



OPENING DAY:
Mission Bay Yacht Club will celebrate its 83rd season April 17. **Page 4**

Beach & Bay PRESS



OUTRIGGER CHALLENGE:
A fun-filled canoe event will draw paddlers to Mission Bay for the ninth year. **Page 10**

Thursday, April 15, 2010

www.beachandbaypress.com



Eric Lingenfelder of the Verant Group, seen here outside Brewley's Pint at 1261 Garnet Ave., the company's newest establishment, said doing business in a community is a two-way street. The group emphasizes community service. **PAUL HANSEN | Beach & Bay Press**

Winning formula

The Verant Group makes it a policy to give back to the community and thrives in spite of a weak economy

By **HILLARY SCHULER-JONES** | BEACH & BAY PRESS

While the economic recession that has plagued the nation for the last two years has caused thousands of businesses to close their doors permanently, other businesses like the Verant Group have been able to turn those closures into opportunities.

Since January 2009, Verant Group owners Eric Lingenfelder, Mark Cirillo and Joe

Vaught have added three locations to their portfolio. The most recent is Irish pub Brewley's Pint on Garnet Avenue, which opened in March. The group now owns seven establishments, including Sandbar Sports Grill in Mission Beach, Tavern at the Beach in Pacific Beach, Offshore Tavern and Grill in Bay Park, True North and West Coast Tavern — both in North Park — as well as a tavern in Arizona.

Lingenfelder, a San Diego native, leads the team's day-to-day operations at all the locations, and he said the downturn in the economy has provided opportunities for Verant.

"We believe with the economy the way it has been over the past year, we look at that as a window of opportunity to find great

SEE **VERANT**, Page 7



Officials with San Diego Bay Fair are attempting to woo back the popular World Series of Powerboat Racing unlimited hydroplanes to Mission Bay by securing a contract with H1 Unlimited. **PHOTO BY JIM GRANT | BEACH & BAY PRESS**

Bay Fair steps up powerboat appeal

By **JOHNNY McDONALD** | BEACH & BAY PRESS

San Diego Bay Fair is making an attempt to lure back the roaring unlimited hydroplanes — a tradition of speed and excitement — for September's annual World Series of Powerboat Racing.

Brett Seber, a member of the fair's board of governors, said he was optimistic about the possibilities. So, the group will reserve some space along busy Mission Bay for Sept. 17-19.

"Although a final contract hasn't been signed, H1 Unlimited is expected to return to San Diego after a one-year absence," Seber reported on Bay Fair's website. "The (contract) numbers (were) worked out, so I feel very comfortable that it's going to happen."

In addition to the unlimiteds, Bay Fair is expected to have tunnel boats, unlimited light boats, drag racing and offshore racing. Other contract "teasers" are in the mail.

"We're never going to make a profit but we finished in a lot better shape last year than we ever have."

Bob Davies

Chairman, SD Bay Fair

Meanwhile, H1 Unlimited chairman Sam Cole said: "Obviously, nothing would make us happier than to return to Mission Bay and be part of Bay Fair once again in 2010. However, we want to make it perfectly clear that there is no agreement in place."

Seber and returning board member Jim Kidrick head the vital marketing team for the nonprofit charity event.

"It's a big challenge to come up with sponsor money," said race chairman Bob Davies. "We're trying to woo people back. Gone are the days of the 'beer wars' when Coors, Millers and Budweiser were sponsors."

Budweiser pulled out after the 2007 event and Bay Fair officials had to go it alone last year.

Discussions were under way with the Lucas Oil Drag Boat Racing Series for the drag racing competition off Crown Point.

The sticking point, though, is the price tag. According to Davies, it costs \$180,000 for the boats to come down and between \$75,000 and \$100,000 for infrastructural needs.

He puts a different spin on his views about the unlimiteds.

The H1 Hydro series (currently with six race locations) begins with 12 boats, but Davies questions how many really are working at the end of the year.

"We've seen this in San Diego over the years, that by the time they've run five, six or seven events during the summer and arrive in San Diego, they're all beat up, come in limping and bandaged," Davies said.

Still, he agreed that the race boats do have the luster and a tradition.

