



THE PENINSULA BEACON

SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER GROUP

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A DISTRICT IN CRISIS

Point Loma may take brunt of school hits



As part of the San Diego Unified School District's emerging closure and realignment plan, the K-6 Mandarin language-immersion magnet program at Barnard Elementary School, **above**, would be closed and moved to Dana, where it would evolve into a K-8 Pacific Rim language academy. Photo by Jim Grant | The Beacon

Local cluster braces for upheaval as 2 elementaries targeted

By PATRICIA WALSH | THE BEACON

The San Diego Unified School District's (SDUSD) equation for solving its budget shortfall doesn't add up for some Point Loma cluster parents and educators.

On the brink of bankruptcy with a \$60 million to \$100 million deficit, the district is proposing to close 10 schools citywide — with Point Loma taking 20 percent of the hit — and realigning others to save \$5 million, or \$500,000 per school.

For Point Loma, that emerging plan means an increased enrollment at every school in the cluster except the high school.

Cabrillo and Dana elementary schools would be shuttered if the recommendations move forward. The unique 5-6 grade configuration at Dana Middle School would be eliminated. The K-6 Mandarin language-immersion magnet program at Barnard would be moved to Dana, where it would evolve into a K-8 Pacific Rim language academy.

Most changes would be in place by the first bell of the 2012-13 school year, according to district officials.

"The district is making business decisions and we're the only cluster where every single school is impacted by the recommendation (except the high school)," said Darrell Klueber, a teacher at Silver Gate Elementary School.

"Why are we the most impacted? We're getting better every year," he said. "Why mess that up?"

Klueber asked his questions during a meeting of an ad hoc cluster committee formed by The Point Loma Cluster Schools Foundation (PLCSF) to address the district's proposal. The committee's 25 members had many other questions — and no answers.

What will become of the music program at Dana? What will happen to Proposition S money? Is the district's promise of choice priority to students at closed schools possible given the limited seats at remaining schools? How will the changes impact traffic in Point Loma? Why is it all happening so fast?

Also of concern is focusing on the busi-



Cabrillo Elementary School, **above**, and the 5-6 grade configuration at Dana Middle School could be targeted for closure by the beginning of the next school year. Photo by Jim Grant | The Beacon

PL Cluster Schools Foundation: at the eye of the storm

By PATRICIA WALSH | THE BEACON

As parents and educators process the cyclone of information from San Diego Unified School District about proposed school closures and consolidations, one organization is at the eye of the storm.

The Point Loma Cluster Schools Foundation (PLCSF) responded to the district's news by creating a 25-member ad hoc committee and has held three informational meetings with stakeholders. When school district officials meet with the community at Point Loma High School at 7 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 24, PLCSF will have identified key concerns and issues.

Matt Spathas, president of PLCSF, told an ad hoc committee the budget crisis is real.

"We have a new normal, and that's scary," he said. "We need to be aware and understand the issues, to find clusterwide solutions and alternative ideas."

The district's timeline is compressed:

- **Oct. 24:** Point Loma Cluster Schools Foundation town hall meeting for information and community input
- **Nov. 29:** First reading of the school clo-

sure recommendations by the Board of Education

• **Dec. 13:** Final reading and approval of the school closure recommendations by the Board of Education

• **January to August 2012:** Site and district preparations for closure, movement and change

The PLCSF got its start in 2006 when Point Loma parents and educators developed a strategic plan for a unified vision for the cluster's 10 schools. A California non-profit public benefit corporation, the PLCSF has a board of 40 members representing all cluster schools. Principals are appointed, teachers are elected by teachers from their respective schools and parents are elected by parents at their respective schools.

The 10-member Executive Committee was elected by the board.

The foundation is using its website as a clearinghouse of up-to-date news and information.

For school data, meeting times and additional links, visit www.pointloma-cluster.com. To participate in the community discussion and post a comment, visit plcluster.blogspot.com.

Coastal Commission puts off decision on condos development; planners to take it up

By TONY De GARATE | THE BEACON

A decision to approve a 10-unit, 30-foot-high condo north of the Ocean Beach lifeguard tower parking lot has been postponed to give community planners a chance to scrutinize it.

Rather than grant an amendment to a previously approved coastal development permit for Ocean Park Villas at the southwest corner of Saratoga Avenue and Abbott Street, the California Coastal Commission instead approved a two-month continuance at its regular monthly meeting Oct. 6 in Huntington Beach.

The decision allows the Ocean Beach Planning Board (OBPB) to take up the project at its next monthly meeting Nov. 2 at 6 p.m. at the Ocean Beach Recreation Center, 4726 Santa Monica Ave. The board's Project Review Committee was scheduled to debate the matter Oct. 19 and make a recommendation to the full board.

The city usually decides coastal development permits, but the Coastal Commission has retained jurisdiction for this project because it abuts the beach. Even so, it may have been a mistake to allow the project to get on the commission agenda without more community input, commissioners said in a unanimous decision.

SEE **CONDOS**, Page 11



One of the hits of a recent OB Kiwanis Club Ocean Beach Howl-O-Ween festival and parade was a dog attired as Cleopatra with a gold earring and a wig, riding on a "barge" accompanied by five people dressed as slaves. Courtesy photo

OB Canine Carnival ready to unleash a howling good time

By NICOLE SOURS LARSON | THE BEACON

It's time to harness the imagination and create that special doggy Howl-O-Ween costume for the Kiwanis Club's Ocean Beach Canine Carnival.

The canine caper features a costume parade led by Chopper the Biker Dog and an array of contests for doggies and their securely leashed humans, kept on a maximum six-foot lead.

The carnival takes place Sunday, Oct. 30 at Dusty Rhodes Park on the west side across from Robb Field at Sunset Cliffs and Nimitz boulevards.

The activities get under way about 10 a.m. with the canine carnival and street fair, featuring vendors offering canine-related merchandise and services. Registration for dogs participating in the parade and contests runs from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., with the parade from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Costume judging and contests will continue throughout the day until judges award prizes around 3 p.m. All times are, of course, OB time.

Contests tend toward the whimsical, with prizes for the scariest, funniest, most OB-like, best surfer, dog/owner

SEE **UPHEAVAL**, Page 8

SEE **HOWL-O-WEEN**, Page 7

Lobster season: the thrill of the catch can be a deadly pursuit

By **MARIKO LAMB** | THE BEACON

Lobster diving season has hit the California coastline from Monterrey Bay to the Gulf of Tehuantepec, Mexico. Popular coastal sites in San Diego such as the La Jolla Ecological Reserve, Point Loma's giant kelp forest and Wreck Alley off Mission Beach's shore draw in lobster divers from all over the nation for the thrill of catching the delicious crustaceans.

San Diego safety officials and diving experts urge caution and proper knowledge of regulations when catching the elusive critters, which only come out at night and hide in rocks and reefs during the day.

Ignorance about lobster diving regulations can lead to hefty fines — up to \$1,000 for fishing without a license, said Andrew Hughan, representative for California Department of Fish and Game's South Coast Region.

According to California laws, lobsters must be measured underwater and those with carapaces less than 3 1/4 inches must be thrown back. Additionally, no more than seven lobsters can be taken per person per day, divers can only use their hands to take lobsters and all recreationally harvested lobsters must remain whole and intact while at sea.

Hughan said opening day of lobster diving season on Oct. 1 went smoothly.

"It was a great day — no safety violations, no one got hurt," he said, although wardens did issue several citations throughout the day for undersized lobster catches and over bug limits.

The season has not gone all that



Diver Steve Schur shows off a large lobster caught at Mission Bay. Lobster-diving season has opened along the California coastline. *Courtesy photo*

smoothly since then, however.

One death already occurred from the aquatic pursuit — that of 35-year-old Jimmy Somphiringa Tanovan on Oct. 9.

According to police, Tanovan went into the water alone around 7 p.m. He was found dead in waters south of Children's Pool in La Jolla — in an area known as "Hospital Point" — around 8:30 p.m.

Tanovan's death marks the 11th diving fatality in San Diego since 2007.

Marine safety lifeguard Lt. John Everhart emphasized the importance of diving safety during the height of the season.

"Don't dive alone," he said. "You have to think that every diving death that we've had where a diver was diving alone could have been prevented. It's

critical to have a buddy."

He also urged divers be aware of their abilities and surroundings both on the surface of the water with currents and swells and below the surface in the kelp forests, reefs and rocks.

"Most people go at night because the lobsters are walking around then," he said. "But if you're going to an area that you're not familiar with, you should first go during the day."

Even if a diver is familiar with the area, "conditions change frequently," he said, urging divers to check surf, visibility and wind conditions beforehand and watch the water 30 to 45 minutes before entering.

San Diego freediving instructor Mark Lozano recalled receiving a phone call last year from Daniel Garcia, diving buddy of Luke Ausdemore who died freediving for lobsters in Mission Bay last October.

"They were diving together, but they were about 30 yards apart," Lozano said. "If you go into the ocean with another person and they're your buddy, but they're 100 yards away from you, they're not your buddy anymore."

Garcia detailed the night for Lozano, describing the moment when he noticed that Ausdemore was no longer at the surface of the water. Despite doing everything he could to save his friend,

Ausdemore experienced a shallow water blackout — common in freedivers. By the time Garcia noticed he was missing in the water, 10 minutes had lapsed and it was too late to save him.

Lozano urged divers to have someone watching and waiting for them at the surface of the water.

"When you black out, you don't make any noise," said Lozano, explaining that when one blacks out, the muscle used to hold air in relaxes and the blackout only sounds like an exhalation of breath. "There are too many variables. Because of that, blackouts and motor control failures happen, and time is of the essence. [For] something so simple as lobster diving, there's no real good excuse not to have a safety buddy."

Lozano said the majority of diver blackouts occur after they have resurfaced or are within 15 feet of the surface, so just because a diver is in shallow water does not mean the diver is safe.

"This is one of those sports where ignorance is not bliss," he said. "Ignorance can get you killed."

For more information about lobster diving regulations and safety tips, visit www.dfg.ca.gov or contact the Department of Fish and Game at (858) 467-4201.

To check beach and weather conditions call (619) 221-8824.

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City Council OKs deal with Toyota on beach vehicles for lifeguards

By NEAL PUTNAM | THE BEACON

The City Council voted 7-0 on Oct. 10 to approve a marketing partnership with Toyota that could save up to \$1 million for the city to use Toyota vehicles free for two years on city beaches as the "official vehicle of San Diego lifeguards."

San Diego Lifeguard Services Chief Rick Wurts, along with Mary Lewis, the city's chief financial officer, made the proposal to the City Council. Lewis estimated the savings between \$555,000 and \$1.1 million, and calls for the free use of the Toyota vehicles without the obligation of purchase or lease during the two-year agreement.

Toyota will loan 34 vehicles, some of which will be used in television commercials to be filmed at unspecified city beaches.

