



THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2011

Votes are In! Top Food & Drink

PHOTOS BY JIM GRANT | THE BEACON



BY TONY DE GARATE | THE BEACON

Most of the money is designed to improve housing, the living environment and economic opportunities for lower- and moderate-income people. The San Diego City Council is set to finalize who gets the money, and the Ocean Beach Planning Board wants to express its opinion. The board has decided to form an ad hoc committee toward that end, but a meeting has not yet been scheduled. Updates may be available at www.oceanbeach-ph.com.

At issue is a document the city calls the annual action plan (AAP). It's required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and shows how the city will allocate, among other things, more than \$16 million in community-development block grants (CDBG) to qualifying municipal and nonprofit groups.

Of the 113 projects in the mix, none involve direct spending in Ocean Beach. The nearest project appears to be in the Sports Arena area — the winter homeless shelter partly funded by a CDBG of \$511,000 to the San Diego Housing Commission. But many of the qualifying nonprofit agencies — Boys & Girls Club, Father Joe's Villages, San Diego Food Bank and many others — are well known.

"As the committee slogs

SEE GRANT, Page 8

By **SEBASTIAN RUIZ** | THE BEACON

Opening their hearts and homes, members of the Dana Unit of Rady Children's Hospital Auxiliaries will host the 10th annual Point Loma Garden Walk on Saturday, April 23 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Point Loma Heights community.

Proceeds from ticket sales will benefit the Craniofacial Services Department of Rady Children's Hospital.

"The Craniofacial Services Department is an amazing depart-

Last year, the garden walk helped raise about \$40,000, according to Mendoza.

The artisan creations will be featured in a boutique-style sale during the event.

The garden walk itself entails self-

Maps for the self-guided tour will be handed out at the beginning of the event at Osprey Street and Sorrento Drive at 10 a.m., Mendoza said.

The all-volunteer group that makes up the nonprofit Dana Unit Auxiliary of the Rady Children's Hospital was established in 1953. The members hold true to an almost singular mission: "We are all women with just one focus — and that's working together to raise money for children," Mendoza said.

Advance tickets can be purchased

SEE GARDEN, Page 8



Members of the Dana Unit of Rady Children's Hospital will host their annual garden walk and home tour in Point Loma on Saturday to raise money for children dealing with head and neck trauma or birth defects.

PHOTO BY PAUL HANSEN | THE BEACON

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City drops hammer on pot clinics

By NEAL PUTNAM | THE BEACON

Medical marijuana dispensary operators appear to be mostly mum following the City Council's decision April 12 to adopt restrictions on the centers, mandating the shops be located in industrial zones and that they apply for a conditional-use permit.

Requests for comment were met with no response from the Green Light Collective and the OB Collective — both in Ocean Beach.

The restrictions in the medical marijuana ordinance may cause most businesses to close shop — at least temporarily. The ordinance takes effect within three weeks, and the council's vote was a second reading to make it official.

"Realistically, the city cannot close up shops right away," said District 7 City Councilwoman Marti Emerald, who seconded the motion by District 3 Councilman Todd Gloria to pass the ordinance.

"As of today, our zoning laws do not allow for collectives," said Gloria. "This is certainly more restrictive than I like."

Emerald said the ordinance was not a ban, adding that there are industrial areas in every district where dispensaries can be located. Under the ordinance, dispensaries must be located 600 feet away from schools, libraries, parks, and churches.

Medical marijuana collectives must also operate as nonprofits and are required to have some type of security system. They can operate between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m. seven days a week.

The ordinance also allows patients with a state identification card to possess one pound of pot. Patients can also grow 24 marijuana plants, depending on their doctor's recommendation.

Joining Gloria and Emerald in approving the measure were council President Tony Young and councilmembers Kevin Faulconer of District 2 and Sherri Lightner of District 1.

Councilmembers Lori Zapf and David Alvarez cast dissenting votes. Carl DeMaio was absent when the vote was taken but he voted against it March 28.

The council heard hours of debate by those for and against the restrictions, but when they voted, about a dozen pro-dispensary people ran to the dais, causing momentary confusion. Councilmembers quickly left after the vote.

The protestors began singing "We Shall Overcome" and wore T-shirts reading "Stop the Ban." San Diego police officers made their presence known by walking in the area, but did not intervene.

Councilmembers had to cast a second vote, however, and returned about five minutes later as the protestors sang

loudly and off-key. They voted 5-2 a second time, and then left while some of the protestors stayed — even after the meeting was over.

One woman was briefly handcuffed, then released. Six protestors stood their ground for several minutes, and then one of them left. Five members of the group sang and sat down in council chambers for more than two hours after the meeting was over.

"We demand safe access to medical marijuana," the protestors changed. "Amend this ordinance to meet the people's need."

The protestors appeared to be in their early twenties.

The lights were eventually turned off, leaving the five in the dark. About 30 minutes later, they all left without arrest.

"Thank you for not doing your job!" yelled one woman outside.

Officers chose to take the high road, said one police official.

"They were mad we didn't arrest them," said Lt. Roy Moody afterward. "The San Diego Police Department supports their First Amendment right to protest."

California voters passed Proposition 215 in 1996 that allows patients to use marijuana if they have a doctor's written recommendation. It is illegal under federal law to transport, possess or cultivate marijuana.



IT'S A GAS

City officials gathered Monday in Point Loma for a ceremonial groundbreaking on a unique environmental project that may help put neighbors' minds at ease. In response to public outcry in the last couple of years to the city's plans to truck excess methane gas from the Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant through residential streets, the city engaged in a new option: recycling the explosive gas by piping it out of the plant using existing San Diego Gas & Electric fuel lines for use as renewable energy. District 2 City Councilman Kevin Faulconer, left, and Mayor Jerry Sanders, center, participated in the groundbreaking. It is anticipated that the unique project will eliminate the release of 1.5 million cubic feet of global warming gases each day and generate about \$2.6 million in city revenues over the next 10 years. Faulconer, who spearheaded the anti-trucking option, also credited watchdogs John Pederson and Jim Gilhooly and members of the Point Loma Association for creating public awareness and battling the initial trucking plans.

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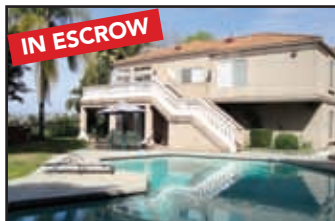


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'Tootsie Bandit' gets prison time

By NEAL PUTNAM | THE BEACON

The so-called "Tootsie Bandit" — who told a judge "my wife won't have anything to do with me" since he put on a dress to rob a bank — has been sentenced to seven years, eight months in state prison.

Robert Dean Tyndall II, 56, of Hillcrest got the maximum term from San Diego Superior Court Judge Robert O'Neill on April 6 for a string of bank jobs or attempted heists, including one in Point Loma.

He was ordered to pay roughly \$63,000 in restitution.

"He dressed up as a woman in one [bank heist] and wore earrings in another," said Deputy District Attorney Dennis Panish.