"We're never going to make a profit but we finished in a lot better shape last year than we ever have," Davies said. "We filled in with different classes of boats and tried to give everybody some-

SEE **BAY FAIR**, Page 3

PB resident plans another big EarthFair

By **MEAGHAN CLARK** | BEACH & BAY PRESS

EarthFair 2010 will celebrate 20 years in San Diego on April 18 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Balboa Park, bringing together the green community like never before. Earth Day isn't just about the children's parade and yummy food, but a chance for all those small, non-profit, eco-friendly companies to showcase their efforts.

"It's a chance for those huge local groups that deserve support to get the word out and get them more involved," said longtime Pacific Beach resident Carolyn Chase, one of the Earth Day founders.

Ninety percent of the exhibitors on Earth Day are local companies — from the diaper

services to green remodelers, organic steam carpet cleaners and the San Diego Ford dealership, which is showcasing its new environmentally-friendly vehicle.

"It's usually their number one recruitment day," Chase said. "Those involved work toward anything and everything to do with the environment. And in the long run, the event really connects hundreds of people to do projects throughout the county."

This year, new recruits presenting their work include local high school students who are raising money for endangered species.

"Every [exhibitor] has to do something for the planet, and this year we're clamping down" on proposal regulations, Chase added, keeping the green side of things as the focus.

EarthFair 2010 will host the eARTH Gallery art show, Cleaner Car Concourse, a children's activity center and several entertainment shows along with the 350 exhibitors.

Besides recruiting more than 400 volunteers for the event, the EarthFair staff is doing everything for the annual project that brings in about 70,000 visitors to San Diego — from advertising to media exposure, recruiting new volunteers and finding new exhibitors.

"We do it all!" Chase said.

For more information see www.earthday-web.org.

SEE MORE "GREEN" STORIES PAGES 7 AND 8

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Clean Up Graffiti Day aims to make PB graffiti free

By **ANTHONY GENTILE** | BEACH & BAY PRESS

This weekend, locals will splash paint all over Pacific Beach in a positive way. The third annual Pacific Beach Clean Up Graffiti Day will be held Saturday, April 17 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

“When your community is free of graffiti, you can be more comfortable in it,” said Jim Menders, one of the event’s organizers.

Menders said he hopes that about 150 people will take part in Clean Up Graffiti Day. In addition to the general public, Urban Corps will have 30 people at the event and PB Presbyterian Church will also dispatch work parties.

“This is your community and this is your chance to help make it a beautiful community and a beautiful place to live,” Menders said.

Local hardware stores have donated all the necessary supplies for the cleanup event that was started three years ago by local community activist Jerry Hall. Volunteers won’t need to bring supplies and also don’t need experience in painting or graffiti removal to be a part of Clean Up Graffiti Day.

“There’s an orientation, and after the orientation we’ll be using a graffiti remover spray right in the alley to demonstrate how to remove graffiti,” Menders said. “Most of the graffiti that’s around is as easy as cleaning up a spot on your wall with the spray.”



Trashcans and other graffiti magnets will be targeted by Saturday’s volunteer-based Pacific Beach Clean Up Graffiti Day. COURTESY PHOTO

The event’s organizers have held meetings for the last two months. At their most recent meeting April 8, organizers determined that one of the priorities was to identify graffiti hotspots in PB — including the alleyways south and north of Garnet

Avenue and parts of Lamont Street.

“There are all kinds of trash bins back there covered with graffiti, street signs are covered with graffiti, along with utility boxes and some walls,” Menders said about the alley between Garnet Avenue and Felspar Street.

Although not necessary, volunteers are encouraged to register online at www.bit.ly/pbgraffiti. The event will start at 9 a.m. at PB Presbyterian Church, 1675 Garnet Ave.

“People have to sign some waivers and be informed of a few things,” Menders said. “It’s just a time-saving device. They can register prior to the event but it’s not required.”

BAY FAIR

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

thing to look at.