"31 of the 34 (city lifeguard) vehicles are past due for replacement," Lewis told councilmembers on Oct. 10.

The city will have an option to purchase the vehicles after the two-year deal expires. Because the vehicles will be used at the beach where ocean conditions can pummel them, Toyota will undercoat the bottom of the vehicles to prevent rust. The city will be responsible for repairs and gasoline during the contract.

"I really want to compliment Toyota," said Wurts. "One of the important things we need to do the job are reliable vehicles to get to the rescues."

Other rescue officials echoed the sen-

timent.

"We're grateful for this deal. We're really in favor of this," lifeguard Larry Sanders told councilmembers. "We understand that savings will be put toward our budget, which will help our training."

District 8 City Councilman David Alvarez made the motion to authorize Mayor Jerry Sanders to sign the agreement, a move seconded by District 1 City Councilwoman Sherri Lightner.

In approving the deal, the council also authorized a commission of more than \$49,100 to the marketing consultant who brought the Toyota deal to the city. Alvarez and District 5 City Councilman Carl DeMaio were critical of paying the commission, but Lewis said it had been authorized by the City Council beforehand.

No specific beach area was mentioned as to where the commercials will be made or when. The Japanese automaker will reportedly reimburse the city for the cost of staff time for recording commercials.

Toyota will be mentioned on the city's website and direct marketing to municipal employees will be extended, according to the plan. Toyota will also sponsor city-organized "Water Safety Days" events in San Diego.

The proposal was first heard Sept. 21 by the council's Budget and Finance Committee and was then forwarded on to the City Council for a presentation of terms and formal approval.

Motorcyclist to be charged in possible DUI crash in OB

San Diego police said they intend to charge a motorcyclist with suspected felony driving under the influence counts after a midnight crash on Bacon Street on Oct. 16.

Police said the 30-year-old man, whose identity was not immediately released, was southbound on Bacon Street at Coronado Avenue when he

apparently lost control of the motorcycle and struck a guardrail.

The man was transported to a local trauma center with an open leg fracture and will likely be charged with a felony count.

The case remains under investigation by police.

— Staff report



GREAT GRUB ON THE PIER

Residents were treated Oct. 16 to a delicious meal with an unbeatable view during the Ocean Beach Town Council's annual Pancake Breakfast on the Ocean Beach Pier. Offsetting some morning gray, guests were treated to something a little extra when several dolphins gathered and leapt not far from where the hungry breakfast-eaters were dining.

Photo by Jim Grant | The Beacon

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To assist home sellers, a new industry report has just been released called "27 Valuable Tips That You Should Know to Get Your Home Sold Fast and for Top Dollar." It tackles the important issues you need to know to make your home competitive in today's tough, aggres-

sive marketplace.

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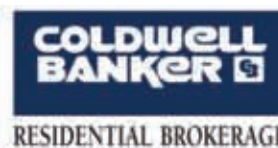


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SAN DIEGO – **San Diego Trust Bank** (OTC: SDBK) one of the most consistently profitable banks in the State, reported its 28th consecutive quarterly profit today. Net Income for the recently completed quarter totaled \$350 thousand compared to \$218 thousand for the same period last year, representing a 60% increase in earnings. Net Income for the nine months ending 9/30/11 totaled \$920 thousand compared to \$626 thousand for the same period last year, an increase of more than 47% compared to the previous year. **San Diego Trust Bank is the only bank in the county to post a profit each and every quarter for the past seven years.**

Total Assets reached \$212.5 million as of 9/30/11 compared to \$191.8 million as of 9/30/10, representing an 11% increase from the prior year's figures, as more and more San Diegan's sought to align themselves with one of the most well-capitalized and consistently profitable banks in all of California. Total Deposits increased 11.5% from a year ago and stood at \$179.7 million as of 9/30/11, compared to \$161.2 million as of 9/30/10. Core deposits (non-interest bearing DDA and MM accounts) represented 93% of all deposits as of 9/30/11. The Bank has never held any "brokered" deposits.

"We are thrilled to once again report such strong results to our loyal shareholders, despite mixed results reported from the banking industry and the many economic headwinds that continue to plague our local and state economies" commented Michael Perry, Chairman, President and CEO. "The tremendous efforts of our entire team combined with our proven ability to adapt to the economic realities of today's marketplace has enabled our organization to continue to outperform," added Perry. "Our consistent profitability, exceptionally strong capital position, and substantial liquidity will allow us to continue to meet the needs of our clients while also increasing valuable market share as the community banking landscape continues to consolidate," concluded Perry.

The Bank's consistently strong performance has not gone unnoticed. Earlier in the year, The Findley Reports, one of the most respected and well known bank research and rating firms, designated San Diego Trust Bank a "Premier Performing Bank". This rating places San Diego Trust amongst the very best in its industry relative to "safety, strength, and performance" according to Findley. Last quarter, San Diego Trust Bank was recognized as one of the ten "Best Small Company's" to work for in San Diego County by the San Diego Business Journal. **And for the 21st consecutive quarter, San Diego Trust Bank was designated as a "Five-Star" institution by Bauer Financial - a feat unmatched by any other Bank in San Diego County.**

Asset quality at the Bank remains exceptional with zero past due or non-accrual loans reported as of September 30, 2011. Liquidity, defined as cash, due from banks, and investment securities, was a record \$163.3 Million as of 9/30/11.

As of September 30, 2011 the Bank's Total Risk Based Capital ratio of 26.06% was among the highest in the nation for banks of similar size, and more than twice the amount needed to be considered "well-capitalized" by regulatory definition. San Diego Trust Bank has never applied for any tax-payer funded government assistance.

The Bank's actual capital ratios as of September 30, 2011 are summarized as follows:

	Well-Capitalized Standards	San Diego Trust Bank
Tier 1 Leverage	5.00%	8.92%
Tier 1 Risk Based	6.00%	24.80%
Total Risk Based	10.00%	26.06%

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For more information on the Bank please visit www.sandiegotrust.com or call (619) 525-1700.

For bank rating information please refer to www.bauerfinancial.com

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FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

Statements concerning future performance, developments or events, expectations for growth and income forecasts, and any other guidance on future periods, constitute forward-looking statements that are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties. Actual results may differ materially from stated expectations. Specific factors include, but are not limited to, loan production, balance sheet management, expanded net interest margin, the ability to control costs and expenses, interest rate changes and financial policies of the United States government and general economic conditions. The Bank disclaims any obligation to update any such factors or to publicly announce the results of any revisions to any forward-looking statements contained herein to reflect future events or developments.

NTC Foundation lands \$20.2M for renovation work for its arts, cultural district

The NTC Foundation at Liberty Station in Point Loma has reportedly secured more than \$20 million in financing to complete Phase 2 of NTC Promenade, San Diego's growing destination for arts, culture and creativity at the former Naval Training Center (NTC).

The \$20.2 million program will be used to renovate an additional eight of the 26

historic buildings designated by the city for the NTC Foundation's stewardship. Seven buildings have already been completed and are home to 40 artists, galleries, dance companies, arts organizations and nonprofit offices. Indoor and outdoor venues are also booked by the foundation for community, corporate and private events, along with meetings, weddings

and festivals.

The Phase 2 buildings total 53,188 square feet of space within seven former barracks buildings located along the North Promenade at Liberty Station, and the old officer's quarters located at the corner of Rosecrans and Dewey streets.

The buildings were among those constructed in 1923 at what was then Naval

Training Station San Diego. Nearly 70 percent of the Phase 2 space is already committed to an impressive roster of San Diego's community of artists, galleries, nonprofit organizations and specialty retail, all scheduled for a spring 2012 opening.

Funding of the Phase 2 program required a coalition of public and private

partners, including the city's redevelopment agency, the California Cultural and Historical Endowment and the county. The financing includes nearly \$8.8 million in federal historic and new markets tax credit equity.

For more information, call (619) 573-9315.

— Staff and contribution

OB Town Council recognizes community movers, shakers

The Ocean Beach Town Council (OBTC) hosted its annual awards ceremony earlier this month to recognize the community's movers, shakers and volunteer standouts, and officially swore in its newly elected board of directors for the 2011-12 term.

Among the notable guests were politicians like state **Assemblywoman Toni Atkins**, and **District 2 City Councilman Kevin Faulconer**, as well as representatives for **Congresswoman Susan Davis**, **Sen. Christine Kehoe**, **District 1 county Supervisor Greg Cox** and **Mayor Jerry Sanders**. Cox currently represents Ocean Beach on the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, but **Supervisor Ron Roberts** will become the new county representative after new redistricting takes effect next year.

The oath of office was administered to the Town Council's new board of directors by San Diego Police Department Western Division **Capt. Walt Vasquez**.

The new officers are **Jim Musgrove**, president; **Brennan Bazar**, vice president; **Brian Garbark**; **Cyndee Hanna**; **Giovanni Ingolia**; **Ann Kelsey**, corresponding secretary; **Trudy Levenson**; **Dave Martin**; **Gretchen Newsom**, recording secretary; **Melinda Redding**, treasurer; **Nancy Vaughn**; and **Landry Watson**.

During the awards ceremony, certificates of appreciation were given to retiring OBTC board members **Dan Allemeier**, **Mike Diliberto**, **Alyssa Silva** and **Bryan Spencer**. Other certificates of appreciation were given to Cox and his representative Greg Murphy, as well as to Vasquez.

The 2011 OB Citizen of the Year Award was bestowed on **Mike Akey**, the former president of the Ocean Beach MainStreet Association.

Other award recipients included:

- Community Partner — OB Geriatrics (**Mike Berrill** and **Vesna Vukov**)
- Cultural Contribution — **Teddy Wigler**

- Programs for Youth — Peninsula Family YMCA (**David Neder** & **Lindsey Ekdahl**)
- Volunteer Service — **Katie Elsbree**
- Clean Beaches — St. Madeline Sophie's Center (**Debra Turner Emerson**)
- "Green" Building — **Steve Lombardi**
- Gardens and Parks — OBCDC (**Tom Perrotti**)

- Community Renewal — **Tony George**
- Humanitarian Service — **Gerry Boehmke**

For more information, visit www.obtowncouncil.org.



SHAKIN' IT FOR THE CROWD

Two Point Loma High seniors turn on the charisma during their class's float-judging competition at the Homecoming festivities on campus on Oct. 14. The senior class chose the 1990s-era as its theme. More PLHS Homecoming photos and coverage on Page 15.

Photo by Scott Hopkins | The Beacon

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JULY 17, 1947-APRIL 19, 2011

Tribute to murder victim Jalal 'Joe' Abou, beloved businessman

By CINDY BENNER | SPECIAL TO THE BEACON

The fifth of eight children, Jalal "Joe" Abou was born in 1947 in a Baghdad suburb. At the age of eight, he was working with relatives and learning car mechanic skills. Through hard work and excelling in his trade, he was hired as a mechanic at a Fiat factory and later served as a mechanic with the Iraqi military.