Tyndall wore a blonde wig, a black blazer with a blue blouse, blue jeans and black boots when he held up the Inland Federal Credit Union in El Cajon on July 16.

He was not arrested until Feb. 4 by San Diego police.

In the local case, Tyndall approached the bank manager of the Comerica Bank on Rosecrans Street in the parking lot before the bank opened on Jan. 24. He claimed to have a gun, but the manager refused to open the bank and Tyndall left empty-handed in a tan pickup truck.

Panish said the motive for the robberies was Tyndall's addiction to a prescription painkiller. Police recovered \$8,781 in cash at Tyndall's Hillcrest residence, but it appeared the remaining \$63,000 had been spent before he was caught.

Tyndall apologized for his actions, telling O'Neill he had worked as a maintenance engineer.

"I've never done anything like this before," Tyndall said. "I'll never do anything like this again. My view on drugs? I hate them. They ruined my life. My wife won't have anything to do with me."

Tyndall's attorney, Doug Miller, said Tyndall was not armed with a real gun.

"No one was harmed or injured in this series of bank robberies," said Miller, who asked for a prison term of four years, eight months.

O'Neill recommended Tyndall serve his term at a fire camp where inmates can work outside. Tyndall pleaded guilty to two robberies and attempted robbery on March 8.



From left, Stephanie Dathe, Nancie Geller and Leigh Hark are shown in a television screen grab during a local NBC news telecast at The Thursday Club rummage sale in Balboa Park in March. The Point Loma-based organization, whose mission is to support many local beneficiaries, is now in its 90th year. COURTESY PHOTO

Thursday Club still going strong after 90 years

By KAI OLIVER-KURTIN | THE BEACON

The Thursday Club, a local organization now celebrating its 90th year, was renamed after the construction of its clubhouse above Sunset Cliffs in Point Loma in 1928. With the new location, the club adopted a new meeting day.

Originally called The Wednesday Club for its meetings held on Wednesdays in Balboa Park, the club was formed for members to engage in social, educational, cultural and civic activities.

Known for its huge annual rummage sale at the Balboa Park Activity Center, the nonprofit club has raised over \$1

million for various community resources. With half of the proceeds donated to causes in Balboa Park and the other half split between various charities within the community, The Thursday Club raised over \$100,000 during this year's 84th rummage sale on March 12-13.

"We really have made a difference with our fundraising efforts," said Nancie Geller, rummage sale co-chair. "The community always looks forward to the rummage sale and some people even camp out the night before."

The Thursday Club Foundation was formed in 2004 to achieve 501(c)(3)

status in support of the club's charitable contributions to organizations, including the San Diego Air & Space Museum, Friends of Balboa Park, St. Paul's Retirement Homes Foundation, Goodwill Industries of San Diego County and others.

"In the 25 years I've been involved with The Thursday Club," said Suzanne Barclay, club president, "I've been so proud of the many volunteers who dedicate their time to charities, which is really our reason and purpose. I've made a lot of friends and had a lot of fun over the years."

The club contains various social

departments, including golf, tennis, bridge and other interactive recreations. To assist with expenses, the group's clubhouse is rented out to the public for weddings and other special events. This year, it will also be organizing a home tour to help fund operation costs.

To celebrate its 90th anniversary, The Thursday Club held a birthday party in February with beneficiaries from years past to join in the singing. The club currently has more than 340 active members, including a junior club for younger members.

For more information, visit www.thethursdayclub.org.

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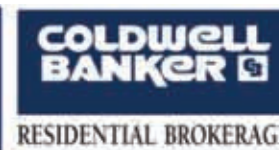
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NTC Foundation seeks to ease tax burden on Liberty Station tenants

By SEBASTIAN RUIZ | THE BEACON

A three-pronged approach by NTC Foundation executives could help ease an assessed tax on some of the non-profit tenants at Liberty Station.

The city stepped in earlier this year to pay about \$1.1 million in back taxes going back to 2006, according to the San Diego County Tax Assessor's Office.

In addition to appealing the tax at the county level, NTC Foundation officials are also lobbying state Sen. Christine Kehoe's office to change legislation that would partially exempt some tenants from paying. NTC Foundation officials are also asking private donors to help offset some of the cost to those tenants.

"The biggest challenge is, how do we make sure the community vision is still realized in such a way that we can make sure quality tenants can still afford to be here?" said NTC Foundation Executive Director Alan Ziter.

The problem stems from when the nonprofit NTC Foundation created the for-profit entity Liberty Station, Inc. to qualify for federal tax credits to renovate the first six buildings of the massive historical renovation project, Ziter said. Since nonprofits qualify for certain federal property tax credits for historical renovations, it was understood that the NTC Foundation would benefit from the credits, Ziter said. The strategy was to help avoid bank financing and to keep costs down for tenants, he said.

"More debt service would have meant more interest and increased annual costs, which would have meant

higher rents ... and we would not have the stellar roster of resident groups we have," Ziter said in an email.

But when county tax assessors discovered that the for-profit status of the Liberty Station Inc. subsidiary did not qualify NTC Foundation for the exemption in the middle of last year, it raised the issue — and the taxes.

"A few years later, when further inquiries were made with regards to our for-profit tenants, it triggered the county to re-look at the situation. That's when the bills started coming ... going all the way back to 2006," Ziter said.

Because the NTC Foundation could not afford the liability, and since the former Naval Training Station property is technically owned by the city of San Diego, the city stepped in to pay the tax.

However, now NTC Foundation officials are scrambling for ways to possibly reduce the tax hit to some of the nonprofit and small business tenants in the future.

One option is to appeal the tax bill at the county Tax Assessor's Office. The NTC Foundation and county officials have met in recent weeks to work on the issue.

"We're going to be working that for the next few months for them. If [the assessment] is not correct, we're going to correct it," said Jeff Olsen, division chief of San Diego County's Tax Assessment Services. The property value of Liberty Station was assessed at about \$22 million in 2010, Olsen said.

While the NTC Foundation cannot appeal the fact that it owes the tax, it

can appeal the amount assessed. The foundation has about 40 different appeals open with the county.

The NTC Foundation is also working with Kehoe's office on SB 797. The legislation would provide that when the use of federal tax credits to finance the rehabilitation of a building is the sole purpose of the holding of the ground lease by a wholly-owned for-profit entity controlled by NTC Foundation, the property would be considered owned by NTC Foundation. As such, this would qualify the foundation for the tax credits, officials said.

NTC officials have also approached a private donor in hopes of subsidizing some of the tax liability for the estimated 38 nonprofit tenants the NTC Foundation is fighting for. The private donor has not been named since the proposal process is in the early stages, Ziter said.

What remains in question is: "How do we make sure that we can bring in quality and on-mission tenants at rates they can afford, and overall implement the community's vision for an arts district?" Ziter said.

Since plans started almost a decade ago, the NTC Foundation has been in charge of the renovation of 27 buildings occurring over several phases that transformed the Former Naval Training Center into a burgeoning premier arts and cultural district that include on-site housing, lease space for both for-profit businesses and nonprofits, several schools and the Rock Church. The long-term project has changed the face of the area bringing an influx of dance, karate, gymnastics, various restaurants and office leasing space.

