via Skype, including merchants in Peru, Cuba, Estonia and Australia. The company's website offers eco-tips and urges visitors to make a green resolution for 2011; the site currently has 83 green resolutions. "It's the little things we can do on a daily basis," Herrera said. "If you add up

one action at a time, that starts to create something big." Calling herself a "modern hippie," Herrera's unique business practices were featured in the 2010 book "The Innovation Secrets of Steve Jobs: Insanely Different Principles for Breakthrough Success." She was included in a chapter about not doing things by the book. "I don't feel like work should ever feel like work, having understood what it feels like to want to bang your head against the desk," Herrera said. "Why do we need to be in an office or a desk? This is the world that we live in. Shouldn't we do business and live in it and engage in it at the same time?" To that end, Herrera suggests three

local "outside-the-boardroom" meeting places for the open-minded: Sunset Cliffs, the Ocean Beach Pier and NTC Park in Liberty Station. She said she has discovered outside meetings tend to boost creativity. "It's about taking my team and people out into the world," Herrera said. "When we're walking, our blood is flowing. More things are going on in our brains, which means we're more alert." Fashioning Change is online at fashioningchange.com and on Twitter @fashion_change. Herrera can be followed on Twitter @Adriana_Herrera. Those interested in making a green New Year's resolution can visit bit.ly/green-nyr.

Guarding Against Elder Abuse Possibilities

What can a person do to minimize the risk of financial abuse or other elder abuse when you are looking for a caregiver in the home? The following list will give you ideas on what to be aware of. Talk to your mother or elderly relative about your concerns about protecting them from financial or any harm. Ask for their help, if they are capable. Remind them to not sign any document a caregiver might give to them without talking to you first. Visit them frequently or if that is not possible, hire a geriatric case manager to make unannounced visits. Keep all important documents in a safe deposit box. Let the bank know that a caregiver is in the home and ask them to monitor anything unusual. Monitor the checkbook, bank and credit card statements for expenditures that appear "fishy". Never provide an ATM P.I.N. to a caregiver or if you must, keep only a small balance in the account that you monitor. Although we would always like to guarantee that our elder will never be at risk, hiring an insured and bonded home care agency is perhaps one of the best ways. Contact the RN Case Managers at Innovative Healthcare Consultants at (877) 731-1442 or visit us on the web for more information at www.innovativehc.com.

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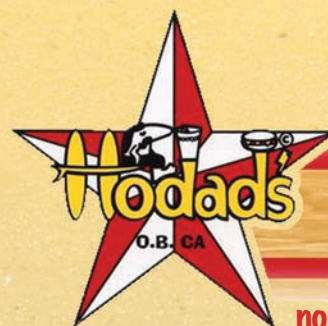
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The season in snapshots

As the Christmas holiday comes to a close and a new year dawns to offer new hope, *The Peninsula Beacon* takes a moment to bid farewell to 2010 with a collage of holiday images taken by staff and non-staff photographers. Above and top left, a snowman and Santa help make the season bright, along with another beautifully-adorned lawn on Garrison Street in Point Loma (photos by Mike McCarthy). The Garrison Street tradition of breathtaking light displays has dazzled tourists and nearby neighbors for more than two decades. Top right, boaters at Shelter Island catch the spirit around the docks, hoisting small Christmas trees to the tops of their masts (photo by Jim Grant). Lower right, bagpiper Robert Burns and drummer Steve Lawshe share the music of the holiday season at the foot of the decorated Ocean Beach community Christmas tree (photo by Pat Rice). Center, Mark J. Sanzi, administrator of the Point Loma United Methodist Church, makes some last-minute preparations for the Dec. 17 deliveries of food and toys to disadvantaged families and residents of the OB Woman's Shelter – an annual tradition of the Ocean Beach Town Council's Tree Committee (photo by Mike McCarthy).



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WHALE

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

Because this is their migration season, gray whales are the main attraction. But Milkey said passengers can also expect to see pods of dolphins, squid, sun fish and a variety of whales. Fin whales, sperm whales, minke, orcas and the largest of all—blue whales—have all been sighted recently, and Hornblower captains keep track of sightings of all kinds on their online whale log. Potential passengers can look at http://fromthepilothouse.typepad.com/san_diego_whale_watching/captains-log.html to read last year's log, which details which kinds of species and how many were seen during each cruise in the 2009-10 season.