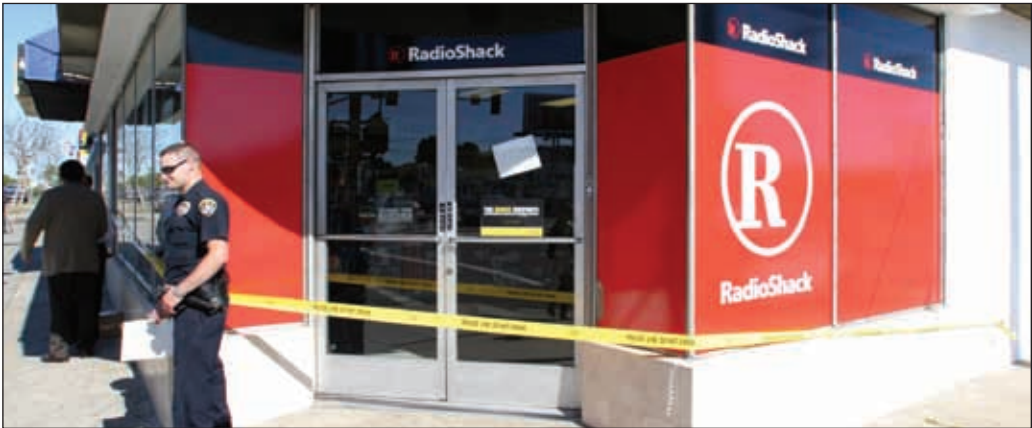
“We had the unlimited lights and they put on one of the best shows I’ve seen,” he said. “They enjoyed it because they were the stars. Probably had more boats in our pits than we ever had. It’s the end of summer, the tourist

have gone home and the locals come out one more time to be entertained and maybe camp in Mission Bay Park.”

With 27 classes of boats, Davies seems like a racing maestro.

“It’s always a challenge to find how much water time is available, particularly when the drag boats need still water,” he said.

Scheduling of the event continues to be a major priority, Davies said.



A San Diego police officer inspects the scene of an armed robbery at Radio Shack on Garnet Avenue in Pacific Beach on April 8. The robbery led to a police chase and eventually to the apparent suicide of a male suspect. PAUL HANSEN | Beach & Bay Press

Armed robbery in PB sparks car chase, apparent suicide

By **HILLARY SCHULER-JONES** | BEACH & BAY PRESS

What began as an armed robbery in Pacific Beach on April 8 evolved into a police chase that ended with one male suspect allegedly committing suicide and a female suspect being taken into custody.

Investigators said the incident unfolded when Brian Marino, 24, of Westminster, Colo., entered the Radio Shack store on Garnet Avenue at 12:25 p.m. and began to gather up items. When a store employee confronted him, Marino reportedly pulled a gun and fled with the items in a red Mazda bearing Colorado license plates.

A citizen quickly pointed out the fleeing suspect to San Diego Police Department motorcycle officer Greg Lindstrom, a 19-year police veteran. Lindstrom followed the car through the streets of Pacific Beach.

At the intersection of Ingraham Street and Thomas Avenue, Marino fired a round of gunshots at Lindstrom, according to police officials.

Marino then fired on Lindstrom two more times before parking the car at a lot in the 3700 block of Sports Arena Boulevard near Phil’s BBQ and fleeing on foot with the handgun, investigators allege.

A female passenger, identified as Chantel Lister, 23, of Colorado, who police said had previously been undetected in the vehicle, fled in a different direction.

Lindstrom chased Marino but apparently lost sight of him behind a building. Lindstrom told investigators he heard a single gunshot and discovered Marino lying on a sidewalk with a bullet wound to his head.

Paramedics pronounced Marino dead at the scene at 12:40 p.m., according to investigators. The county Medical Examiner’s Office has ruled the cause of death to be suicide.

Lindstrom was not injured during the incident, although his motorcycle was struck twice by gunfire.

Lister was arraigned in court April 12 and charged with robbery. She is being held at the Las Colinas Women’s Detention Facility on \$100,000 bail, according to Lt. Kevin Rooney with the police department’s Homicide Unit.

Marino reportedly had a history of criminal activity. On the same day as the armed robbery in Pacific Beach, police in Arvada, Colo. issued a warrant for his arrest on suspicion of attempted murder, Rooney said.

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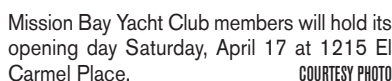
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By **ANTHONY GENTILE** | BEACH & BAY PRESS

Sinking the commodore is just one of MBYC's annual traditions for its members-only opening day ceremony. Other traditions include the commodore racing the club's juniors across the bay and a

“We are the only location on Mission Bay that provides recreational sailboat racing for the local community,” Proc-



For information about Mission Bay Yacht Club, visit www.mbyc.org. For membership inquiries, e-mail manager@mbyc.org.