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Planned 400-car parking structure to sport vivid, modern look

By **SEBASTIAN RUIZ** | THE BEACON

Art can transform a potentially plain-looking, monolithic parking structure into something reminiscent of sails and sunshine.

Renowned artist Suikang Zhao presented his plans for a Port of San Diego

parking facility planned for America's Cup Harbor at Shelter Island, showcasing his ideas at an open house April 7.

"[Zhao] will be incorporating art into the facility so it won't look so blah," said Marguerite Elicone, a spokeswoman for the United Port of San Diego.

The design for the public artwork will

incorporate elements of sails and light reflection, according to port officials.


Zhao has completed several public pieces throughout the country, including adorning buildings and facilities like the Kansas City Bartle Hall Convention Center and the Marriott Library at the University of Utah. His work is also fea-

tured in several galleries and museums in New York, port officials said.

The four-story parking structure will make room for about 400 cars and is slated for construction beginning fall of this year along North Harbor Drive across from the Point Loma Marina. The facility is part of the Marina Green devel-

opment project and was approved by the Board of Port Commissioners in 2008, according to Port of San Diego documents. The facility is expected to handle the influx of traffic triggered by several separate but continuous development projects along North Harbor Drive and marinas along the bay.

EASTER WORSHIP 2011



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Maundy Thursday, Mass of the Institution
5:30 p.m. April 21

Good Friday Liturgy with Stations
and Veneration of the Cross • 12:00 noon, April 22

The Great Vigil and First Mass of Easter
5:30 a.m. Easter Sunday, April 24

Solemn High Mass of Easter • 8:00 a.m.
Easter Sunday, April 24

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Good Friday Service
April 22nd at 12:00 pm

Easter Sunday Service
April 24th at 9:30 am
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"He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay." Matthew 28:6



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NEWSbriefs



Mourners quickly established a makeshift memorial for Jalal "Joe" Abou, a mechanic who was shot and killed outside the service station he owned on Rosecrans Street on Tuesday morning.

PHOTO BY JIM GRANT | THE BEACON

Car repair shop owner shot to death on Rosecrans

Police investigators are asking for the public's help after the fatal shooting of a mechanic who owned Joe's Auto Repair in Point Loma on Tuesday morning.

The 63-year-old victim, identified as Jalal "Joe" Abou, was shot and killed at the Rosecrans Street location shortly before 7:30 a.m., according to investigators. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

Investigators are hoping someone who witnessed the murder will step forward to aid the investigation. Police said they have not identified a motive, but that they are seeking a man — possibly a Latino with short, cropped hair — who was seen driving a black or green older-model four-door car.

Anyone with information is urged to call the San Diego Police Department Homicide Unit at (619) 531-2293, or Crime Stoppers at (888) 580-8477.



Police and fire officials rescue an elderly woman from a vehicle that overturned on Nimitz Boulevard around 10 a.m. on April 15.

CLAIRE HARLIN | THE BEACON

Two wrecks trap drivers in OB Friday

For drivers trying to get out of the Ocean Beach area on the morning of April 15, they likely encountered unexpected traffic delays of up to an hour or more.

Police responded to an accident around 9 a.m. on Sunset Cliffs Boulevard near Nimitz Boulevard, in which a 35-year-old man on a motorcycle rear-ended a minivan, suffering major injuries to his left leg.

Sunset Cliffs Boulevard was blocked off at West Point Loma Boulevard and members of the police department's Retired Senior Volunteer Program were directing traffic toward Nimitz Boulevard.

Meanwhile, in an unrelated incident, police spokesman Gary Hassen said a call came in about an hour later, around 10 a.m., regarding a vehicle that had overturned at the 4600 block of Nimitz Boulevard. He said an elderly woman inside the vehicle suffered a severely broken foot. The accident caused traffic on Nimitz Boulevard to be blocked off, bringing traffic to a standstill.

— Claire Harlin

Local schools earn nearly \$40,000 in program

A special program hosted annually by Fresh & Easy Neighborhood Market netted seventeen schools in Point Loma more than \$38,000 to help bolster weakening educational budgets.

The donations were made possible by the chain's third annual "Shop for Schools" program.

Local kindergarten through eighth-grade schools located within a three-mile radius of the Fresh & Easy store at Catalina Boulevard and Cañon Street participated. For every \$20 that was spent there from Sept. 15 through Dec. 31, participating schools received a \$1 donation.

In addition to collecting receipts, registered schools could also participate in "Shopping Nights," which provided an opportunity to raise even more money. On each school's designated shopping night, five percent of the total sales at the store were donated to the schools.

The top fundraising school in California was Sunset View Elementary, which received a \$5,000 bonus on top of their fundraising efforts. Sunset View officials said they plan to use the money for their arts program, which features drama, art and music classes for its students.

For more information, visit www.freshandeasy.com/shopforschools.

PLNU opera event to raise money for Japanese relief

In the spirit of charity, Point Loma Opera Theatre (PLOT) of Point Loma Nazarene University will take Reds Espresso Gallery by storm on May 8 to aid the Japanese relief efforts.

Organizers said 100 percent of the proceeds from the short program of improvised opera will go toward the rebuilding and aid campaign.

The event begins at 4 p.m. with a performance of famous opera arias. PLOT members will then take suggestions from the audience and perform their own, on-the-spot, original opera. In previous improvisational opera sessions, PLOT members have sung as vegetables, zoo animals, letters of the alphabet and other zany scenarios.

Reds is located at 1017 Rosecrans St. For information, call (619) 226-7979.

Garden club slates plant walk

In conjunction with California Native Plant Week, which runs through Saturday, members of the Point Loma Garden Club will join with Botany for Kids in leading a plant walk at the Point Loma Native Plant Garden.

Participants are asked to meet Saturday at 1 p.m. at the corner of Mendocino and Greene streets in Ocean Beach.

For more information, call (619) 223-5229, or visit www.botanyforkids.com or www.plgc.org.



District 2 City Councilman Kevin Faulconer speaks during a press conference in May to announce the beach firepits had been saved from budget cuts. COURTESY PHOTO

COUNCIL CORNER

Investing in our beach neighborhoods pays dividends

By KEVIN FAULCONER

A lot of effort at City Hall recently has been geared toward opposing Sacramento's plan to disband redevelopment agencies across California. Most of San Diego's beach communities are not eligible to receive redevelopment dollars, but that hasn't kept us from working together to improve our neighborhoods.

All of us owe a big thank you to the community leaders and groups who helped us get to where we are today, including the Point Loma Association, the Peninsula Community Planning Board, Ocean Beach Planning Board, OB Town Council and the MainStreet Association.

I have no doubt that, with your help, we will continue to protect our beach neighborhoods.

Those beaches and bays — and our neighborhoods — are jewels. They attract millions of people — locals and tourists — every year, who come to surf, sun, swim, bike, walk, jog, barbeque, read and otherwise forget about life for a while.