"Other whales that we have seen in past seasons live in these waters, but we don't always see them because they live farther out," said Staci Shaut, coordinator for the whale-watching program at Birch Aquarium, which also offers cruises twice daily. "The gray whales stay

really close to shore, so that's why they're so great for whale watching."

Each year, gray whales undertake a roughly 12,000-mile, round-trip migration from the frigid Bering Sea to the warm lagoons of Baja California. Between mid-December to mid-April, more than 20,000 whales make the trip as temperatures drop and ice covers much of their food sources up north. Females go to give birth to their calves in the lagoons and mature whales go to mate. For San Diegans, it's a chance to witness this phenomenon that comes around only once a year.

Other options around the city include Seaforth Sportfishing, which offers smaller cruises, and Hike, Bike, Kayak in La Jolla, which takes a few brave souls out in kayaks to view the whales up close and personal. Dylan Edwards, a former guide for Hike, Bike, Kayak, said that though it may seem like a risky endeavor, being on the same level as the whales is quite a thrill.

"Obviously in a kayak, you're not as fast as you are in a boat," he said. "On other boats, you're out there with about 300 other people, but on a kayak, everything is peaceful and quiet. You just hear

the spray of the whales. It's really intimate. I don't know if it's ever been scary, but it's very exciting."

This year, like every year, scientists are not sure what to expect from the migrating giants. In recent years, some experts have observed a later start and end date for the gray whale migration. Wayne Perryman, of the Cetacean Health and Life History Program at the Southwest Fisheries Science Center, said this pattern of later migrations started in the 1980s, when the peak of the gray whales' journey was in late January. Now, he says, it is in early January. Though he and other scientists are reluctant to attribute this to any one cause, theories abound. One possible hypothesis is that as temperatures rise and arctic ice doesn't form until later in the season, gray whales may stay up north longer until their food gets scarce.

"The two symptoms we're seeing is a later arrival here in Southern California and more calves being born farther north," said Perryman. "Really, the whole arctic system is changing, and they're very adaptable animals, so there are going to be shifts [in their behavior]. What the cause is, it's tough to say."

WHALE OF A JOURNEY

BY BOAT

- Birch Aquarium with Harbor Excursions: departing at 9:45 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. from Dec. 26 to April 3, (619) 234-4111, www.sdhe.com, \$30 weekdays and \$35 weekends (discounts for children, seniors and military)
- Hornblower Cruises: departing at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. from Dec. 11 to April 17, (619) 686-8715, www.hornblower.com, \$34 weekdays and \$39 weekends for adults, \$17 weekdays and \$19.50 weekends for children
- Seaforth Sportfishing: departing twice daily from Dec. 26 to March 31, (619) 224-3383, www.seaforthlandings.com, \$34 adults
- H & M Landing: 3-hour cruises departing at 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. from mid-December through mid-March, and 6-hour cruises to Coronado Islands departing at 10 a.m., (619) 222-1144, www.hmlanding.com, \$25 adults, \$20 juniors and \$17.50 children (\$50 for 6-hour cruises)

BY AIR

- Barnstorming Adventures: biplane, air combat and warbird flights, including whale watching; cost varies, (760) 930-0903

BY KAYAK

- Hike Bike Kayak Sports: departing at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. from December through March, (866) 425-2925, www.hikebikekayak.com, single-person kayak \$60, tandem kayaks \$55 per person

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- Birch Aquarium: excursions of four, five or six days following the whales down to their birthing grounds in the lagoons of Baja California, (800) 661-1325, www.andiamo-travel.com, \$590-\$1,095
- H&M Landing: trips of nine or 11 days, (619) 226-1729 or (619) 226-8224, cost varies

Pointer teams jump into winter sports

By SCOTT HOPKINS | THE BEACON

With fall CIF playoffs behind them, some athletes at Point Loma High School (PLHS) find themselves exchanging uniforms for winter sports, while others poise to represent their school in athletic competition for the first time. Seasons have begun for boys' and girls' teams on the soccer pitch and basketball courts, while girls on the water polo team are jumping into chilly pools.

Perhaps the most unusual development is taking place in the Pointer wrestling room, where coach Phil Moore has witnessed a rebirth of the once-mighty sport. When Moore took over the program three years ago, only three boys turned out for the team. Now, Moore is overseeing a turnout of 45 athletes, including two girls who Moore said are putting opposing boys in some serious pain.