He began working at a very young age, dropping out of high school to work full time as a mechanic. However, he valued education and completed his high school diploma in the United States many years later.

At the age of 20, he and his older brother opened their first car-repair shop. Their two elder sisters had married successful men, and they gifted them money to buy the shop. The sisters told this story in Arabic to Abou's daughter, Janet, as they described him as "the champion of the family."

The family was large and very close (more than 40 nieces and nephews), all living in the same neighborhood. Family was of the utmost importance to Abou, and he was looking forward to getting married and starting his own family. His sense of responsibility grew after his father died in 1975, serving to increase his devotion to providing for the family.

Abou met Amira, his future wife, in 1973. They had known each other as children, and Jalal had been close friends with her brother in grade school. Abou's older sister thought they'd be a good match and helped them mail letters to each other, and they eventually met in Iraq. He was enamored by her looks based on pictures of her. She was living in the U.S., and Abou dreamed of moving there for a better life. Only having known each other less than a year, they decided to get married that October and honeymooned in Lebanon.

After several years, they were able to move from Iraq to the U.S., living with his wife's parents in Los Angeles. By the late 1970s, Abou was able to open his first business. Realizing the importance of education, he earned his high school diploma from an adult high school.

Joe and his wife had their first child, Janet, in 1981, followed by two more



Jalal "Joe" Abou, who was brutally gunned down outside his Rosecrans Street car-repair shop in April, is shown in this undated photo with wife Amira. Courtesy photo

daughters in 1983 and 1984.

Abou was a devout Catholic and, as a child, was considered the jewel of the family. He acted as the father of the family after his own father passed away. He always thought of his family and how he could help them when he moved to the United States, never forgetting his roots. Abou's dream of having a son was realized in 1992. The family moved to San Diego in 1994 and purchased its first home near the Chaldean Church after his wife became ill, because there was more family support here. Abou tried to keep his business in Los Angeles, but finally closed it to take care of his son for two years.

His daughters were older. The eldest, at 12, helped with the household responsibilities. Abou got additional help from his brother, sister-in-law and nieces. His wife made some recovery but was never back to herself.

In 2002, one of Abou's daughters had an asthma attack at 18 and suffered anoxic brain injury. According to Janet, this destroyed her father. The stricken daughter was left in a vegetative state, dependant on a breathing machine and feeding tubes.

Abou took care of her daily while still working at the shop. He prayed for a

miracle for more than four years at which time he and Janet decided to move her to hospice so she could pass away in a humane manner. This was a hard decision because the Catholic Church does not believe in withdrawing care. After the ventilator was removed, the family stayed by her side, with Joe talking to her the whole time and kissing her forehead.

She died peacefully the next day.

Abou had several auto shops, but bought his business on Rosecrans Street in 2004, despite his daughter's illness. He called it Joe's Auto Repair. The business did very well, and both neighbors and clients thought the world of Joe.

When his daughter died, he greatly appreciated the outpouring of support from the community, as well as his customers — all of whom he described as close friends.

When Abou was murdered on April 19, the family, community and his customers were in shock. They couldn't believe such a terrible thing had happened to such a wonderful man who had touched the lives of so many. The Point Loma community just recently placed a plaque on a tree in front of his shop — a gesture that has greatly touched the family.

Abou was loved by those who knew him in Point Loma, as well as friends and family in the Chaldean Church.

A reward of \$5,000 is still being offered. His suspected killer, Nicolas Rosales, was a former employee and is believed to have fled to Mexico, according to police.

NEWSBRIEFS



A young man has his dog blessed during a blessing of the animals event at Sacred Heart Church on Oct. 4. Courtesy photo

Sacred Heart hosts blessing of the animals

Students from Sacred Heart Academy's preschool through eighth grade classes paraded with their pets to Sacred Heart Church on Oct. 4 — a procession made up of everything from dogs and cats to spiders and rats.

The parade was part of a blessing of

the animals event, a festivity celebrating St. Francis of Assisi and his love for all of God's creatures. This annual event takes place in October at the church, and all community members and their pets are welcome to participate, regardless of affiliation.

For more information, call (619) 222-7252, or visit www.s-h-a.org.

Cancer Society thrift shop slates discount event

The American Cancer Society (ACS) Point Loma Discovery Shop, located at 3609 Suite C on Midway Drive, is offering 25 percent off all purchases for the remainder of October in exchange for a \$25 donation to the ACS.

Thrift shop organizers said the event "is a great way to be of service and to save money on items for your house, closet and jewelry box."

The Point Loma Discovery Shop's store hours are Mondays through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from noon to 4 p.m.

For more information, call (619) 224-4336.

Luisa Allen, Nati's icon for 51 years, passes

By SCOTT HOPKINS | THE BEACON

Besides the usual margaritas, tears are flowing at Nati's Mexican Restaurant in Ocean Beach.

Luisa Allen, who worked as a server at the popular restaurant since its opening more than 51 years ago, passed away Saturday, Oct. 15 following a brief illness. Her broad smile and memory of customers' names and favorite meals endeared her to generations of customers.

Living just several blocks from Nati's, Luisa was known through the decades to countless Ocean Beach residents.

She was a local icon.

"We are all just devastated," said Nati's co-owner and general manager Marilyn Thomas. "Every time a long-time customer comes in and hears the news, the tears begin flowing all over again. It's really been hard for everyone to work."

A 1960 black-and-white photograph displayed on the Nati's foyer wall has attracted attention for many years. All of the restaurant's original servers are pictured, and among them is a sweet young girl seated at a table in the original restaurant dining room. Her name is Luisa.

Until Oct. 12, Nati's "veterans" could watch Luisa move about, carrying several steaming meals at once before setting them gently on tables while cautioning legions of loyal customers, "Careful! Hot



Luisa Allen, who worked at Nati's Mexican Restaurant since its opening 51 years ago, passed away Oct. 15. Photo by Scott Hopkins | The Beacon

plate!"

After leaving work on Oct. 12, Luisa began feeling badly and left a group planning to enjoy a late dinner, Thomas said. Family members rushed her to the hospital Oct. 13.

Thomas said Luisa was surrounded by her extended family at the time of her passing.

Arrangements for services had not been completed at press time.

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PUBLISHER JULIE HOISINGTON
MANAGING EDITOR KEVIN MCKAY (x131)
bbp@sdnews.com
beacon@sdnews.com
EDITOR KENDRA HARTMANN (x133)
downtown@sdnews.com
ljvn@sdnews.com
REPORTER MARIKO LAMB (x132)
reporter@sdnews.com
PRODUCTION ANNA MAGULAC
CHRIS BAKER
ADVERTISING SALES MIKE FAHEY (x117)
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PHOTOGRAPHERS

DON BALCH, JIM GRANT,
PAUL HANSEN, MIKE MCCARTHY

CONTRIBUTORS

BART MENDOZA, BIANCA KOCH,
CAROL OLTON, CHARLENE BALDRIDGE,
DIANA CAVAGNARO, HOLLY BEEDLE,
JOHN FRY, JOHNNY McDONALD,
JUDITH GARFIELD, KAI OLIVER-KURTIN,
LEE CORNELL, LORALEE OLEJNIK,
MANNY LOPEZ, MEAGHAN CLARK,
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TAWNY MAYA MCCRAY,
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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.

OPINIONS

The opinions expressed on the Opinion Page do not necessarily reflect those of this paper or the San Diego Community Newspaper Group. To submit a signed letter or guest column, please e-mail the respective publication's editor (at right) or send to 4645 Cass Street, San Diego, CA, 92109. We reserve the right to edit for clarity, accuracy, brevity and liability.

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Chopper the Biker Dog will lead the canine parade during the Oct. 30 Ocean Beach Canine Festival at Dusty Rhodes Park.

Courtesy photo

HOWL-O-WEEN

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

lookalike and for the more standard categories like the biggest dog, smallest, cutest and so on. Groups of dogs and canines on "floats" of skateboards and wagons will be judged separately. But expect the unexpected, said event chair Melanie Nickel.

"Part of the charm of the event is the goofy contests they come up with," Nickel said. "The judges make it up as they go along."

The judges are members of the Ocean Beach Kiwanis Club. Qualifications for

judging include a lively sense of humor and an appreciation for dogs.

The Ocean Beach Kiwanis Club started the event six years ago to pay tribute to Obecians' love for their dogs. Every year, 60 to 80 dogs participate in the Howl-O-Ween party and this year the club expects up to 100 canines.

"We had wanted for years to do a dog-related event because Ocean Beach is a dog kind of town. They take their dogs everywhere," Nickel said.

Obecians love to dress their dogs for Howl-O-Ween. Among the highlights of past parades include a man dressed as a pirate with a Chihuahua riding on his shoulder dressed as a parrot, Nickel said.

Another year, the grand prize winner was a dog attired as Cleopatra with a gold earring and a wig, riding on a "barge" accompanied by five people dressed as slaves.

Admission to the festival is free for both dogs and humans, but registration fees to participate in the contests or the parade are \$7 per single dog and \$10 for groups of dogs or floats.

Event parking is located on the Sunset Cliffs side of Dusty Rhodes Park, with overflow parking available at Robb Field.

For more information, call (619) 225-8705, email oceanbeachkiwanis@gmail.com, or visit www.oceanbeachkiwanis.org.

HALLOWEENHAPPENINGS

Activities in the Peninsula area:

FRIDAY, Oct. 21

• **Silver Gate Elementary School will host its annual community Harvest Festival** from 5 to 8 p.m. at the campus, 1499 Venice St. The event will feature games, food and plenty of Halloween fun, with a costume contest, haunted hallway, cake walk, games for the kiddies, pumpkin patch, face painting and other activities. Tickets for games and activities are on sale for \$1 each at the door. For more information, visit www.sandi.net/silvergate.

SATURDAY, Oct. 22

• **Point Loma Nazarene University will host its 2011 Fall Festival** for the community from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The event will feature a day of free food, fun and festivities at the university's spectacular ocean-side campus. Activities include an ice cream social and grand prize drawing with PLNU President Dr. Bob Brower at 2 p.m.; hayrides; a pumpkin patch; live music; pony rides; puppet shows; bounce houses; and a climbing wall. The event will also feature a free Taste of Point Loma restaurant area from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; an electronics recycling drive for computers, cell

phones, TVs and batteries; community booths featuring university groups and local nonprofits; and a scooter giveaway at the 2 p.m. ice cream social. There is no cost to enter, but you must be present to win. Guests are also asked to bring a new or gently used children's book (ages 4 – 9) to benefit Rolling Readers. For more information, visit www.pointloma.edu/FallFestival, or call (619) 849-2298.

SATURDAY, Oct. 29

• **Ocean Beach Halloween Carnival at the Ocean Beach Recreation Center** from 2 to 5 p.m. The event features food, carnival-style games, costume contests, jumpers and plenty of spooky fun. Wristbands for all games and activities are available for \$2. The rec center is located at 2726 Santa Monica Blvd. For more information, call (619) 531-1527.