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NEWS**briefs**

PBMS band to hold pancake fundraiser

The Pacific Beach Middle School (PBMS) band will hold a pancake breakfast fundraiser on Saturday, April 17 from 9 to 11 a.m. at the PBMS lunch court at 4676 Ingraham St. Band director John O'Donnell will be making pancakes and sausages to raise funds for the school's band program. Tickets for the all-you-can-eat breakfast are \$5 in advance and can be purchased at the school's office. Tickets will be \$6 at the door. For more information, contact Jennifer Tandy at (858) 344-1743.

Superintendent Search Committee seeks input

The Superintendent Search Advisory Committee of the San Diego Unified School District will hold a town hall meeting Thursday, April 22 in the auditorium at Pacific Beach Middle School, 4676 Ingraham St., at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was scheduled to give members of the public an opportunity to discuss the qualities they want to see in the district's next superintendent. Visit www.sandi.net/~suptsearch or e-mail brhinerson@sandi.net for further details.

Construction begins at Crown Point Pavilion

The ribbon-cutting for a renovation project at the North Crown Point recreation site in Mission Bay was held April 7 and the project is expected to be completed in time for Memorial Day. Construction workers will replace the site's deteriorating wooden shade structures with four new prefabricated metal shade structures and will also replace a concrete pad and eight concrete picnic tables that were showing signs of wear. The



Attending the groundbreaking for the new pavilion at Crown Point are Mission Bay Rotary Club members, from left, Jim Willis, president; George Gerrodette; District 2 City Councilman Kevin Faulconer; and Alan Rexner, also with the Rotary. These Rotary Club members and Susan Thorning (not pictured) personally donated money – along with the club – to build a new pavilion at Crown Point Shores.

PAUL HANSEN | Beach & Bay Press

renovation plan also calls for the addition of two new accessible parking stalls, accessible concrete walkways to and from the gazebo and new trash containers, hot coal receptacles and barbecue grills. The construction contract is set for \$217,833 and the Rotary Club of Mission Bay has donated \$30,000 to the project. County Supervisor Greg Cox has pledged \$24,000 for new accessory items, according to city officials.

Bird Rock Elementary holds kindergarten registration

Bird Rock Elementary School will hold its kindergarten registration for the 2010-11 school year on April 21 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the school auditorium. For more information, contact the school at (858) 488-0537.

Jazzercise coming to Pacific Beach

Jazzercise aerobics classes will be offered beginning Sunday, April 18 at the Pacific Beach Women's Club at 1721 Hornblend St., with instructors providing a week of free classes, refreshments and door prizes for attendees through April 24. Morning, evening and weekend classes will be available. For a complete class schedule, call (858) 774-0743 or e-mail jazzfly00@gmail.com.

Fair Trade San Diego hosts trade event

Fair Trade San Diego will hold its third annual World Fair Trade Day on May 1 from noon to 4 p.m. at Christ Lutheran Church, 4761 Cass St. The event will feature an open-air fair trade market with gifts, tastings of coffee, wine and chocolate, and information about fair trade practices.

Kate Sessions to hold silent auction

The Friends of Kate Sessions Elementary will hold its annual "Passport to the World" silent auction on Friday, April 30 at the Soledad Club, 5050 Soledad Road, from 6 to 9:30 p.m. Guests will be treated to drinks, hors d'oeuvres, silent and live auctions, live music, and local celebrity appearances. Tickets are available online at idonatetocharity.org/-store/FOKS2010; they are \$25 for individuals and \$40 per couple.

All proceeds benefit Kate Sessions Elementary School students. For more information, e-mail sessionssilentauction@gmail.com.

Creek to Bay Cleanup Seeks Volunteers

The eighth annual Creek to Bay Cleanup, hosted by I Love a Clean San

Diego, will be held April 24 from 9 a.m. to noon.

Volunteers can participate in the event at one of 68 coastal and inland areas throughout San Diego County. This year, organizers expect more than 5,000 volunteers to get involved, and the group is poised to pick up the one-millionth pound of trash gathered as part of the event since it began in 2003. Register online at www.creektobay.org.

Rapist given 105 years in 2009 assault case

A rapist who sexually assaulted a woman he met at a Mission Beach bar was sentenced to 105 years to life in state prison by a judge who set consecutive terms to most of the charges.

Brandon Shawn Burrus, 23, of San Diego was sentenced March 26 by San Diego Superior Court Judge Jeff Fraser, who ordered Burrus to pay \$320 in

restitution to the victim, who was then a college student.

The victim met Burrus in a Mission Beach bar on Feb. 20, 2009 and he offered to give her a ride home. Instead, Burrus took her to a motel and sexually assaulted her.