Tournaments in all sports are being held over the two-week school holiday, allowing coaches to prepare their teams for league competition that begins next month. Here is a roundup of the six Pointer winter teams:

BOYS' BASKETBALL

Head coach: Chris Brisco (fifth year)

Last year: 9-14, 6-6 Central League (fourth place)

CIF playoffs: Did not qualify

Top returners: Cody Harvey, Nate George, Ryan Gardocki, Marquis Clifford, Christian Heyward

Notable newcomers: Kohl Meyers, Dan Enright, Iontez Wright, Peter Busalacchi, Zac Wood

Team strengths: "We have lots of good shooters, good balance and team speed which we hope will take us a long way," Brisco said.

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Head coach: Eric Brown (second year)

Last year: 10-14, 6-6 Central League (fourth place)

CIF playoffs: Lost in first round to West Hills 69-23

Top returners: Jacque Weymann, Justine Otsuka, Nicole Tartre, Natalie Smith

Notable newcomers: Entire roster is returning, including eight seniors and one sophomore

Team strengths: "We will have a very good offense. We rebound well. Everyone on the team will get a lot of playing time and we also have good team chemistry," Brown said.

BOYS' SOCCER

Head coach: Elliott Savitz (first year)

Last year: 10-7-6, 5-3-3 Eastern League (third place)

CIF playoffs: Beat West Hills 5-0 in first round, lost to Mt. Carmel 2-0 in quarterfinals

Top returners: Oscar Casillas, Ruben Diaz, Joe Romano

Notable newcomers: Kenny Ortega, Noah Bunton, Devon Patane, Eddie Gallardo, Pedro Basaca

Team strengths: "We are definitely good



Nate George (32) of Point Loma prepares to put up a shot against a leaping Kearny defender in Central League action last season.
SCOTT HOPKINS / THE BEACON

in possession. We're able to score a lot of goals and we're very, very technical. Everyone is comfortable with the ball and we have fast players on the outside. Our youth is a strength — they are capable now and will only get better," Savitz said.

GIRLS' SOCCER

Head coach: John Murphy (fourth year)

Last year: 8-11-3, 7-4-1 Eastern League (fourth place)

CIF playoffs: Lost to Valhalla 1-0 in first round

Top returners: Captains Megan O'Beirne, Marie Laube, Carly Holly and Colleen O'Brien; Erika Hanson, Veronica Perez and Lily Edwards

Notable newcomers: Graysen Choy, Jewell Roth, Veronica Perez

Team strengths: "We've got a balanced offense and defense, very strong senior leadership and good team chemistry. All the girls get along great," Murphy said.

GIRLS' WATER POLO

Head coaches: Jerry Rich (12th year) and Jeff Hunt (fourth Year)

Last year: 18-13, 1-5 Eastern League (fourth place)

CIF playoffs: Beat El Capitan 6-3 in First Round, lost to Bishop's 16-2 in the Quarterfinals

Top returners: Captains Sam Pugh and Lexi Bohlman; Arianna Conger, Monica Longworth, Carolina Saboya, Cristina Colloca

Notable newcomers: Sydney Bohlman

Team strengths: "The girls all depend on each other — there's nobody who is a big standout except for our goalie (Pugh). Everyone is on the same level and they help each other. And our defense, I would say, is a strength," Rich said.

WRESTLING

Head coach: Phil Moore (third year)

Last year: 2-4 Eastern League (fourth place)

CIF: No wrestlers qualified

Top returners: Marty Gelenter, Duncan Swain, Sean Cruz, Christian Martinez

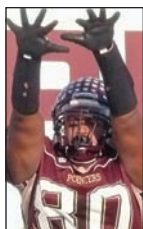
Notable newcomers: Ryan Martinez, Elvira Gonzalez, Olga Hereer

Team strengths: "In our first matches this year, we have beat some good schools by big scores. One of our girls (Gonzalez) pinned her opponent in her first match ever! The crowd went crazy! We've got great heart and tremendous will," Moore said.

PLHS pair selected for honors in football, cross country

Two Point Loma High School (PLHS) fall-sport athletes have received post-season honors.

Football player Christian Heyward was named to the All-CIF First Team defense. The 6'4", 280-pound defensive lineman was credited with 78 tackles and eight sacks this season. He recovered three fumbles, returning one for a touchdown. Heyward was also a tight end on offense and caught three passes



HEYWARD

for 64 yards and two touchdowns.

Heyward has also been named to play in the ESPN/Under Armour All-American Football Game for graduating seniors. The game, slated to be televised live nationally by ESPN, will be played on Wednesday, Jan. 5 at Tropicana Field in Tampa Bay, Fla. PLHS head coach Mike Hastings was also selected to serve as a "guest coach" during the game.