• **The 2011 Sunset View Halloween Carnival** takes place from 3:30 to 7:30 pm. Families are invited to dress up and enter the silly-string spray zone, have faces painted, enjoy locally catered food, decorate a pumpkin and other activities. For more information, visit www.halloween-carnival.com.



Photo by Don Balch | The Beacon

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IN THE CROSSHAIRS



Barnard Elementary School Principal Edward Park oversees a K-6 Chinese Mandarin magnet program that will apparently grow to a K-8 Pacific Rim language academy at Dana under the district's realignment plan. Photo by Patricia Walsh | The Beacon

Barnard Elementary: small, but worldly

By PATRICIA WALSH | THE BEACON

Two sisters from Somalia dressed in saris glide into the office at Barnard Elementary. They are using a nearby room to say their mid-day prayers. Principal Edward Park, a Korean-American, opens a compass application on his smart phone to be sure the students are facing Mecca.

"It looks like the United Nations here," Park said. "We're extremely proud of creating an environment of diversity."

Barnard is home to a K-6 Mandarin Chinese magnet school that began in Point Loma in 2007. The cluster recruited the language-immersion program and convinced the school board to pass a K-12 matriculation from Barnard to Correia and Point Loma High School.

"Most people are naïve about Mandarin Chinese. It's the most-spoken language in the world," said Matt Spathas, president of the Point Loma Cluster

Schools Foundation. "Mandarin is a 21st century skill set."

In just four years, the school has become a success story. It's a California Distinguished School with a waiting list of 100 students. Successful partnerships like that with San Diego State University and the International Confucius Institute give the school international clout.

Eddie Kapelczak, a student of Hispanic-Polish decent who is now at Correia Middle School, was one of the youngest invited to participate in the China Bridge Competition in Chongqing, China.

The program is the lone Point Loma cluster beneficiary in the district's realignment plan. While the Barnard campus would close, the language program would move to Dana Middle School and be expanded.

Barnard is one of the most ethnically diverse schools. The other two are

SEE BARNARD, Page 11

UPHEAVAL

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

ness of education while monumental change takes place.

"We have to keep up an image so parents, students and staff don't freak out," said Nestor Suarez, principal at Cabrillo.

A town hall meeting will be held with district officials from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 24 in the Point Loma High School Performing Arts Center. The school board will make a final decision on school closures in December.

Here's how the district's plan would impact Point Loma's 6,383 students:

1. Close Cabrillo Elementary (K-4 with 202 students) in July 2012.

2. Close Barnard Chinese Mandarin Magnet (K-6 grade structure with 267 students) in July 2012 and relocate the school and its program to Dana. Transition Dana to Pacific Rim language academy.

3. Eliminate the 5-6 middle school grade structure at Dana (a 5-6 with an enrollment of 776 students) over a two-year period.

4. Expand elementary schools from a K-4 structure to that of K-5 at Dewey, Loma Portal, Ocean Beach, Silver Gate and Sunset View.

5. Expand Correia Junior High School from (a 7-8 grade structure with 839 students) to a 6-8 structure.

6. Consider sale/other of surplus property/schools (Barnard and Cabrillo).

Clusters identified by the district for possible individual school closures are Clairemont, Crawford, Henry, Hoover, Kearny, Madison, Mission Bay, Morse, Point Loma, Serra and atypical schools.

"We did look at every single cluster, and some areas had school closures in the past and it wasn't possible to close schools there," said Gilbert Gutierrez, Point Loma area superintendent, who was on the SDUSD committee of 22 that developed the district's plan.



Among the options being explored by the San Diego Unified School District is the outright sale of the school properties at Cabrillo Elementary, above, and Barnard Elementary.

Photo by Jim Grant | The Beacon

The district also believes it can save more money by reallocating Proposition S funds from the closed schools to those that remain open. Prop. S is a \$2.1 billion bond program voters passed in 2008 to renovate classrooms.

"Prop. S funds that can be reallocated to other schools (within the same cluster) for special or additional projects (about \$2 million to \$8 million per school)," according to a written proposal from the district. "This makes the financial benefit to the district much greater than the initial \$5 million. Could be \$35 million or more."

The district's plan "could mean certain clusters become their own school districts," said Matt Spathas, president of the PLCSE.

Spathas is also a former member of the district's Prop. S Independent Citizens Oversight Committee. During his time on the committee, he helped implement the district's technology initiative known as "i21," which brought promethean boards and laptops into classrooms.

Just three years ago, John DeBeck, a school board member who represented

schools in all of San Diego's beach areas for 20 years before losing his seat last November to Scott Barnett, proposed splitting the cluster off from the district and creating a Coastal School District.

"I anticipated a lot of what is happening and was trying to give Point Loma folks a chance to control their destiny," DeBeck said. "The Point Loma community leaders were not interested, and decided a cluster foundation was all they needed. Inaction has left them powerless. So now, others are deciding their fate."

"The sham meeting (on Oct. 24) is not going to change the decisions," he said. "Their representative doesn't have the background to understand the history and needs of the Point Loma community."

Spathas said there are a lot of alternatives for Point Loma if the district splits into smaller groups.

"This is just me talking, not the cluster," Spathas said. "Point Loma would be a moderate-size school district. The downside is you would lose diversity."

One way to look at a difficult problem is to change the equation.

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Cabrillo Elementary: a school rich in history

Nestor Suarez is the principal at Cabrillo Elementary School, which may be closed in July if the school district's plans for closures and consolidations proceed. Photo by Patricia Walsh | The Beacon

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The many ghosts of Old Town

By Karen Spring

It's that time of year again, when Old Town's fame for being the birthplace of California plays second to a host of resident spooks that live amongst us. Although there are frequent reports of paranormal sightings throughout San Diego, the most famous ones are found at the historic Whaley House. Tourists have had countless encounters with long-departed family members checking in on their past place of residence.

A frequent visitor from beyond is Yankee Jim Robinson, who was hung in 1852, on what is now the front steps of the house. On trial with a noose tightened around his neck and a poorly made scaffold beneath his feet, Yankee Jim was to be hung to death for stealing a little boat called the *Plutus*. Death seemed like a hefty price to pay for such a small theft. In fact, Yankee Jim's two cohorts were only given a one year jail sentence and a small fine. But there was a strong feeling of vigilantism in these parts around the 1800s. The residents felt the law was too lenient and unanimously agreed that they needed to show a united force of intolerance to all who would consider coming to town and committing any crime, big or small!

As a known desperado, Yankee Jim didn't stand a chance against the towns consensus. During his capture, Yankee Jim had been struck across the back side of his skull so hard that it left him foggy during the trial where he was encouraged to defend himself. Inevitably, he was defenseless against his accusers who wanted to lynch him on the spot instead of waiting the mandatory 30 days. Yankee Jim never thought in a million years that the town would hang him since stealing horses was a crime you got 'hung fer'... not a little boat!

Until that fateful moment when the orders to kick the mules was given, Jim spoke to the crowd, begging them to reconsider, but to no avail. The cruel moment arrived but not without a major hitch that would haunt the minds of generations to follow. Instead of being killed swiftly by a broken neck, the poor workmanship of the scaffold led Jim to suffer a slow, choking death that would last well over an hour. It was not until the next day that he was pronounced dead. Today, Yankee Jim has been known to haunt the steps of America's most haunted house and to plead his case to who'll ever listen...

One of the most popular hauntings was 'Lucy' the white deer of Presidio Park. Residents of the area use to feed and care for her and because of all the attention, she felt very comfortable around people. Unfortunately, this trust led to her fateful death by careless but concerned folks who tranquilized her in an attempt to move her to a safer area. The year was 1975... and the public was outraged. After her sad demise, money was raised for a reflection pond at Inspiration Point in memory of her freedom and beauty as this was Lucy's favorite spot. Many locals today still report sightings of her scampering down the hills and munching on her favorite Zinnias — which are found nearby.

La Casa de Estudillo is the original adobe home of the wealthy Estudillo family and still stands proudly as a pristine museum in the State Park. For over fifty years, the house was a social center, offering a perfect views from its cupola to the public events held in the plaza below. When the Mexican War was in full bloom, the Casa served to protect many and its chapel served to sooth the town souls. By chance, well-known author Helen Hunt Jackson decided to write a historic novel and came to the Casa to research her project with then resident Father Antonio Ubach. Because of their common interest in the mistreatment of the local Indians, the novel "Ramona" was written — placing La Casa de Estudillo on the map forever.

Restoration projects have saved the home and throughout the years, many lovers have had an opportunity to get married on its magnificent grounds. Several brides have reported looking into the well to make a wish, only to have a beautiful young woman looking back at them. Most of these sightings have been passed off as premarital jitters, but are they?

Along with classic reports of footsteps, moving objects, creaking doors and mirrors that seem to look back at you, many have reported seeing a musician at the piano and hearing traditional Mexican melodies. Some Old Towners have reported hearing a distinct male voice that orders visitors to "Get Out!"

Unlike the Whaley House, this adobe home has little or no recorded tragedies, and no one seems to know who really haunts it. Could it be Father Ubach protecting it from ruin and desecration? Is it a bride who's only happy moment was the day she made her wish in the well? And what about the music...

Want more real stories? Call Ghostly Tours in History at (877) 220-4844 and take a walking tour to learn more about Old Town's wonderful spooky past.

***** VISITOR TIP *****

Bring the family to view the interesting altars that makes Dia de los Muertos so special.

Check out Tienda de Reyes store in the Fiesta de Reyes courtyard for one of the largest selections of holiday-related folk art in San Diego. Bring your camera and take a picture of the kids in a holiday scene at the store!

OCTOBER EVENTS

Oct. 21, 22 • 7:30 pm

Oct. 28, 29, 30, 31 • 6 & 7:30
Who's The Wickedest Ghost? A Spooky Trial

Old Town merchants will hold an evening of scary, funny and tragic stories of people who once lived in San Diego during the 1800s. Spirits will answer to the comical judge Oliver Weatherby with the audience as their jury to determine "Who's the Wickedest Ghost". An hour-long walking tour will be given with the performers. For tickets, visit: www.brownpapertickets.com/event/19547 or call (619) 220-5422

Oct. 29 • Noon to 4:00 pm
Old Town's Fall Festival

Fall crafts and children's activities a la San Diego in the 1870s will be held in the central plaza at Old Town San Diego State Historic Park. Many merchants surrounding the park will also have activities. For more info, visit: www.fiestadereyes.com

Oct. 31 • 7:00 pm
Danse Macabre

Write Out Loud will present "Danse Macabre" at the Old Town Theatre and featuring stories of magic and mystery brought chillingly to life by professional actors. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$13 for students, seniors and active military. For more info, visit: <http://writeoutloudsd.com> or call (619) 297-8953

Oct. 31 • 4:00 to 6:30 pm
Trick-Or-Treating

Trick-or-treaters are invited to come out to collect goodies from participating shops and museums through the State Historic Park. Admission is free.