A jury on Dec. 22 convicted Burrus of kidnapping at knife point, five counts of forcible oral copulation and two counts of rape.

— Neal Putnam

PB Mobile Recycling has new schedule

Effective April 1, Pacific Beach Mobile Recycling, operated by Robyn Faulkner, is operating on the following schedule: Tuesdays — Albertson's, 730 Turquoise St.; Fridays — Henry's Market, 1260 Garnet Ave.; Saturdays — CVS, 1702 Garnet Ave.; and Sundays — CVS, 4445 Mission Blvd.

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Now, I have a question for you — have you funded your 2009 IRA yet?

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Now & Then
John Fry

BEACH & BAY PUBLISHER JULIE MANNIS is ecstatic about me appearing every other week. Well, her exact words were, “So, we’re gonna be seeing your ugly mug twice a month now!” What a sweetheart.

SOMETHING’S FISHY IN DENMARK — Last week’s earthquake tossed some trinkets off my bookcase. My bronze statuette of The Little Mermaid lost her head. Who knew you could slap paint on a Plaster-of-Paris statue and make it look bronze?

“JOHNSON ROD — I haven’t heard that phrase in 70 years,” said Crown Point’s Fred Livingstone. “When I was a kid on Banker’s Hill, we would play baseball in the street. When an auto came along we would stop the game, let the car through, then shout something like ‘Hey mister — your Johnson rod is dragging!’”

THE GENERATION GAP — Forty years ago, my new friend, Tom LaShell, and I spent the summer in Europe accompanied by his pal, Steve Barwood. Last week, Tom was laid up at Mercy Hospital and his daughter, Lindsay, called to get Steve’s phone number. “Did you try the phone book?” I asked.

“What’s a phone book?” she replied, not entirely in jest. I looked up the number for her.

“Can you text me the number?” she responded.

I allowed as how I was not on my cell phone and, even if I was, I doubted that I knew how to send a text.

NOT AGAIN!! A few years ago, some nutritional group took it upon themselves to analyze various national cuisines. Chinese food, I think they said, was pretty good for you, save kung pao chicken. “Heart attack on a plate,” they reported. Of course, that’s my favorite. The next year they did Italian food. Gave it a general thumbs up, except for fettucini alfredo. Heart attack on a plate — and my favorite. I think they didn’t even waste their time on Mexican food, all of which I love. Not long ago IHOP started putting calorie counts on the menu. You guessed it! My favorite international crepes were the big winners. Thought I might get healthy by eating at Subway. Are you ready? Don’t eat the tuna sandwich, said the radio program I was listening to. Stick with roast beef. They should have just called and asked me my favorite sandwich.

THERE IS A GOD — In spring training, teams often split their squads to allow as many youngsters as possible to get playing time. One weekend recently, one Padre squad played the Cubs while another played the Brewers — and both games were on TV at the same time. I spent the whole time switching back and forth. Channel 3, Channel 4. 3-4-3-4-3-4. Can you tell I live alone?

PERHAPS IT’S A BEGINNING — The old La Salsa, on the northwest corner of Cass and Grand, is about to reopen as one of those ’berto Mexican restaurants. And, to my way of thinking, you can’t have too many drive-thru Mexican restaurants. I think this one is ALberto’s.

— John Fry may be reached at 272-6655 or mail@johnfry.com



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Will it take a death to end Floatopia?

As a 30-year veteran of full-time emergency medicine practice in San Diego, I am well aware of the dangers of mixing alcohol, the beaches and water.

I have taken care of a number of alcohol overdose fatalities in my medical career and you are asking for trouble when you allow a public event to take place whose sole pur-

pose is to get as many people as drunk as possible.

As usual, we will probably have to wait for some extremely bad publicity for the City Council to take action. Unfortunately, in this situation, the bad publicity will likely be a death (and then some grieving relatives will probably sue the city for not having done something to prevent it).

James M. Larson, MD FACEP
Pacific Beach

Terra firma no more

I awoke Easter Sunday to a decision I’d purposely put off: do I go to church or no?

Despite 20-plus years of Catholic school and a decidedly Irish-Catholic upbringing, I hadn’t been in years. The reasons are too many to visit in this space, but the choice remained. My head was foggy from a Saturday evening spent sampling the latest locally-brewed IPA, easing acceptance of my initial impulse to stay in bed. A call from another “retired” Catholic friend and a shard of morning sunshine on my pillow changed my mind. I showered and dressed with military precision and found a parking spot near the church only 15 minutes into the Mass. As I exited the car, a pretty girl in a sundress passed by. I thought to offer to escort her to the service, but failed to seize the moment. Regret — it’s better than guilt, I guess.