Kickoff is 5 p.m. (PST).

Heyward now plays varsity basketball. Meanwhile, cross-country standout Meghan Breadmore was named to the All-CIF Second Team. Breadmore won

the Eastern League and CIF Division II championships by wide margins and completed an outstanding prep career before she recently missed qualifying for the national championship meet by 5 seconds.

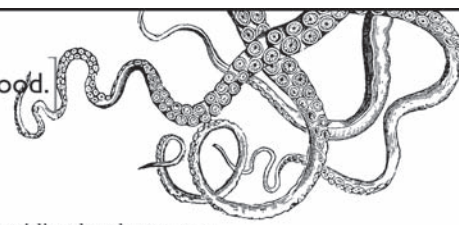
Both Breadmore and Heyward have received numerous college offers, but neither student-athlete has announced a selection.



BREADMORE

— Scott Hopkins

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The Devastators play New Year's Eve at Winston's Beach Club, one of the city's only no-cover end-of-year celebrations.

COURTESY PHOTO

Entertainment abounds for dawn of new decade

By BART MENDOZA | THE BEACON

HIGH END

New Year's Eve is an annual event, but Dec. 31 this year is a little more special. It's not just the send off to the previous year, but also a farewell to another decade — and the first in the books for the 21st century. There are plenty of reasons to celebrate on what is already the biggest party night of the calendar. The stroke of midnight will find some of San Diego's best-known artists playing in the area with something for just about everybody — from country music to reggae.

Those looking for an elegant affair will want to visit Humphrey's by the Bay, which offers up two options on the night. For the admission price of \$49, partiers will gain patron's access to the Backstage Lounge and to the music of dance band The Mighty Untouchables. However, anyone looking for something more upscale might not need to search further than the party in Humphrey's Restaurant. For \$199 (less if purchased in advance) partygoers will be entertained by Las Vegas favorites T-Fox & The Fox City Band, skillful masters of dance floor-filling R&B and soul. A consistently popular draw on the Strip, 2002 saw his popularity culminate with Aug. 24 being

named "T-Fox Day" in Las Vegas. He was also awarded the "Key to the City" by Mayor Oscar Goodman. Making this event a feast for all the senses, the night also includes a four-course dinner, party favors and a champagne toast, all with the picturesque backdrop of the Shelter Island marina.

Humphrey's Backstage Lounge, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, \$49 to \$199, 9 p.m.
www.humphreysbackstagelive.com

INEXPENSIVE

While intimate dinners are good for some, others prefer more of a communal welcoming of the new year. Possibly the

SEE NYE, Page 13

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NYE

CONTINUED FROM Page 12

most boisterous New Year's Party will be at Gallagher's in Ocean Beach, courtesy of the country and rockabilly tunes made famous by Johnny Cash, as performed by tribute band Cash'd Out. The country's top re-creators of "the man in black's" legendary music concentrate on his 1950s to 1970s heyday, using vintage gear and clothing for a sound that's authentic and passionate. With its focus on Cash's early days, its unlikely Cash'd Out will play the only Cash tune to actually mention New Years in its lyrics, 1988's "New Moon Over Jamaica" — but nobody plays this music better.

Gallagher's, 5046 Newport Avenue, 9 p.m. 21 and up. Cover TBD. www.gallagherspubob.com

Meanwhile, Dream Street will blast out rhymes and beats with a night of hip-hop and rap, sponsored by Submission Entertainment. On hand will be Deceit, Fab, King Loc, Mike Spitz and Nikki & The Mongoloid.

Dream Street, 2228 Bacon St., 9 p.m. 21 and up. Cover TBD. www.dreamstreetlive.com

FREE

Music fans on a budget won't be able to beat Winston's Beach Club this year. Featuring one of the city's rare no-cover events, Winston's is already one of the area's favorite neighborhood bars — so expect this night to be jammed with revelers. They'll be happy to find the night's soundtrack provided by one of the area's top reggae bands, The Devastators. Five-time San Diego Music Award nominees and 2010 winners in the "Best World Music" category, The Devastators' sunny island sounds will be a nice counterpoint to our winter weather and a great way to send off 2010.

Winston's Beach Club, 1921 Bacon St., 9 p.m. No cover. www.winstonsob.com.