Nov. 1 & 2 - All Day
Dia de los Muertos

This "Day of the Dead" event is designed to celebrate the history, culture and heritage of the region. Old Town's predominantly Mexican, Spanish and Native American legacy makes it the best site in San Diego to hold such a special, beloved celebration.

There will be a tour of more than 30 altars, a candlelight procession, face painting and live music. At Fiesta de Reyes, five life-size Catrina Dolls in historic dress will delight visitors as well as altars in nearly every store. This two-day-long activity will also feature workshops, performances and lectures. For more info, call (619) 297-7511

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DANA

CONTINUED FROM Page 9

number, with an enrollment of 776 students. Of those, 604 are residents from within the boundary and 172 are non-residents from outside the cluster. The cost per pupil for the 2010-11 school year is nearly \$3,679.

"All of us need to step back, look at the big picture," Ryan told the Point Loma Cluster Foundation's ad hoc committee.

"Our district is in financial mess and months away from receivership," she said. "Changes must happen and need to happen by the end of the year. Realistically, something's gotta give in Point Loma and it will look different."



Diane Ryan has been the principal at Dana Middle School for nine years. This could be the last year of the school's 5-6 grade configuration, which started in 2002.

Photo by Patricia Walsh | The Beacon

CONDOS

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

The decision was a partial victory for members of the OBPB, three of whom traveled to Orange County to ask the commission to deny the amendment and make the applicant start the approval process all over again.

The project calls for demolition of the four standing buildings — three apartment buildings with a total of 15 units, and a long-since-closed restaurant building adjacent to the grass that was once the site of Hodad's. The new condos would include 25 parking places, 20 of which would be underground.

The Coastal Commission in January 2009 approved a similar 12-condo building at the site designed by Ocean Beach architect Steve Lombardi, but the land was sold last year to 1984 Abbott LLC, c/o Clark Realty Capital, headquartered in Virginia. The permit amendment became necessary when the new agent, La Jolla-based Marengo Morton Architects, redesigned the project. Among the changes: reducing the number of units to 10, moving the driveway from Saratoga Avenue to Abbott Street, moving the building's eastern edge 30 feet to the west and changing the parking configuration.

The new design improves views and

adds 1,300 square feet of landscaping, Claude Anthony Marengo of Marengo Morton Architects told commissioners.

"We chose to reduce the project to get some better units and not make it so tight," Marengo told commissioners. "We feel it's a minor amendment, but a very effective amendment that renders a better project."

But Tom Gawronski of the OBPB said the latest design was "full of nonconformities" to municipal code and "not worthy of a coastal development permit."

The parking configuration came as a "major shock," Gawronski said, noting the underground configuration in the final proposal was different than the at-grade configuration that was proposed when the permit amendment application was first submitted June 27.

"This is a 14,000-square-foot building right in the middle of the beach. It's going to be a defining structure for the community of Ocean Beach," Gawronski said. "We understand someone's going to build condos on that lot. We'd like it to be a conforming building and something the community can live with."

The OBPB is sanctioned by the city to gather citizen input on development projects and land use-related issues, but board members said the city didn't ask for their review before submitting a local agency review form, which the Coastal

Commission requires before considering a permit. The commission requires the form to ensure all local discretionary approvals, said Eric Stevens of the San Diego Coast District Office.

But commissioners said they were confused by a staff report that charged OBPB Chairman Giovanni Ingolia was contacted three times and did not ask the staff to hold off on its report to allow OBPB members to review the plan. Ingolia acknowledged calling Stevens but said he had called to discuss a different matter. He said the final drawings, dated Sept. 29, were filed too late for the board's regular monthly meeting.

Coastal Commissioner Esther Sanchez said she suspected the city erred by not reaching out to the OBPB.

Marengo said he planned to attend both OBPB meetings in support of the project. He said last-minute changes in parking were a result of community feedback.

"We decided to offer an olive branch and give the community something they could feel more comfortable with; something that would work on all bases," Marengo said.

But the Coastal Commission staff report said the previous at-grade parking configuration did not meet code requirements, though the subsequent below-grade configuration does.



Barnard Elementary is a California Distinguished School with a waiting list of 100 students.

Photo by Jim Grant | The Beacon

BARNARD

CONTINUED FROM Page 8

Cabrillo and Dewey, which serve military families. There are 434 students living in Barnard's boundaries. Of the 267 students enrolled, 102 are residents within the boundary, 19 are from elsewhere in the cluster and 146 are non-residents from outside the cluster.

Since 2006, the school has had 144

Academic Performance Index (API) growth points, the second highest in the cluster behind Correia Middle School with 145. The school's cost per pupil is more than \$4,613, the second highest in the cluster behind Cabrillo.

But Park looks at the program as a revenue generator.

"Magnet schools attract people outside the district and they bring ADA (average daily attendance funding from the state of California)," he said.

He calculates that the school is currently bringing in \$120,000 from students from other school districts.

Despite the school's successes, Dana supporters do not want the program to move to that campus.

"The realignment plan is not about taking over Dana," Park said. "We could be in Kearny Mesa. We'll be a success wherever we are."

The bigger question may not be where the Barnard program will go, but what the district will do with the nine acres of land Barnard sits on if the school site is shuttered.

CABRILLO

CONTINUED FROM Page 9

ation center? Touhill wonders if "there's a public land grab for profit."

Suarez said there's no giving up.

"We're going to keep talking," he said. "We're going to hold the district accountable by turning every rock and asking every question."

Cabrillo is the most under capacity of the 10 schools in the cluster at more than 67 percent, yet has the highest cost per pupil at more than \$5,436. There are 239 students living in Cabrillo's boundary. Of the 202 students enrolled, 106 are residents within the boundary, 45 are from elsewhere in the cluster and 51 are non-residents from outside the cluster.

Cabrillo has been honored by the San Diego Unified School District as a Military Partner of the Year and more than half of its students are from military families.

"Our families carry a heavy burden with parents in harm's way," Suarez said. "They need a sense of safety. [Closing the school] is the last thing these kids need."

Back in the office, Suarez and Wilson talk about the school's history and its location in the neighborhood, historically known as Roseville. The area was named after Louis Rose, a pioneer developer.

Wilson pulls out a binder with a black-and-white photo of a classroom, dated June 6, 1906. When the school had its 100-year anniversary celebration, people in the community were able to point to family members in the photo, she said.

Indeed, the school has long and strong community ties. In his youth, John DeBeck, 80, a five-term school board member who represented the schools of San Diego's beach communities, walked down a then-unpaved Talbot Street to go to school at Cabrillo Elementary.



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"WHOOO'S THE WICKEDEST GHOST? A SPOOKY TRIAL"

DATES: Oct. 21, 22 at 7:30 p.m. On

Oct. 28, 29, 30, and 31 two performances will be held: the first at 6 p.m. and the second at 7:30 p.m.

Old Town San Diego State Historic Park will hold an evening of scary, funny and tragic stories of people who once lived in early San Diego during the 1800s. Spirits will answer to the comical judge Oliver Weatherby with the audience as their

jury to determine "Whooo's the Wickedest Ghost." An hour-long walking tour will be given with the performers. For information, call 619-220-5422 or www.brownpapertickets.com/event/195947

GHOST TOURS
DATES: All October long
Michael Brown leads San Diego's only real ghost tours. During his 90-minute

walking tours, guests will get to visit various paranormally active places in Old Town such as a park that used to be cemetery and a haunted brothel located on the Whaley House property. He shares tips, tricks and techniques to find ghosts and other paranormal happenings in Old Town. Each tour includes photos, voices of the dead and a video vortex. His tours are every Thursday through Sunday in October. Walking tours begin at 9 p.m. in front of the Fiesta de Reyes fountain and no reservations are necessary. Adult tickets are \$19 and children 6-12 are \$10. Kids 5 and under are free. For more information, visit <http://www.oldtownsmosthaunted.com/> or call 619-972-3900.

OLD TOWN'S FALL FESTIVAL

DATES: Saturday, Oct. 29

Fall crafts and children's activities a la San Diego in the 1870s will be held from noon to 4 p.m. in the central plaza at Old Town San Diego State Historic Park. Many merchants surrounding the park will have activities as well. For more info, visit www.fiestadereyes.com.

OLD TOWN THEATER: DANSE MACABRE BY WRITE OUT LOUD

DATES: Monday, Oct. 31

Write Out Loud will present "Danse Macabre" in the Old Town Theatre on Monday, Oct. 31 at 7 p.m. Danse Macabre will feature stories of magic and mystery brought chillingly to life by professional

actors. Tickets cost \$15 for adults and \$13 for students, seniors and active military. For more info, visit <http://writeoutloudsd.com/> or call 619-297-8953.

TRICK-OR-TREAT

DATES: Monday, Oct. 31

Trick-or-treaters are invited to come out Monday, Oct. 31, from 4 p.m. to 6:30 to collect goodies from participating shops and museums throughout Old Town San Diego State Historic Park. Admission for this is free.

DIA DE LOS MUERTOS

DATES: Nov. 1 and 2

The premier Day of the Dead event in San Diego County, Old Town's Dia de los Muertos is designed to celebrate the history, culture and heritage of the region. Old Town's predominantly Mexican, Spanish and Native American and legacy makes it the best site in San Diego to hold this special and beloved celebration. There will be a tour of more than 30 altars, a candlelight procession and live music. At Fiesta de Reyes in the state park, five life-sized Catrina dolls in historic dress will delight visitors as well as altars in nearly every store. Face painting and an after party are also planned for Nov. 1. This two-day-long activity will also feature workshops, performances and lectures.

For more information, visit facebook.com/DiaDeLosMuertosOTSD or call (619) 297-7511.

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Pointers' rally lights up board vs. Hoover

Come-from-behind win ices Homecoming matchup

By **SCOTT HOPKINS** | THE BEACON

Volunteers had no trouble firing up 100,000 watts of portable lights used to stage the annual "Light the Night" Homecoming football game at Point Loma High School on Oct. 14.

Firing up the Pointer football team proved a much more difficult task.

The whimpering Dogs left an overflow crowd squirming in their seats as visiting Hoover took a 14-0 lead midway through the second quarter in the season's first Western League matchup.

As student performances and the much-anticipated class float competition unfolded during the break, coaches and players engaged in some serious conversations in the stunned Pointers' locker room.

A refocused group of snarling Dogs showed up for the second half and outscored the Cardinals 27-0 to enter a 30-14 victory in PLHS Homecoming history.

"Our team came out a little sluggish," said Pointer head coach Mike Hastings. "We just had to make some half-time adjustments and we did. I told our guys, 'We're going to do it and come back.'"