Some of our recent accomplishments include:

- Opening NTC Park in Point Loma. At 46 acres, NTC Park is the largest waterfront park built in San Diego since Mission Bay Park.
- Investing in the new Peninsula Family YMCA gymnasium. The grand opening was April 9.
- Leading the campaign for the Mission Bay Park ordinance. This ensures that revenue generated in Mission Bay Park stays in Mission Bay Park.
- Replacing the cracked and rusted storm drains on the bay in La Playa.
- Undergrounding unsightly power lines in Point Loma's Roseville neighborhood.
- Making our beaches cleaner, safer and more family friendly by removing alcohol.
- Repaving and replacing about 20 miles of streets, sewer lines and water pipes in Ocean Beach and Point Loma during the last two years.
- Replacing old/rotting picnic pavilion on Crown Point in Mission Bay Park.
- Saving the city's firepits from budget cuts.

Numerous projects are under way, including the Ocean Beach Gateway, a decorative plaza that will give pedestrians access to the adjacent Robb Field Community Park. I want to thank the Ocean Beach Community Development Corporation for its hard work in bringing this project to fruition.

In Point Loma and Ocean Beach, the city is in the process of completing 13 water and sewer replacement projects.

On Friday, April 29 we're breaking ground on the new Rose Creek pedestrian bridge at Mission Bay Park.

The city also is replacing lights at the Pacific Beach Tennis Club, the only public tennis courts in the beach area. I was committed to fixing the lights in 2010 but the discretionary funding source at City Hall was recently eliminated. As a result, I allocated \$25,000 from my office budget.

We also helped persuade the city to repair the seawall and boardwalk from south Mission Beach to north Pacific Beach. Work is scheduled to be completed by Memorial Day.

I care deeply about the beach areas and I routinely visit the bays, the beaches and other places with my family.

What's most important to me, however, is you. I want to hear from you. What's working? What isn't? Where do we need to turn our attention?

Ocean Beach, Point Loma and Mission Bay Park — these are our neighborhoods. It's up to us to keep them looking their best. Many thanks for your ideas, hard work and support.

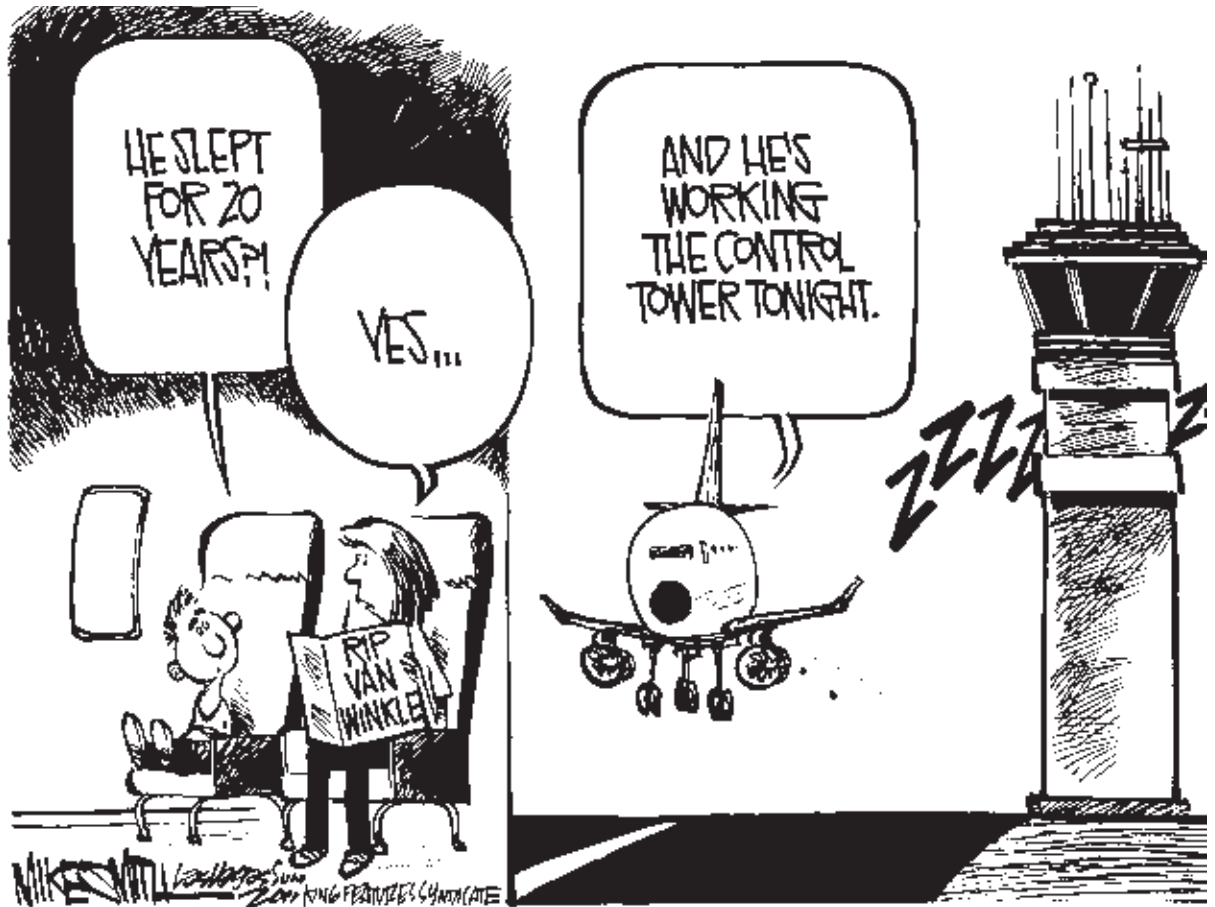
— **San Diego City Council President Pro Tem Kevin Faulconer represents District 2, which includes Point Loma, Ocean Beach, Pacific Beach and Mission Bay.**



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THE STATE OF REAL ESTATE

Sale of detached homes on Peninsula show first-quarter gains

By BOB KEVANE



BOB KEVANE

were, there has been an increase in inventory of homes on the market in Point Loma, Ocean Beach and Old Town, and detached properties are selling faster than they did last year.

Attached homes did not fare as well, but it's still a great time for investors to purchase because of historically low home prices and interest rates. Both buyers and sellers are feeling a bit more positive as we move into the second quarter of the year.

In the first quarter of this year, detached homes in Point Loma had a median home price of \$703,000 with 40 sold listings that took an average of 85 days to sell. In comparison to the

first quarter of 2010, there were 34 sold listings that were on the market for more than 100 days with a median home price of \$759,250.

Median home prices for detached homes in Ocean Beach averaged about \$660,000 in the first quarter of 2011, down from \$790,000 in 2010. Looking at it from a monthly perspective, the prices climbed in March to over \$880,000, just slightly more than this time last year when the median price was \$873,207. The number of homes sold increased to 22, up from 19 this time last year and spent seven less days on the market before selling.