Cash'd Out, the highly popular Johnny Cash tribute band, performs at Gallagher's in Ocean Beach on New Year's Eve. COURTESY PHOTO

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Luminarias will light up the Loma Portal neighborhood on Christmas Eve during the 37th annual Plumosa Park Festival of Lights. PHOTO BY PAUL HANSEN / THE BEACON

Luminarias return for Plumosa Park Festival of Lights on Dec. 24

By ANTHONY GENTILE | THE BEACON

A Point Loma holiday tradition focused on simplistic beauty will return once again on Christmas Eve. The 37th annual Plumosa Park Festival of Lights will line the streets with luminarias from 6 to 9 p.m. Dec. 24.

"It's very heavenly. It's not brash and it's not overpowering," said Dell Schroeder, local resident and festival participant.

Neighbor Carol Settles brought the tradition of luminarias — votive candles in lunch sacks lining sidewalks in area neighborhoods — from Arizona in 1956. The tradition expanded and became an annual ritual in 1973 when the city was in a power crisis and urged local residents to shy away from putting lights on their houses.

"If you haven't seen [the luminaria festival] before, you have to see one at least once. It's time for [visitors] to come see it," Schroeder said.

The festival now includes all of the streets with flower names in Loma Por-

LUMINARIA LESSON

Keys to the luminaria tradition:

1. Move all cars off the streets during the event at Plumosa Park. Encourage alley parking while leaving room for vehicles to pass
2. Turn over a one-inch cuff on the top of a No. 8 lunch sack
3. Put one cup of beach sand, potting soil or kitty litter in the bottom of each sack
4. Place votive candle in center of sand
5. Place a sack every two to three inches along your curb
6. Clean up afterward

Candles can be purchased at Stump's Market, 3770 Voltaire St., or online at www.generalwax.com or www.candles.com

tal. Schroeder said about 300 local residences will participate, with each house putting out an average of 10 luminarias. "Dress warmly, walk slowly and enjoy the evening," Schroeder said. "Lots of people are on the run constantly and it's a much slower paced little festival of lights."

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Hope is a true story of courage, survival, resilience and, yes, hope. She came to the shelter as a stray with a rubber band embedded in her muzzle. It had been there long enough to nearly kill her. She had no food or water for over a week and the band caused her lower jaw tissue to die, so that it had to be removed.

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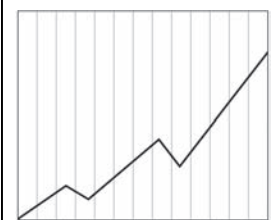
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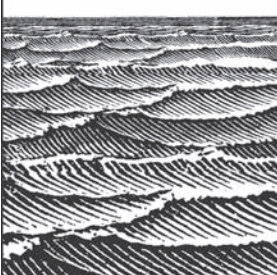
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We would like to thank our friends and clients for letting us achieve \$14,000,000 in sales during 2010, with 21 transactions.

We have several new listings coming up this spring so please give us a call with your current and future real estate needs.

Also, we have an exciting new web site and blog in the works. Release is scheduled for February 1st. Stay tuned for details.



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Holy Trinity Parish Relocates

Holy Trinity Parish (Worldwide Anglican Communion), Ocean Beach announces that effective December 31, 2010, the parish family will move from its current building at 2083 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard. Beginning Sunday, January 2, 2011, Holy Trinity will offer Sunday Mass at 8:00 a.m. at Bethany Lutheran Church, 2051 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard. Holy Trinity will also offer midweek Masses at Bethany Lutheran on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. and Fridays at 9:30 a.m.

Parish offices and meeting rooms have relocated to 3725 Talbot Street in Point Loma. The parish phone number is 619-222-0365. Normal office hours will be Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon.

This move is a consequence of a decision the parish made more than four years ago to disaffiliate from the Episcopal Church in order to retain and pass on the faith and practice of historic Anglicanism as an expression of catholic Christianity. Holy Trinity Parish is now a part of the Anglican Church in North America.

During its many years in the 2083 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard location, the parish contributed significantly to the larger community. In 1979, it invited the Ecumenical Food Bank "Loaves and Fishes" to use its facilities and it has continued ever since. In about 1987, parish members began hosting a free dinner for the needy once a month, the first such opportunity in Ocean Beach. Since that time, it has expanded to a weekly meal every Wednesday; one of the early guests has been inspired to "give back" with a weekly Monday meal at the beach; and members of

Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church have begun serving a free meal two Tuesdays a month. Holy Trinity also began offering a series of Celtic Music Concerts in 1997, and for the past 13 years, has hosted many of the finest performers from Ireland and Scotland when they have toured the United States.