The win improves the Pointers to 4-2 (1-0 in Western League) on the season. Hoover drops to 3-3 (0-1 in league).

Ironically, the second-half comeback by the Pointers was directed by a quarterback who had just completed only his 29th day as a student at PLHS. Brandon Martin, a 5-foot-10, 170 pound junior transfer from Christian High in El Cajon didn't know a single play in the Pointer offense when he introduced himself to head coach Mike Hastings shortly before the first day of classes last month.

Martin was assigned to the junior var-

sity squad to learn the Pointer offense and was called up for the Hoover game as Sam Augustine's backup.

"I came right after Hell Week," Martin said, "and I started as the third-string JV quarterback just learning the system. Last week, they (coaches) said, 'We're going to look at you on varsity now.'"

When Augustine completed only one of his first eight passes, Martin was summoned to jumpstart the offense. All he did was lead the Dogs on four second-half scoring drives (scoring twice himself) that turned a possible Pointer loss into a seeming rout.

"Once I got in, there was a fire under our butts, so they just left me in," Martin said. "When I scored a touchdown (giving the Pointers their first lead of 21-14 in the fourth quarter), I was pumping everybody up. They listened and we came out with a victory."

Prior to Martin's first score, the Pointers fought their way back to tie the contest at 14 on a 28-yard

Felipe Soares field goal and six-yard touchdown run by Sydney Rush. Jaivon Griffin's two-point conversion run knotted the score after three quarters.

The undermanned Cardinals were wearing down by the time Martin scored on runs of one and two yards, sandwiched around an attempted Cardinal punt in which a high snap rolled out of the end zone for a two-point Pointer safety.

The 16-0 fourth quarter scoring run by the Pointers provided great relief to alumni and others in the crowd and reversed a two-year PLHS losing streak in Homecoming games.

The Pointers amassed 228 yards on the ground, mostly in the second half. Griffin led with 20 carries for 97 yards while Rush (nine carries, 62 yards) and



Pointer quarterback Brandon Martin (18) came into the Oct. 14 Homecoming game and led his team to four second-half scores in a come-from-behind 30-14 victory over Hoover. Jon Denae Bailey (52) follows Martin as Jaivon Griffin (21) watches. Photo by Scott Hopkins | The Beacon

Martin (12 carries, 38 yards) contributed.

Martin completed all four of his pass attempts for 36 yards. He and Augustine found Matt Magers three times and Griffin twice for catches.

The Pointers' longest play of the game was a 17-yard Griffin run, a credit to the Cardinal defense which stopped the Dogs on downs at the 12-yard line in the first quarter.

Defensively, Dirk Lacy (six total tackles and assists) led the Dogs. Edmond Tucker and Greg Verdugo racked up four while Aaron Watkins, Tevin Heyward, Devontae Boothe, Eric Bueno and Steven Arreola all had three. Watkins had an interception and sacks were recorded by Morris Mathews (1.5) and Boothe (0.5).

Part of the credit for the Pointer comeback goes to the Cardinals' long-snapper, who had a nightmarish game. His first bad punt snap (low) was recovered by the Pointers on the Hoover one-

yard-line, Martin scoring on the next play. His next snap (high) became the Pointer safety.

Next up for the Pointers are a pair of home matches against Western League opponents.

La Jolla shows up at 3 p.m. on Oct. 21 with a 1-5 overall record to compete for "The Shoe." The Vikes are 0-1 in league after losing 28-14 at Madison last week.

Next up Oct. 28 is Mission Bay, also at 3 p.m. The Bucs are currently 3-2-1 overall, 1-0 in league after defeating Serra 17-14 at home last week.

BITS 'N' BITES:

- When Hoover jumped out to a 14-0 lead, Pointer students loudly booed visiting Cardinal players and cheerleaders celebrating their success. The unsportsmanlike display is similar to behavior that caused cancellation of all

district night games back in the 1970s.

- All three Pointer football teams posted a "W" last week. The freshmen won 43-0, improving to 4-2 on the season. The junior varsity's 28-7 victory left them with a 3-3 mark.

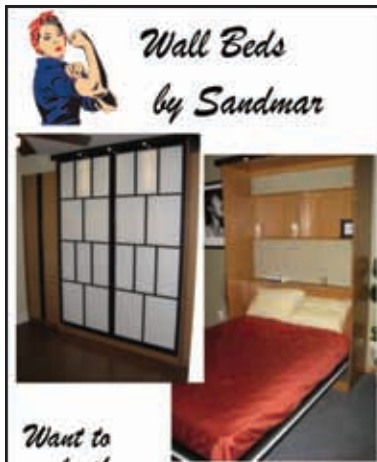
- Soares' two field goals (41 and 28 yards) were the longest in recent Pointer memory. The senior dedicates his efforts to his former coach Bill Hastings, father of the PLHS head coach, who passed away after last season.

- After four road games in five weeks to open the season, the Pointers play four of five league games on their own turf. Only a Nov. 4 contest at Madison (6:30 p.m. kickoff) remains on the road.

- Martin's nickname is "Chops," referring to his former mutton-chop sideburns.

- Jamal Agnew, a Pointer spark plug, was injured early in the game and did not return. Hastings expects him back for the Oct. 21 game.

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PLHS Homecoming helps renew old bonds

Classes of the future forge own kinships, demonstrate talents

By **SCOTT HOPKINS** | THE BEACON

A graduate from the class of 1945 was named the "Golden Pointer" at the Oct. 14 Point Loma High School (PLHS) Homecoming festivities.

Bill Ludwig graduated from PLHS several months before the Japanese surrendered in World War II and was smiling cheerfully while enjoying the honor last week as the most senior alumni in attendance.

Ludwig was joined at the event by his brother, Fred, a former PLHS track and cross country coach, who attended PLHS but graduated from Hoover — ironically enough, the evening's football rival.

Special guests for the evening were family members of Michael Taylor, a PLHS freshman football and basketball standout whose life was taken by a gunman in 2008. Taylor has remained in the hearts of PLHS athletes and coaches, and a relative performed an inspirational dance at midfield before the varsity kickoff.

A column of savory smoke arose from burger patties sizzling on barbecues as the overflow crowd spotted old friends, reminisced about their days at PLHS and caught up with each other's lives. Both the junior varsity and varsity Pointer football teams responded with victories.

As for present-day students, seniors Jake Reynolds and Natalie Ferreira were named Homecoming King and Queen. Their court included juniors Cecil Horton and Kristina Bautista, sophomores Jordan Goulet and Graysen Choy and



A group of PLHS alumni gathers for the annual Homecoming parade at the school Oct. 14.

freshmen Jayson Pappas and Gianna Gibson.

All were part of the traditional half-time parade led by a small army of PLHS alumni who carried a wide Pointer banner and were cheered enthusiastically as they passed the crowd.

Next came the student floats, this year displaying greater workmanship and effort. Judges Patrick McElhaney and Glenn Richard, both history teachers, served as float judges.

Each year's class adopted a decade, and the freshman class impressed with a detailed malt shop interior from the 1950s. Their dance was to early rock 'n' roll.

The sophomores went for a 1970s-era flower-powered Volkswagon van, complete with fog machine, dancing to disco music.

The juniors took first place with the only float not pulled on a truck, a large black boom box with neon-colored dials. Their dance to 1980s rock induced

cheers when the boys in the dance routine ripped off their T-shirts.

The senior class took the top-secret route during the unveiling of the floats at a daytime pep rally by presenting only a spray-painted piece of plywood, prompting big expectations at the evening parade. The evening float was slightly more impressive but a large contingent of enthusiastic seniors dancing to 1990s music didn't sway the judges in their favor.

Robert Pejovich, who coordinated lighting for the “Light the Night” dance event, reported a cost of nearly \$4,000 for rental of the diesel-powered light towers for the football game. Supplier BJ’s Rentals on Pacific Highway gave PLHS a great price, Pejovich said, as other estimates he requested came in as high as \$9,000.

School officials said they hope a PLHS alumni or local business will step forward to sponsor and connect their name with future Homecoming events.



PLHS Homecoming 2011 King Jake Reynolds and Queen Natalie Ferreira prepare to greet the crowd on Oct. 14. Photo by Scott Hopkins | The Beacon

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San Diego Nurse Is Speaker At Care Managers Retreat

Colleen Van Horn from Innovative Healthcare Consultants was among the 40 advanced geriatric care management professionals who attended The National Association of Professional Geriatric Care Managers Advanced Practice Retreat, which took place September 15-18, 2011 in San Diego, CA.

Professionals from around the country came together to share best practices from both the clinical and business perspectives. The conference was aimed at geriatric care managers with more than five years of experience and who are instrumental in the day to day management of a geriatric care management practice. The intimate setting allowed those in attendance to perfect and enhance the services they provide to those challenged by issues of aging.

Highlights of the conference included:

- New ideas on how to make hospital transitions positive.
- How to add elements of "quality of life" to each client's plan.
- How to deal with resistance to care

in kind and mindful approaches.

More information about Innovative Healthcare Consultants can be found at www.innovativehc.com or call us at (760)731-1334

About NAPGCM

The National Association of Professional Geriatric Care Managers (NAPGCM) was formed in 1985 to advance dignified care for older adults and their families. Geriatric Care Managers are professionals who have extensive training and experience working with older people, people with disabilities and families who need assistance with caregiving issues. They assist older adults who wish to remain in their homes, or can help families in the search for a suitable nursing home placement or extended care if the need occurs. The practice of geriatric care management and the role of care providers have captured a national spotlight, as generations of Baby Boomers age in the United States and abroad. For more information please visit www.caremanager.org or NAPGCM on Facebook.

Anderson Medical Center Opens in PB

Dr. Kenneth Anderson has been practicing family and sports medicine in Pacific Beach for 22 years. Now he is opening his own clinic.

The Anderson Medical Center is located at 1945 Garnet Avenue. The clinic will feature the latest in technology including digital x-rays and electronic health records.

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A round of big wins for a small OB brewery

By **MARIKO LAMB** | THE BEACON

A man who just five years ago began as an unpaid intern and had been brewing beer in his home has worked his way to becoming a multiple award-winning head brewer for Pizza Port in Ocean Beach.

Yiga Miyashiro joined the Pizza Port franchise in 2006 as an intern to learn more about the craft of brewing. He diligently worked his way through Pizza Ports in Carlsbad and Solana Beach, as well as at Pizza Port's sister brewery, Lost Abbey, in San Marcos, holding every brewer-related position available from assistant brewer to keg delivery driver.

When he finally got his shot as head brewer at the newest Pizza Port in Ocean Beach in 2010, he took off with recipe ideas for the restaurant's brews, adding a new chapter to the legacy of the already-growing Pizza Port franchise.

"Most of the recipes are ones I wrote, but there's a handful of recipes that we have across all of the Pizza Ports," Miyashiro said. "The great thing about Pizza Port is that we have a lot of creative flexibility in the beer-making process."