Detached homes in Old Town this quarter are spending about 27 more days on the market and this neighborhood saw an increase in homes sold to 17, up from 10 in 2010. The median price has dropped from \$624,730 in 2010 to \$525,000 for the first quarter of this year. However, if you look at the median price in March in comparison to March of last year, you can see that the median price for Old Town has increased \$130,000 and two more homes sold in March of this year

as compared to March last year.

At this time last year, buyers were racing to take advantage of the first time buyer tax credit so comparisons of the first quarter of 2011 to the first quarter of 2010 must take that into consideration. It is quite encouraging to see that prices were only slightly down this year. Considering how heavily houses were being marketed due to the tax credit, we can equate the markets to be similar if not better this year than last.

With the arrival of the spring months, we're remaining positive that with the warmer weather will come an improved housing market. As you consider purchasing a home, take the time to evaluate your finances and real estate strategy and be sure to consult a knowledgeable REALTOR® for advice and guidance. To learn more about the benefits of choosing a REALTOR®, visit www.realtor.com and click "When Is a Real Estate Agent a REALTOR?" under "About the NAR".

— **Bob Kevane is president of the San Diego Association of REALTORS®.**



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BEACH & BAY PRESS
PENINSULA BEACON
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DOWNTOWN NEWS
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Announcements, photos and story ideas are welcomed. We ask that content be sent at least one week prior to publication and include valid contact information.

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Spring Fling to offer family egg-citement

By SEBASTIAN RUIZ | THE BEACON

Spring brings with it a time for reflection, a chance to get together and an opportunity to celebrate traditions old and new.

The third annual Liberty Station Spring Fling, set for Saturday, April 23 from noon to 5 p.m. at Ingraham Plaza and NTC Park, promises activities for children and their families — including an Easter egg scavenger hunt and photo opportunities with the Easter Bunny. The event is free.

"We do have the balloon artists and the Easter Bunny will be there for pictures. There's going to be performances by certain [Liberty Station] tenants and by [local band] Rockola," said Spring Fling account coordinator Chloe Preussker. "We wanted the whole community to come to the event. It's like Liberty Station's gift to the community."

Included in the events will be a beanbag toss, inflatable jumpers and performances by local organizations like the Liberty Station-based San Diego Gymnastics.

"The Spring Fling is one of our favorite events," said Samantha Folts, San Diego Gymnastics Gym director. "We always have it on the calendar and look forward to it each year."

Folts helps run the school where about 450 students ranging from 12 months to 17 years of age toss and tumble on a weekly basis. This Saturday, they'll set up gymnastic obstacle courses and equipment so children can get a handle on some gymnastic skills while being guided by seasoned instructors outdoors.

Also, expect to see performances from the school's cheer and competitive teams, she said. The gym has participated in the event since the Spring Fling's inception three years ago.

San Diego Gymnastics will be in the health and wellness building on the corner of Roosevelt and Historic Decatur roads during the egg hunt. They'll be one of several businesses that will open their doors to the public for the hunt.

Also performing live will be Rockola, the rock 'n' roll cover band known for playing classic hits around town



Youngsters will have plenty of opportunities to hunt eggs, play games and be entertained during the annual Spring Fling at Liberty Station on Saturday. PHOTO BY PAUL HANSEN | THE BEACON

Hosted by the Point Loma Community Park and Recreation Council, the Spring Fling is expected to draw about 3,000 people to the Liberty Station arts and cultural district at the intersection of Lytton and Rosecrans streets.

For more information or to learn how to get involved, call (619) 531-1534 or visit www.sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/centers/cabrillo.shtml.

Kiwanis Club to host Easter Sunrise Service at Cabrillo

The Kiwanis Club of Point Loma will again present an ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service at the Cabrillo National Monument. The services will be held in the lower parking lot, giving those who attend an early-morning panoramic view of San Diego Harbor and the city.

This will mark the 62nd consecutive year the local Kiwanis Club of Point Loma has hosted the popular community service.

According to organizers, the gates will open at 6 a.m., with the non-denominational service beginning at 6:30 a.m. Seating will be available for about 550 guests and early arrival is encouraged.

The speakers this year are Capt. Paul Marconi, commanding officer of Naval Base Point Loma and Jim Nickel, Lt. Governor of Kiwanis Div. 21. Chaplain Kaelan Clay, the command chaplain of Naval Base Point Loma, will conduct the service.

The scheduled soloist will be Michael Blinco, accompanied by Brent Johnson. A musical interlude of patri-



The Kiwanis Club of Point Loma will host the 62nd annual Easter Sunrise Service at Cabrillo National Monument on Sunday.

PHOTO COURTESY THE KIWANIS CLUB

otic music before the service will be provided by the Navy Band Southwest and the Naval Base Point Loma Color Guard will open the ceremony.

A fellowship time with coffee, tea and pastries occurs immediately following the services.

For more information, call (619) 519-3812, e-mail barlekis@cox.net or visit www.pointlomakiwanis.org.

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SAN DIEGO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AIRPORT LAND USE COMPATIBILITY PLAN

The San Diego County Regional Airport Authority is in the process of updating the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP) for San Diego International Airport (SDIA). The ALUCP for SDIA will play an important role in ensuring that new development in the vicinity of the airport is compatible and that SDIA can continue to meet the region's aviation needs.

Please join us at the following upcoming meetings to provide public input as this important plan is being developed. Both meetings will focus on the topic of Noise Compatibility in Land Use Planning in the area surrounding SDIA.

STEERING COMMITTEE: Review technical information and provide input on the development of the ALUCP

When: April 28, 2011
Time: 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Location: SDIA Commuter Terminal
2nd floor
3225 North Harbor Drive

Meeting has been scheduled for 4 hours, but may end earlier if the discussion is completed.



AIRPORT LAND USE COMMISSION
SAN DIEGO COUNTY

OPEN HOUSE: Learn about how the ALUCP might affect property surrounding the airport and provide comments to the Airport Authority

When: April 28, 2011
Time: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Location: SDIA Commuter Terminal
2nd floor
3225 North Harbor Drive

Meeting is an open house format. There will be no formal presentation, but participants will be able to interact directly with staff.

Parking validation available. For more information, please visit www.san.org/alucp. For questions or comments, please contact (619) 400-2462 or alucpcomments@san.org.

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PHOTO BY PAUL HANSEN | THE BEACON

GARDEN

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

online at pointlomagardenwalk.com for \$20 or in person at Armstrong Garden Center on Morena Boulevard, Green Gardens Nursery on Cass Street in Pacific Beach, Mission Hills Nursery on

Ft. Stockton and Walter Andersen Nursery in Point Loma. Ticket prices the day of event are \$25.

The Craniofacial Services Department of Rady Children's Hospital is made up of internationally recognized surgeons and doctors who treat debilitating conditions like cleft lip and other facial deformities resulting from trauma

or birth defects.

The hospital has a 442-bed capacity and provides one of the largest pediatric-care facilities for San Diego and Riverside counties, according to Rady Children's Hospital literature.

For tickets or information, call (619) 518-8663, or visit www.pointlomagardenwalk.com.

GRANT

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

through those things, hopefully we can find things we support and highlight to our council representative," said Landry Watson, vice chairman of the OB planners, who is spearheading the effort.