I downed my coffee and joined my friends on the patio of the church. You’ve got to camp out to get seats on Easter Sunday — a sacrifice, needless to say, I never considered making. We stood outside, a group of former altar boys and May



Pacific Vibe
Tom McFadden

procession girls, trying hard to be pious but failing miserably in the same way we had as kids. Jokes whispered, lips bitten in restraint. Only an angry 400-pound nun with a ruler was missing.

Shortly after Mass, we gathered for an Easter celebration at the home of friends. We drank beer, sampled a bevy of appetizers (including something called “cheeseburger dip”), drank more beer, and enjoyed another afternoon of relentless Southern California sunshine. As we sat around the table in the yard, we recounted an incident during the morning’s Mass that called for a discussion of protocol: (When the “Host” is

accidentally dropped, who should pick it up and what should they do with it? Despite more than 100 collective years of Catholic schooling logged amongst our group, the answer was unclear.) Sometime during the fifth retelling of this uncomfortable moment, it happened. Initially, I thought I was just dizzy, but after a quick glance around the table it became clear: The earth was quaking.

It’s unsettling when the earth is unsettling. Experiencing the phenomena outside added a level of surrealism — no rattling dishes, no clanking silverware, no swaying blinds to concentrate on — only the realization that solid ground was no longer solid. Terra firma no more.

No panic, no fear, no freak outs — just a generous slice of humble pie. A stark reminder that some things will always remain out of our control. Call it God, call it nature, call it plate tectonics — it’s all semantics anyway. Maybe that’s why I showed up at church. Not out of fear, guilt or dogmatic responsibility, but a subconscious desire to be reminded of the scope of my being.

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

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Greenwise Solutions is remodeling this space at 1001 Garnet Ave., turning it into a LEED-certified business.
JILLIAN RISBERG | Beach & Bay Press

Company builds a ‘green’ gelato shop in PB

By JILLIAN RISBERG | BEACH & BAY PRESS

With the 40th Anniversary of Earth Day right around the corner, Greenwise Solutions, a San Diego-based source for residential and commercial building auditing, green consulting, design, construction and maintenance, is doing its part to preserve the planet.

As the only performance contractor in Southern California, Greenwise has several projects in the works, including Gelati Amo Italia, an authentic Italian gelato shop under construction at 1001 Garnet Ave., on the corner of Cass Street. It is slated for a June opening.

The space was originally a coffee house and after it closed, Which Wich sandwich shop secured part of the

space and left 1,000-square-feet for another business.

Greenwise co-founder and CEO Soheil Nakhshab provided all the design services, including architectural, engineering and green features in order to achieve LEED certification (independent, third-party verification that a building project is environmentally responsible, profitable and a healthy place to live and work, according to the U.S. Green Building Council). Nakhshab is doing the construction as well.

He used no volatile materials — toxic smelling paints, adhesives and furniture.

“So, when you come in you’re going to smell gelato, you’re not going to smell this stuff,” said Nakhshab, adding that the components are recycled and rapidly renewable.

There’s going to be a high efficiency air-conditioning system, linoleum flooring by Armstrong, low-flow water fixtures, a dual flush toilet and LED lighting. Day lighting controls will automatically dim in response to the amount of natural daylight streaming into the space.

Owner Clint Legnani knew it was advantageous to have a more efficient spot, Nakhshab said, not only to help offset expenses but also as the first LEED-certified retail space in San Diego.

Legnani will offer 40 different flavors of gelato and a few types of the Italian ice cream. He is going to introduce the

SEE GREENWISE, Page 8

VERANT

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

locations that maybe were passed up or people weren’t able to sustain,” Lingenfelder said.

Yet the advantage of being able to find better locations is tempered by the challenge of trying not to grow too fast.

“We are very slow and calculated about our growth,” Lingenfelder said. “Our biggest challenge is just making sure that we are caught up on the back end before we move on to a new location, and so far we’ve been able to do that.”

Lingenfelder also struggles with keeping the Verant Group’s facilities exciting and relevant, a challenge that is familiar to many business owners.