On Oct. 1, that creative flexibility paid off in the form of multiple award wins at the Great American Beer Festival (GABF) in Denver — the world's largest commercial beer competition — including prestigious titles of "Small Brewpub of the Year" and "Small Brewer of the Year."

Despite the "small" titles, Pizza Port and Miyashiro took home big wins for their quirkily-named brews, including a gold medal for the "Skidmark Brown Ale," silver medals for the aptly-named "Achievement Beyond Life's Experiences American Stout" and "Rhino Chaser Imperial Red Ale," and a bronze for "Z-Man Stout."

"If you win anything there at Great



Ocean Beach Pizza Port head brewer Yiga Miyashiro, right, and assistant brewer Mike Aubuchan get a fresh bag of hops. Courtesy photo

American Beer Festival, it's a big deal," he said. "It's such a competitive competition, I was extremely excited and completely caught off guard."

Miyashiro was unable to celebrate at the festival in Denver because he and his wife had something else special to celebrate — a baby boy, born just four days before the competition. He did, however, watch the awards ceremony on a live news feed online.

"There are no words for it," he said. "I was so excited I woke up my son screaming."

He credited much of the wins to Pizza Port owners, siblings Vince and Gina Marsaglia, for being so accommodating to his beer-crafting wishes.

"The owners are 100 percent supportive of what we do. They help us make all the beers we want to make, and that helps us achieve all that we have," he said. "They're really the unsung heroes."

Miyashiro's quality and brew style

has remained consistent since he started brewing his recipes at Pizza Port in May 2010.

His brew-making style focuses on ales with drier, cleaner finishes — "a beer that you want to have two or three of," he said.

"I have grown to have a greater appreciation for all of the different styles," said Miyashiro. "I'm always trying to hone my skills and recipes."

Miyashiro is brewing up a lot of "fresh-hop beers" — brews that contain hops freshly picked off the vine and delivered wet. Miyashiro described these beers as having more of a grapefruit-like floral character that is fresher and brighter than typical dry-hopped brews.

His favorite beer to drink?

"The one that's in my glass," he said.

To check out Miyashiro's brews, visit Pizza Port in Ocean Beach at 1956 Bacon St. For more information, visit www.pizzaport.com or call (619) 224-4700.

A&E ROUNDUP

Local artist earns honors

Leslie Perlis, who attended Point Loma High School and Dana Middle School, won the Best of Cold Glass Award" at "30 Rocks!," the 30th annual glass exhibit sponsored by the Art Glass Association of Southern California.

Perlis, an award-winning artist, has exhibited in all 30 shows.

One purpose of the show is to educate the public on techniques of glass art. The first shows featured only stained glass, but now includes glass blowing, fusing, etching, torch work, mosaic, mixed media and wearable art.

Perlis won

the award for A work by artist Leslie Perlis. Courtesy

her life-size mosaic piece "Swing," inspired by her love of swing dancing. It features several glass techniques. She created stained-glass murals at Sunset View Elementary School and Dana Middle School when her son, Eric Pratt, attended.



Actors Theatre hosts comedy showcase

The Point Loma Actors Theatre is set to launch a regular new comedy showcase that will bring

top San Diego entertainers to a local stage. The first showcase will take place Friday, Oct. 21.

The 'Crack Shack' is the brainchild of Point Loma Actors Theatre director David Sein and top local comic Tony Calabrese, who's been performing comedy in San Diego since 1995. Audiences 18 and up that are interested in good, clean laughter can find a home at the historic Point Loma Assembly on Talbot Street, where shows will be offered on a monthly basis.

Sein and Calabrese started a stand-up comedy class for beginners last summer, making San Diego one of the few places in the country to offer this type of instruction. Calabrese's comedy blog, "Fugetaboutit!blogspot.com," has been read by more than 140,000 people and has been compared with the humor of Erma Bombeck and Dave Barry.

Calabrese founded Comedy Works in 1996, which connected comedians, masters of ceremony and auctioneers to charity organizations for fundraising efforts. That company is now merged into Comedy Incorporated, which created the "Benefit in a Box," used by dozens of groups to hold comedy night benefits.

To date, Comedy Incorporated has helped raise more than \$2 million for nonprofits in San Diego. Calabrese is also the creator of the 'Humor in the Workplace' seminar with curriculum designed to teach employees to be more productive by using humor to think creatively. Stand-up comedy hopefuls interested in learning more about the comedy class can contact Sein at info@pointlomaactors.com.

The first showcase is at 8 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 21. For more information, visit www.pointlomaactors.com

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Cast members from Point Loma Opera Theatre at Point Loma Nazarene University are shown during a successful run of the production "Cendrillon" in 2010. The upcoming production by the opera group will be "La Finta Giardiniera," beginning Nov. 4. Courtesy photo

Opera theater group at PLNU launches 'La Finta'

By BART MENDOZA | THE BEACON

San Diego's classical music community is thriving. This is especially true with opera, where grassroots efforts lead the way in preserving the art form. Such is the case with the student-run Point Loma Opera Theatre (PLOT).

Established in 2009 on the campus of Point Loma Nazarene University, the organization was created when the college was unable to continue its opera program.

Students mounted a campaign to raise funds by staging concerts anywhere a stage could be set up, from churches to retirement centers. Combined with letter writing and donation requests, the efforts proved successful.

Major productions have been staged each fall since PLOT's opening; dual programs of Henry Purcell's "Dido and Aeneas" and Giacomo Puccini's "Gianni Schicchi" in 2009, and Jules Massenet's "Cendrillon" in 2010.

This year's production will be Mozart's "La Finta Giardiniera," directed by student Kirsten Shetler.

According to soprano Christen Horne, who will perform the role of Aminda in the production, there were many possible operas to choose from, but "La Finta" hit criteria beyond just the storyline and music.

"It fit the singers that we knew we had available, and it fit the language criteria," Horne said. "We try to cycle through the standard languages every four years. We needed an opera in Italian since we performed a French opera in 2010 and an English opera the year before that."

The opera is performed in Italian with English subtitles projected. Look for the next production to be in German, said PLOT organizers.

While learning the music is difficult

enough, Horne said staging the event itself is an enormous undertaking.

"All operas are extremely involved," Horne said. "For 'Finta,' we started preparing for the opera in January."

Although in the past PLNU faculty, community members, prospective students and alumni have been in the cast, this year's program will be a student-only affair. Auditions were held in March.

"We bring in an outside panel of experts to cast the opera for that season to ensure no casting biases," Horne said. "For 'La Finta Giardiniera' we brought in USC graduate students whose emphasis of study was opera, and who had been recently involved in USC's own production of this very opera."

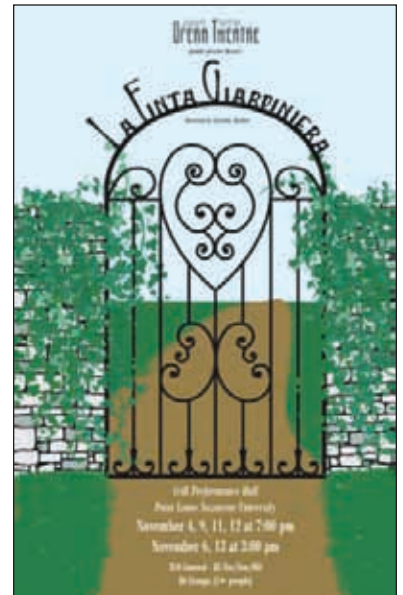
Horne said each performance involves much more than one sees on stage.

"PLOT is run by six board members who are students and are participating in the opera via singing, conducting or public relations," she said. "The PLOT board organizes the production from selecting the opera, stage director, artistic vision, set production, PR and working out the production logistics. The members in PLOT wear multiple hats as organizers and performers."

There are some who are a part of PLOT who are not performing, but who are important assets to the organization, notably Shetler. She is joining PLOT for her third opera season.

"Staff at PLNU's music department has also helped in making sure PLOT is able to run smoothly," Horne said. Musical backing will be provided by Dr. Phil Tyler and the PLNU Orchestra, expanding the involvement of PLOT to more than just singers, but orchestra members as well.

Zoey Flint, the production's public relations manager, notes that with cur-



A flyer promotes the upcoming production of "La Finta Giardiniera" by the Point Loma Opera Theatre. Courtesy

rent economic pressures, support from local businesses has been key to PLOT's success. In addition to donations, gift cards for raffles have been contributed by 18 area shops, including Stumps Family Market, Fiddlers Green restaurant, Newport Avenue Optometry, Miss Match clothing shop, Good Point Gasoline, Ocean Beach Antique Mall and Baron's The Marketplace.

While Horne said she is thrilled to be a part of this year's production, she said she's also happy to be able to spread the word about opera in general.

"PLOT provides needed opportunities for developing singers, directors, conductors and instrumentalists to gain performance and production experience, as well as provide innovative and exciting operas for the San Diego community," Horne said.

"Through local concert series, we provide ourselves opportunities to share our gifts and our passion for opera with the community," she said.

Though "La Finta Giardiniera" has yet to be staged at the time of this interview, Horne and the members of the Point Loma Opera Theatre are already looking toward 2012.

"Next year, students still plan to continue PLOT, and have even started to explore through the German opera repertoire. The current and prospective student leadership is always looking ahead, constantly planning for future productions and concert venues," Horne said.

"La Finta Giardiniera" will be performed at Point Loma Nazarene University, Point Loma Opera Theatre, 3900 Lomaland Drive, on Nov. 4, 9, 11 and 12 at 7 p.m., as well as on Nov. 6 and 13 at 3 p.m.

For more information about the production, visit (619) 226-7979, or visit www.pointlomaopera.com. For tickets, call the PLNU music department at (619) 849-2325.

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Nicholas Strasburg and Christine Marshall in "Malashock/Raw 2." Photo courtesy of Raymond Elsta

Liberty Station's Malashock Dance company gets 'Raw'

By CHARLENE BALDRIDGE | THE BEACON

Dance aficionados know La Jolla native John Malashock's 23-year-old Malashock Dance as one of San Diego's best modern dance troupes.

Malashock Dance, based at Liberty Station in Point Loma, is currently in residence at La Jolla Playhouse, presenting the second edition of even more provocative world premiere works in the second edition of "Malashock/Raw," aptly titled "Malashock/Raw2."

Choreographer Malashock, who graduated from La Jolla High School, danced with New York's renowned Twyla Tharp Dance and after touring for nearly a decade, returned to the San Diego area, determined to go into business in order to provide a more "normal" life for his wife Nina and son Duncan.

"But you know how dance is," Malashock said. "It called me back. There was not much choice."

Malashock's Emmy Award-winning works, whether filmed for television or performed in a theater, usually tell a story. They are playful, intimate and human. With the advent of "Raw" last year, other adjectives apply.

Fourteen years ago, Malashock invited an incendiary Los Angeles-based dancer named Michael Mizerany to join his troupe. Mizerany did so, commuting by Amtrak until he moved to San Diego six years ago.