So far, the city has allocated \$16.2 million in community development block grants: \$12.2 million from the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Department, a \$3.3 million loan repayment from the San Diego Redevelopment Agency and the rest in program income. Several million more could be available if an anticipated 25 percent budget cut from HUD does not materialize, White said.

Though the block grant component attracts most of the attention, the plan also includes funds for three other HUD programs. The comment period ends May 5.

Copies of the draft AAP are available at local libraries and online at www.sandiego.gov/cdbg/general.

In other news relating to the Ocean Beach Planning Board:

- There's been quite a buzz at City Hall with the newly passed regulations having to do with medical marijuana dispensaries. "We've been receiving a lot of calls from people saying, 'Hey, I'm out of

compliance. What do I need to do to get in compliance and where can I move to?" said Michael Patton, representative for District 2 City Councilman Kevin Faulconer. An implementation plan is being developed, he said.

- No need for a concession speech for Scott Therkelson. Though he allowed his two-year planning board term as District 4 representative to expire, he gained the previously vacant District 3 position through board appointment. There's still a vacancy for District 7. Eligibility and appointment rules can be found at oceanbeachpb.com/2011_OBPB_Election.html.

- The slate of officers won't change much this year. Re-elected for one-year terms were Chairman Giovanni Ingolia, Vice Chairman Landry Watson and Treasurer Jane Gawronski. The incumbent secretary, Seth Connolly, declined re-nomination, citing family demands. He has been replaced by Brittany Taylor.

- Having lost at the San Diego City Council, the OB Planning Board is appealing to the next level: the California Coastal Commission. At issue is a planned demolition of a one-story building at 5164 W. Point Loma Ave. and replacement with a three-story building. Gawronski said she'll travel all the way to the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors Chambers in Santa Rosa when the appeal is heard the second week of May.



Spring offers seasonal fresh fruits and veggies

Spring is here and it sure is grand! With all this warm weather comes the craving for all the fresh fruits and vegetables that the season brings. As the days heat up, we feel the need to lighten our fare. Whether you're planning a picnic on the

beach, a Sunday drive to Julian, or fresh veggies on the grill, Ocean Beach People's Organic Food Market has every thing your light heart desires.

From artichokes to mangos, spring onions to papaya, and baby greens to pineapple, our produce is just what the doctor ordered . . . always fresh, and always organic! So stop on by as you stroll

down the sunny street and taste what all the fuss is about. And don't forget to stop at the Co-op on Earth Day,

Friday April 22: we'll be raffling off a bicycle, and offering an additional 10% off most Bulk Food Dept. items, and 22% off stainless steel drinking bottles.

Open daily from 8 a.m. – 9 p.m., you'll find Ocean Beach People's Organic Food Market at 4765 Voltaire Street, where Everyone Can Shop and Anyone can Join! Visit online at www.obpeoplesfood.coop or call us at (619) 224-1387.

Common Care Giving Misconceptions

Caring for a parent or spouse is an emotional subject which is likely the reason

so many myths surround it. This article is designed to dispel some of these myths. It's a must-read for anyone currently involved in care giving including those who are considering hiring or perhaps even becoming a caregiver.

Adult Children No Longer Provide Care for Aging Parents at Home

While stories of adult children abandoning their aging parents make for interesting reading, this is just not true. What is true is that families live further apart from one another than ever before and that situation sometimes presents caregiving challenges. Advances in communication make it easy for adult children and aging parents to stay in regular contact. Many children also care for their parents but the stress may be great.

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Not true. If you don't yet have a caregiving plan, you're definitely not alone. Most adult children do not tackle this issue until they are forced, meaning it doesn't usually happen until a parent becomes ill, starts showing signs of the onset of age-related conditions such as dementia or Alzheimer's disease, or until one aging parent dies and the other has trouble resuming life after the death of their spouse.

Caregiver Resources are Insufficient

This is not true. Caregiver resources are fragmented and sometimes difficult to comprehend or access. But they're out there. New legislation regarding caregiving and care receiving is constantly being introduced and approved.

Contact Innovative Healthcare Consultants, a geriatric care management and care giving company for assistance and answers to your question.

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Chapman has added Friday evening performances at Reds coffeehouse

By BART MENDOZA | THE BEACON

Reds Espresso Gallery is a local institution, justly loved both for serving up a delicious organic beverage and for its relaxed atmosphere.

While not known as an entertainment venue, the coffeehouse is home to one of the longest artist residencies in San Diego, that of jazz pianist Billy Chapman. He has performed lunchtime sets there on Saturdays and Sundays for the last 12 years.

Now he has added Friday evening sets to his schedule.

Scheduling music around a 60-hour work week in the software industry, Chapman — a Point Loma native and accomplished classical player — has been a regular at local venues ranging from the La Valencia to the Hotel Del Coronado.

He said he sees the Reds Espresso gig as both fun and practical, with a constantly changing audience.

"I like hotel lobby work," he said. "[But] I'm so busy now I barely get time to play. This is really an efficient way to keep up on your repertoire."

He said the location is a perfect match of artist and location.

"It's about as relaxing and friendly a place as you'll ever walk into," Chapman said. "It's become an institution in Point Loma — in a nice way. There's nothing stuffy or uptight about the place."

Being a native, he does see a fair amount of familiar faces.

"It's hard to say who is just there anyway or who stops in to see me. While I wouldn't call it an overwhelming crowd, there are regulars and they appreciate it."

Chapman said he plans to extend his Reds residency indefinitely.

"I plan on playing piano until the day I die," he said good-naturedly.

Chapman said he has had a life-long interest in the piano, which started at home.

"My mom's a great piano player," Chapman said. "I don't ever remember not playing. I was a typical kid. I always liked doing it, but practice got in the way of my (surfing) lifestyle."

"When I really started hardcore surfing I kept showing up to lessons with my hands bruised, which really pissed off the teachers," he said.

While Chapman said he would love to eventually form a small jazz combo, for now he's happy going the solo route. He said the original reasons for going solo were pragmatic. Working so many hours, the only time he could find to play was in the middle of the night by himself.

"I was so busy I never had the time to organize a band or anything. I ultimately ended up playing all the parts," he said.

While he said he hopes to have a band in the future, he won't forego his solo performances.

"Now I'm spoiled and I like playing all the parts," Chapman said.

His repertoire includes a slew of standards like "In a Sentimental Mood," "Harlem Nocturne" and "Straight, No Chaser," with touches of improvisation. Chapman said he considers what he does to be more of a soundtrack to an evening than a concert performance.

"I'm not a natural performer," he said. "I'm not unfriendly, but I'm not there to cheer things up or converse between songs. I like to be background music. If someone wants to

listen, fine. If they want to have a conversation and just hear the music in the background, that's fine with me too."

Chapman has played bigger venues, but Reds Espresso offers him freedom to work on his craft as well as entertain without too much pressure.

"Having everybody sit still and

stare at you, there's something to it. But it's work," Chapman said. "It's stressful. I'd rather just be enjoying myself. I'd rather be at the party than the solo person onstage everybody is staring at."