As the move into new quarters takes place, the parish community will continue to be sensitive and responsive to the needs of the larger community, and this will play a significant role in the process leading to choosing a new, more permanent center for worship and ministry. We are most

grateful to the clergy and people of Bethany Lutheran Church for their hospitality during this transitional time.

In July, when the decision to leave the current location had been made, the Rector, Father Lawrence Bausch, wrote the following to parish members: "We have God's promise that every journey of faithful obedience to His call will lead us to Himself, and He has assured us that He will be with us to guide, correct and encourage our every step." Fr. Bausch has been Rector of Holy Trinity Parish since 1979.

— Provided Holy Trinity Parish

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TSA SCANNER, PAT-DOWN PROTEST DOESN'T FLY AT LINDBERGH FIELD

Despite a planned day of protest against the Transportation Safety Administration's (TSA) practices of using revealing full-body scans at airports across the nation – including Lindbergh Field – the Internet-driven backlash was largely invisible last month. While sporadic instances of rebellion were reported across the country, the vast majority of fliers at Lindbergh Field seemed to tolerate the security measures on one of the busiest traveling days of the year on Thanksgiving. Many indicated they were more willing to submit to the full-body scans than be subjected to invasive and perhaps humiliating pat-downs as a result of refusing the scans. One traveler, right, chose to express his opinion about the TSA security procedures on his T-shirt, rather than physically objecting to the full-body scan or pat-downs.

PHOTO BY JIM GRANT / THE BEACON



EVENTS CALENDAR

Don't miss it!

FOR MORE CALENDAR EVENTS
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Sunday, Dec. 26, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., fourth annual Free Day of Dance! The event features free dance classes all day with San Diego Dance Theater, Malashock Dance and San Diego Ballet. All experience levels welcome. The event takes place at Dance Place San Diego, 2650 Truxtun Road, Studio 207. For more information, visit www.sandiegodancetheater.org.

Jan. 7 through Jan. 30, Sophie's Gallery & Gift Shop NTC premieres "Ladies First," celebrating the career of artist John Agostini in his first one-man show of acrylics on paper, featuring fashionable women and Hollywood stars. An artists' reception takes place Friday, Jan. 7 from 5 to 8 p.m. with wine, hors d'oeuvres and live music. The gallery is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesdays through Sundays at 2960 Historic Decatur Road. For more information, call (619) 578-2207.



The works of artist John Agostini will be featured in January at Sophie's Gallery in Point Loma.
COURTESY PHOTO

COMMUNITY/CIVIC

Friday, Dec. 24, 6 to 9 p.m., 31st annual Plumosa Park Festival of Lights, featuring the hands-on luminarias tradition by Point Loma neighbors. For more information, call (619) 222-3065.

Wednesday, Jan. 12, 10 a.m., the Point Loma Garden Club hosts guest speaker Mo Price, whose lecture will focus on drought-tolerant Australian plants suitable for the climate locally. The event takes place at the United Portuguese S.E.S. Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal. For more information, visit www.plgc.org.

Sunday, Jan. 23, 7 p.m., annual "Contas" meeting of the United Portuguese S.E.S., Inc. The event, which is open to all members and prospective members, takes place at the United Portuguese Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal in Point Loma. For more information, call (619) 223-5880, or www.upses.com.

SENIORS

Tuesday, Jan. 4, 9:30 to 11 a.m., Sharp Senior Resource Center hosts free blood pressure screenings at the Peninsula Family YMCA, 4390 Valeta St. No appointment necessary and the public is welcome. For more information, call (858) 939-4790, or visit www.sharp.com.

Wednesday, Jan. 5, 9 to 10:30 a.m., Sharp Senior Resource Center hosts free blood pressure screenings at the St. Agnes Catholic Church, 1145 Evergreen St. No appointment necessary and the public is welcome. For more information, call (858) 939-4790, or visit www.sharp.com.

Tuesday, Jan. 11, 1 to 3 p.m., Sharp Senior Resource Center hosts a free presentation on "How to Talk to Your Doctor" at the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 4425 Valeta St. Reservations are required by calling (800) 827-4277.

Thursday, Jan. 27, 10 to 11 a.m., Sharp Senior Resource Center hosts a practical information session with a licensed occupational therapist who specializes in hand therapy and injury-prevention training. The event takes place at All Soul's Episcopal Church, 1475 Catalina Blvd. Reservations are required by calling (800) 827-4277.

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