As dancer and choreographer, Mizerany, who is remembered for his poignant portrayal of a loser in Malashock's Emmy Award-winning dance film, "The Soul of Saturday Night," brings an edgy, more overtly sexual energy to the troupe.

Opening tonight (Oct. 20) and continuing through Saturday in the Mandell Weiss Forum Theatre at La Jolla Playhouse, "Malashock/Raw2" features new works by Malashock, Mizerany and guest choreographers Henry Torres and Angel Arambula from Tijuana's LUX BOREAL. Mizerany is the producer.

When asked what a producer does, Mizerany said, "He does everything. Nothing is too big; nothing is too incidental. I choreograph, I run rehearsals for LUX when LUX isn't here. I run rehearsals for John's piece. I process ticket orders. I sweep the floor. It's always crunch time — not in a bad way; I really enjoy it."

Asked if he was responsible for putting the raw in "Raw," Mizerany said no — it was a collaborative effort. The company wanted to attract a younger age demographic (25 to 40) and decided that something more cutting edge and provocative might do that.

It did. Following sold out performances at downtown's Sushi, the wildly successful repertoire titled "Malashock/Raw" was remounted at Malashock's dance studio at Liberty Station.

This season's repertoire includes Malashock's new dance, titled "Piece of Work!" — referring to the infinite vari-

ety of humans struggling to survive despite opposing psychological forces. In characteristic fashion, Malashock's characters are presented in a series of humorous yet disturbing solos, duets and trios.

Mizerany said LUX's "Harem" concerns five women "connected" with one guy, who goes to each to get what he wants.

"The guy wants something from each and so he goes to get it," he said, "and in the end the women rebel and put him in his place."

As for his work titled "Desperate Love," Mizerany said it concerns the things we compromise for the idea of love or being in love.

"The characters are really flawed — interesting but dysfunctional," he said. "They compromise their emotions, their bodies and their physical safety for what they think they'll get out of love."

Mizerany said "Malashock/Raw2" is more provocative and cutting edge than it was last year. Provocative? Certainly. Offensive? Perhaps. But it's all in the eye of the beholder.

• **Malashock/Raw 2:** Runs Oct. 20-22

All shows take place at 8 p.m. Tickets: \$20 in advance or \$25 on the day of show. For tickets or more information, call (619) 260-1622, or visit www.malashockdance.org.

Peninsula artist to be featured on network show Oct. 28

By MARIKO LAMB | THE BEACON

San Diegans who frequent the Starbucks in Ocean Beach, Gold's Gym in Point Loma or the San Diego Yacht Club have undoubtedly been fascinated by the vibrantly-colored precisely-detailed pastel and watercolor paintings that can be seen there.

Point Loma artist David Linton is the man behind such paintings, which can be described as "realist with an impressionist twist."

Linton's artwork has been commissioned by countless organizations including the America's Cup Organizing Committee, the Arthur Ashe AIDS Foundation and San Diego Marine Trade Association for a variety of causes.

He often provides his colorful renditions of landscapes and seascapes — such as a 12-by-25-foot mural of the Point Loma lighthouse at the Naval Training Center campus — as donations to nonprofit organizations such as the American Cancer Society, the Epilepsy Foundation and the Cher Foundation.

"You always have to give back," he said. "Yeah, I sell paintings, but God gave me this talent and I have to give back. It's good for your soul."

What makes Linton's paintings stand apart is his preference for a difficult-to-use but vibrant medium that many artists tend to shy away from.

"A lot of artists don't want to work with pastels. It's a difficult medium to work with," he said. "It takes years to actually say 'I've arrived, and I can master this medium.'"

Linton has worked with pastels for more than 40 years and can assertively say he has mastered "the oldest known painting medium to mankind."

"It's pure color pigment, it's not diluted. You're applying pure color to the surface, and the image is stronger," he said of why he prefers the medium to oil or acrylics. "You just get a raw feel about what the artist is trying to say on the surface."

He said his talents have evolved over the years to create tighter and cleaner paintings with an immensely expanded color palate. His subject matter, too,



Peninsula artist David Linton, who painted this work "Study for Motherhood" in Ocean Beach, will appear on Art and Coin TV's Fine Art Showcase for a live interview, demonstration of the use of pastels and sale of his artwork on Oct. 28.

Courtesy

has gotten to be worldlier, he said, including a repertoire of paintings from Venice to Paris to Hong Kong.

Linton also has his sights set on the upcoming Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, America's Major League Baseball and U.S. national parks.

Currently, Linton is creating designs for more than 40 types of America's Cup merchandise to prepare for the America's Cup World Series, Louis Vuitton Cup and America's Cup Finals in San Francisco.

On Oct. 28, Linton will appear on Art and Coin TV's Fine Art Showcase for a live interview, demonstration of the use of pastels and sale of his artwork.

Some of Linton's original America's Cup works will sell in an upcoming Fine Art Showcase, a live show he appears on twice per year.

"People want to find out about the artist. A lot of times you see the art-

work, but you wonder, 'who did this?'" he said. "For about 30 minutes, I talk about what inspired me for the paintings, what I've been doing and where I'm going in the way of my artwork."

He said he prefers this virtual gallery to a physical local gallery because he can capture a bigger and broader global audience.

"People have gotten to the point where they just don't want to go out sometimes. It's much easier for them and it's easier on the artist," he said. "It's the home shopping network for art."

For more information about David Linton, visit www.davidlintonart.com. Linton's live interview, showcase and demonstration on Art and Coin TV's Fine Art Showcase will be available on Direct TV and additionally online live at www.artandcointv.com on Oct. 28 at 5 p.m.

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Looking
» ahead

Peninsula-area events, Oct. 20-Dec. 17

THURSDAY, Oct. 20

• Regular meeting of the Peninsula Community Planning Board, including action to fill a vacant board position. The meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. at the Hervey/Point Loma Branch Library, 3701 Voltaire St. For more information, visit www.pcpb.net.

• The Ocean Beach Historical Society will host its monthly meeting, featuring documentarian Noah Tafolla of KPBS' "Wonderland" series. Tafolla will speak on the "History of San Diego Neighborhoods" beginning at 7 p.m. at the Point Loma United Methodist Church. For more information, visit www.obhistory.wordpress.com.

SATURDAY, Oct. 22

The Point Loma High School class of

1967 will host a free, informal reunion at 4 p.m. at the Red Sails Inn, 2614 Shelter Island Drive. Munchies provided. For more information, call Marcy McCann at (619) 223-3322 or email marcyinpv@yahoo.com.

TUESDAY, Nov. 8

The Ocean Beach Town Council hosts its annual Restaurant Walk from 5 to 9 p.m. For more information, call (619) 515-4400, (619) 846-6269, or visit www.obtowncouncil.org.

WEDNESDAY, Nov. 9

• Laura Eubanks will present "The Lighter Side of Succulents" during a meeting of the Point Loma Garden Club. Eubanks, a Master Gardener, uses an "off the beaten path approach" to succulent design and use of companion plantings. The free event takes place at the United Portuguese S.E.S. Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal. For more information, visit design4serenity.com or www.plgc.org.

• The Hervey/Point Loma Branch Library hosts a program by Dr. Jeff Seminoff of the

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Southwest Fisheries Science Center La Jolla. Seminoff will present "Sea Turtles of California: Natural History, Conservation Challenges and Signs of Success." The program is free at the library, 3701 Voltaire St. For more information, call (619) 531-1539.

THURSDAY, Nov. 10

The Rock Academy in Point Loma invites individuals who have served or are currently serving in the military – along with their families – to join a special Veterans Day ceremony at 1 p.m. in the Rock Sanctuary, located at 2277 Rosecrans St. All church, school and community members who wish to honor these brave men and women are also encouraged to attend. For more information, call (619) 226-7625, or visit www.therocksandiego.org.

SATURDAY, Nov. 19

Ocean Beach People's Organic Food

Market hosts its People's Annual Fall Arts and Crafts Fair from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visitors can get an early start on their holiday shopping with one-of-a-kind wares, including jewelry, knit scarves and bags, trinkets, magnets, soaps, candles and stained glass. All booths will be in front of the market at 4765 Voltaire St. Admission is free. For more information, call (619) 224-1387, or email editor@oceanbeachpeoples.com.

TUESDAY, Nov. 29

The Ocean Beach Town Council will erect the OB Community Christmas tree at noon at the foot of Newport Avenue for children and residents to decorate. For more information, call (619) 515-4400, (619) 846-6269, or visit www.obtowncouncil.org.

THURSDAY, Dec. 1

The Ocean Beach Town Council hosts its annual OB school children tree decorating from 9 a.m. to noon. For more information, call (619) 515-4400, (619) 846-

6269, or visit www.obtowncouncil.org.

SATURDAY, Dec. 3

The Ocean Beach Town Council hosts its annual OB Christmas Parade in the heart of OB along Newport Avenue at 5:05 p.m. For more information, call (619) 515-4400, (619) 846-6269, or visit www.obtowncouncil.org.

SATURDAYS, Dec. 3, 10, 17

The Ocean Beach Town Council hosts weekly OB Craft Fairs at Veterans Plaza for all your holiday shopping. For more information, call (619) 515-4400, (619) 846-6269, or visit www.obtowncouncil.org.

THURSDAY, Dec. 8

The Rock Academy's elementary students will present a Christmas program, "Bethlehem or Bust," about a camel and his friends as they discover the true meaning of Christmas. The program takes place Dec. 8 at 1 p.m. and again on Dec. 9 at 6 p.m. in the Rock Church and Academy Sanctuary, located at 2277 Rosecrans St.. Admission is free. For more information, email autumn.cropp@therock-academy.org.

Dec. 13, 15 and 16

The Ocean Beach Town Council brings it home for the holidays with its annual community Food and Toy Drive for local disadvantaged families. Volunteers are needed to help with wrapping and sorting of donated items (be on the lookout for the Christmas donation cans around Ocean Beach) during this three-day period from 5 to 7:30 p.m. at the Point Loma United Methodist Church, located at 1984 Sunset Cliffs Blvd. For more information, call (619) 515-4400, (619) 846-6269, or visit www.obtowncouncil.org.

SATURDAY, Dec. 17

Volunteers will deliver goods from the Ocean Beach Town Council's annual community Food and Toy Drive to seniors and families from 9 a.m. to noon. For more information, call (619) 515-4400, (619) 846-6269, or visit www.obtowncouncil.org.

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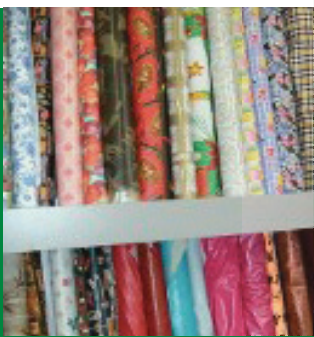
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