Billy Chapman performs at 7 p.m. on Fridays at Reds Espresso Gallery, 1017 Rosecrans St. No cover. All ages. www.sexybeans.com.



Billy Chapman, who has been a mainstay artist performing during lunch at Reds Espresso Gallery on Fridays and Saturdays for the last 12 years, has added Friday evening performances this month. COURTESY PHOTO

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PALETTE OF PASSION

OB resident curates annual invitational show

By **TERRIE LEIGH RELF** | THE BEACON

An Ocean Beach resident is the driving force behind a broad exhibit spotlighting the artistic skills of dozens of local artists during its ninth annual Invitational Drawing Show.

The focus of this multi-media show is the refined art of drawing, and was originally conceived by visual arts librarian and exhibition curator Mark-Elliott Lugo, who hails from OB. The show features 64 works by 14 established artists hailing from Ocean Beach, Pacific Beach, La Jolla and elsewhere in San Diego.

The impressive exhibit runs through April 30 at the Pacific Beach/Taylor Library.

Lugo said the show is the largest and most ambitious of the drawing shows to date.

"The art of drawing is often misunderstood, and the current exhibit demonstrates what is possible," Lugo said. "It encompasses a wide range of expression and speaks to a resurgence of drawing in the art world. Given the advent of new media and digital expression, there is a synergy of classic elements and techniques with unusual surfaces and unexpected media."

Jesus Dominguez's "Poem Slips #2," for example, challenges the traditional definition of drawing. He uses Prismacolor pencils on oriented strand board, working with the natural pattern to invoke a vibrant interplay of depth, motion and rhythm.

"The series started as a recycling project using scraps of oriented strand board," Dominguez said. "I saw intriguing artistic possibilities in the random patterns of the wood fragments that give the series its distinctive, variegated look."

Renowned artist Herbert Olds' "Green, Gray, Pink: Secrets" provides an exceptional example of how a mature artist combines image and text. His complex narrative invokes the spirit of discovery.

"Formally, my work evolves in the tension that exists between representation and abstraction," Olds said. "It aims to complicate rather than simplify. I try to create rich visual surfaces filled with as many elements as the form of the work and my imagination will allow. The idea, or content, grows naturally out of the act of drawing itself. That is to say, the drawings are not premeditated, they are discovered."

Todd Partridge, known for his furniture design, has a series of charcoal-on-gypsum-cement drawings that show traditional media on an untraditional surface. This series of plaster-cast tiles are surrounded by frame-like structures that are also cast in plaster, and present intriguing details that elevate "common" woodworking tools to *objets d'art*.

"It is my hope that the viewer begins to gain a sense of my passion for the physicality of our world, and for the beauty in the materials and implements we use every day," Partridge said.

The work of Ernest Silva, a respected visual arts department professor at the University of California, San Diego, combines drawing and painting, demonstrating their inherent relationship. His "Rogue's Gallery Series" uses black acrylic paint on raw wood veneer, and one piece is reminiscent of a childlike Tin Man from "The Wizard of Oz."

"[My] work emphasizes the use of images to trigger speculation based on personal experience. The common denominators are the handmade, the emotive and the sense that they may have been imagined, drawn from art history, or recalled from memory. They can be read literally, but easily move to metaphor."

Robert Treat's "Containment/Release" series combines



Mark-Elliott Lugo of Ocean Beach is the curator for an impressive exhibit at the Pacific Beach/Taylor Library. Behind Lugo is a work called "Shoulder Plane 1" by Ocean Beach artist Todd Partridge.

PHOTO BY PAUL HANSEN | THE BEACON



Pacific Beach artist Robert Nelson showcases his black-and-white pencil work "Rocket Love," which carries a social undertone.

PAUL HANSEN | THE BEACON

charcoal and encaustic — or layers of pigmented wax — on Japanese paper. The elegant images are understated, even muted, and resonate with considerable depth.

"These images are more analytical than they are intuitive, using the mental process of 'contextualization' by which we consciously place an object or line in relation to others," said Treat. "They are structural, loosely influenced by architectural blueprint drawings."

There are other exceptional works in the show, like the work of black-and-white pencil artist Robert Nelson, who works in Pacific Beach and La Jolla resident Asa Kvissberg, a Swedish artist. Others include sculptor Kenneth Capps' steel-plate drawings, Raúl Trejo's exquisitely wrought *trompe l'oeil* butterflies and Katherine Brannock's pen-and-ink bestiary series.

The Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch Library's visual arts program fills a vital niche, according to Lugo. It is a unique program funded solely by donations and extends throughout the entire library system. The library, its gallery space and the school lecture series, are all free of charge.

The next show, featuring mixed-media artist Flavia Gilmore's "Recent Works," will open May 21 and will run about three months.

The Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch Library Gallery is located at 4275 Cass St.

Its hours of operation are Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 12:30 to 8 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Lugo is available for group and class tours and can be reached at (619) 238-6627. The library can be reached by calling (858) 581-9934, or visiting www.sandiego.gov/public-library/services/visualarts.shtml.

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Young sailing enthusiast may revolutionize sport with his vision

By SCOTT HOPKINS | THE BEACON

You might call him Point Loma’s “sailing scientist.”

Point Loma High School (PLHS) junior Matthew Morris III scored a triumph at the recent Greater San Diego Science and Engineering Fair, winning first place in the senior division and awards from four professional organizations.

His project tested a unique sailboat hull modification that Morris came up with several years ago after seeing flaws in traditional keels. The results showed conclusively that his hydrodynamic “wing” will make sailboats both faster and safer.

Next, he will present his work before national and international judges in Los Angeles.

He owns the idea. Morris received an international utility patent on the design in 2009 after nearly two years of work, which included assistance from his father on required drawings.

But this story really begins long ago.

Matthew is the son of Matthew Morris, Jr. and Kimberly Morris, and when dad took his six-year-old son on his first competitive sailing race a decade ago, he was hoping the youngster would acquire his love of the sport.

In those early days, the Morris family saw young Matthew enter the San Diego Yacht Club’s junior sailing program, where he flourished. Today, he is a member of the national championship PLHS sailing team and ranked fourth in North America in Olympic laser radial-class sailboats.

This June, Morris will compete in



Matthew Morris works on his winning science fair project, testing his patented hull modification for sailboats. Above is the flow bench he used with a boat model, while other instruments surround his computer displaying test data.

COURTESY PHOTO

Long Beach at the youth multi-hull world championships, followed by a July trip to France for the youth and men’s laser radial world championships.

At age 13, after sailing on “Genuine Risk,” considered among the fastest mono-hull boats in the world, Matthew’s scientific interest was born. The boat uses a traditional “canting keel” design — a large lead bulb that acts as ballast to keep the craft upright and from slipping sideways in the wind.

“I did some research on my own and found out ‘canting keel’ sailboats had experienced frequent failures in many open-ocean races,” Morris said. Later, upon seeing “Genuine Risk” out of the

water, Morris was stunned to learn what tremendous stress is placed on the keel and lead bulb.

“Is there was a better way?” Morris wondered. With that, his work began.

“I came up with my own concept and discussed it with some knowledgeable people in the sailing community,” Morris said. “They thought my idea had merit.”

Morris’ idea involved the installation of a hydrodynamic lifting surface — or “wing” — on hulls, counteracting the wind’s force and reducing the amount of lead needed in the keel. The shaft con-

SEE **SAIL**, Page 16

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CONTINUED FROM Page 12

necting it is attached at an obtuse angle.

"After the patent was granted, I shared my concept with as many yacht designers and scientists as possible," Morris said. "There was general agreement the basic concept was sound and I received feedback on some of the technical challenges. It was suggested my next step should be proof-of-concept testing."

On the advice of Brian Benz, his PLHS physics teacher, the winning science project was begun last summer. It did, however, have its problems.

Since he couldn't find a professional fluids lab that would allow him access, Morris had to construct his own flow bench. PLHS lent him sensors and data-acquisition software to help acquire needed materials.

Ray Menegus, Sr., an avid radio-controlled model builder, assisted with the creation of a functional boat model. Marco Schilling, CEO of Schilling 3D, supplied a Jacuzzi pump and backboard graphics. Dr. Steven Harrington, CEO of FloMetrics, offered advice on test procedures. And Paul Taylor loaned the backboard Morris is using to display the project.

ProBuild and Ocean Beach Hardware provided discounts on materials used to complete the flow bench.

Also, PLHS teachers Benz, Sylvia Maas and Steve Guthrie provided the instrument hardware and "valued guidance and support," Morris said.

"According to my project journal," Morris said, "I already have 214 hours dedicated to the science fair entry. The work is ongoing, as I'm preparing for the national and international fairs, which require additional testing and analysis."

Morris received the 57th Fred H. Rohr Award for his work, in addition to professional society awards from The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, The Marine Technology Society, The Naval Science Awards Program and the Falconium Science Journal.

"This was my first experience with the science fair," Morris said, "and the knowledge about my subject, scientific methodology and what is involved in converting a concept into a design were the most important and rewarding aspects of my participation."

More gratification for Morris came from the interactions he had with sailing superstars.



Point Loma High School's "Sailing Scientist" Matthew Morris takes a break from his experiments to relax on the ocean. Morris invented a hull modification for sailboats that may result in faster, safer boats. COURTESY PHOTO

"To have some of the best minds in the business show their support is highly encouraging," Morris said. "One of the best rewards I received was being able to talk with and learn from these greats in the sport of sailing."

Morris knows more needs to be done before his "wing" becomes the new standard.

"It was very exciting to get positive results from the experiment," he said. "A lot more testing and experimentation needs to be done before I can answer all the questions about potential benefits and issues concerning my keel design."

There is speculation about the potential applications of his invention, and Morris said he is encouraged.

"With development, I believe the coming generation of sailboats, using my keel concept, can bring performance to the next level," Morris said.

The "sailing scientist" may someday revolutionize the sport he loves.

EVENTS CALENDAR

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COMMUNITY/CIVIC

Tuesday, April 19, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., the United Port of San Diego launches the first of two **public workshops to discuss Shelter Island dock fees.** At issue is a potential change in fees for the transient vessel docks, which have been operated by the port for more than 30 years. Port officials are considering increasing the tariff to recover operation and maintenance costs. The workshop will be held at the Shelter Island Mooring Office, 1401 Shelter Island Drive. For more information, visit www.portofsandiego.org.

Monday, April 25, noon to 1 p.m., the United Port of San Diego launches the second of two **public workshops to discuss Shelter Island dock fees.** At issue is a potential change in fees for the transient vessel docks, which have been operated by the port for more than 30 years. Port officials are considering increasing the tariff to recover operation and maintenance costs. The workshop will be held at the Shelter Island Mooring Office, 1401 Shelter Island Drive. For more information, visit www.portofsandiego.org.

Saturday, April 30, 8:30 a.m., the National Sclerosis Society's Pacific South Coast chapter hosts its **2011 San Diego County Credit Union Walk MS,** a three-mile fundraising walk to benefit research and treatment for multiple sclerosis. The 21st annual San Diego event is expected to draw an estimated 4,000 walkers to raise a goal of \$400,000. There is no cost to be a walker. Walkers can earn prizes like T-shirts, movie passes and gift cards, and there will be entertainment and a variety of refreshments. The event takes place at NTC Park in Liberty Station. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. For registration information, visit www.mswalk.com.

Friday, May 6, 5 to 8 p.m. Friday Night Liberty, Guests are invited to explore the NTC Promenade Arts & Cultural District and enjoy an evening of art, receptions, music, food and exhibits. For more information, visit www.ntcpromenade.com.

Wednesday, May 11, Point Loma Garden Club hosts its monthly meeting with speaker Tiger Palfax, general manager of Mission Hills Nursery, the city's

oldest nursery founded by Kate Sessions in 1910. Palfax will speak on new plant varieties that are available this year and how to grow them. He will also share knowledge about saving endangered native plants. Plants will also be available for purchase. The meeting takes place at the United Portuguese S.E.S. Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal. For more information, visit www.plgc.org.

Friday, May 13, 6 to 8:30 p.m., the Ocean Beach Historical Society hosts "OB Exposed!," an annual community photo contest featuring multiple categories. The featured guest for the night is Noah Tafolla, host of the KPBS series "Wonderland." The free event takes place at the Masonic Hall, 1711 Sunset Cliffs Blvd. For more information, visit www.obhistory.wordpress.com.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Saturday, April 30, 6 to 9 p.m., "Arise: From Sea to Soil to Sky" exhibit opens at the Mod-Est Studio Gallery with environmentally themed oil paintings by Kevin Winger. A portion of proceeds will be donated to San Diego Coastkeeper. The gallery is located at 2690 Historic Decatur Road, No. 104. Admission is free. For information, call (619) 818-6087, or visit www.kevinwinger.com.

Friday, May 6, "Art Meets Fashion" at Friday Night Liberty, featuring **exhibits and a catwalk launch** at the NTC Promenade, a project of San Diego Visual Arts Network and FOCUS. The event takes place at 2640 Historic Decatur Road. For more information, call (619) 573-9260, or visit www.ntcpromenade.com.

Friday, May 6, 7:30 p.m. author Richard Louv launches his new book, "The Nature Principle," in a lecture at Point Loma Nazarene University. Louv is the author of "Last Child in the Woods." His presentation will deliver a call to action for nature-balancing existence. Tickets are \$5 in advance, \$10 (cash) at the door or \$25 with an autographed book. Exhibitions featuring a variety of nature, conservation and outdoor organizations open at 6:30. The event takes place at the university's Brown Chapel, 3900 Lomaland Drive. For information, email ediechapman@pointloma.edu.

Friday, May 6, 5 to 8 p.m. First Friday reception for artists exhibiting original works at the **San Diego Watercolor Society Gallery**, 2825 Dewey Road at Liberty Station. Admission always free. Regular gallery hours are Wednesdays through Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call (619) 876-4550, or visit www.sdws.org.