“I always say, ‘They sell the same Bud Light up and down the block’... we have

to create something special in order for them to want to drink that beer at our location,” Lingenfelder said. “You’ve got to create an energetic and fun atmosphere, and that’s where I give a lot of credit to our management team.”

Lingenfelder is quick to praise the on-site managers at each of Verant’s locations, not only for their ability to enhance the customer experience, but also for their community involvement, which is strongly encouraged by the ownership team.

“We’ve always had the philosophy that all relationships are give-and-take, so when we come into a community, we believe that its got to be a two-way street,” Lingenfelder said. “It’s not only about what we can provide from a food and beverage aspect, but also what we can do as a public service. Our managers attend community meetings, our staff members take part in community

cleanups... we have made that a part of the way our management staff does things.”

Verant Group restaurants have contributed more than \$200,000 to local organizations in the last two years, and Lingenfelder is active in the community himself, sitting on the board of the Pacific Beach Improvement District and serving as executive vice president of Jeans for Justice, a local sexual-assault prevention organization. He is also a member of the Pacific Beach Hospital-ity Task Force and the North Park Business District.

Lingenfelder said that he, Vaught and Cirillo have all “grown up” in the restaurant business and he can’t imagine doing anything else.

“For me and my partners, this has been in our blood,” Lingenfelder said. “We are all excited about what we’ve done, so no regrets so far.”

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Merchants making the world greener – one client at a time

By LEE CORNELL | BEACH & BAY PRESS

It seems like everyone is going green these days. In one Pacific Beach office building there are three companies whose business plans revolve around just that.

The three independent businesses are Coast 2 Coast, Adroit Solar and NegaWatt Consulting. Each of these companies do different things but they all share the common goal of finding ways to reduce energy consumption.

The first thing Coast 2 Coast does is help interested business owners and residents understand how LED lighting works. Then, Coast 2 Coast explains how much energy and money can be expected to be saved by switching to the more environmentally-safe lighting. Finally, it provides customers with the products and expertise needed to convert their lighting needs.

“The lighting efficiencies available are phenomenal,” Coast 2 Coast sales agent



Adroit Solar specializes in the design and installation of solar energy for homes and businesses. COURTESY PHOTO

THREE GREEN BUSINESSES

WHERE: 1135 Garnet Ave.

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Daniel Stein said. “Standard homes and businesses can save thousands of dollars every year by using less energy.”

Adroit Solar specializes in the design and installation of solar energy for homes and businesses. Obviously, switching to solar energy helps the environment, using fewer natural resources such as fuel. But solar energy can also save money for businesses and residents alike. Adroit Solar provides its customers with a wide variety of services including, heating and cooling buildings, heating water, solar electricity and even heating floors using solar energy. From complete energy audits, to answering simple questions, Adroit Solar can help find the best ways to meet its customers’ goals.

“People want to be as energy-efficient and as green as possible,” Adroit Solar sales manager Tony Verneti said. “Our goal is for the home to produce more

energy than it’s using.”

Right now is a particularly good time to look into Adroit Solar because of the rebates that just became available for solar hot water users.

NegaWatt Consulting is an energy and sustainability consulting firm whose services include energy auditing and analysis, sustainability consulting and advanced system monitoring. NegaWatt uses state of the art technology including infrared imaging to determine where exactly energy is being wasted in a building and then NegaWatt finds the best way to fix the problem. They work with both new construction and renovation projects. NegaWatt only works on buildings that are 5,000 square feet or larger.

“We can lower the average customer’s electricity bill by 20 percent with almost no investment,” NegaWatt President Marc Esser said.

GREENWISE

CONTINUED FROM Page 7

gelato sandwich; a fresh croissant cut in half with gelato in the middle.

Nakhshab said he thinks people are a little earthier in the beach towns and he thinks they’ll appreciate the new arrival.

“We want to push this movement of energy-efficient green building in our city; it deserves it ... So many people are so wasteful here; let’s try to make a difference,” he said.

In addition, Greenwise Solutions was chosen to be on the panel of the Retrofit Summit which takes place tomorrow, April 16, at the California Center for Sustainable Energy.

Urban gardening in San Diego

If you’re looking to use that green thumb but don’t think you have the space or time, think again. Gardening in San Diego is simple and easy with the moderate climate, said Carolyn Chase, one of the EarthFair founders.

Succulents and cactus are ideal as they require the least amount of time or space. For an urban vegetable garden, try lettuce, green onions or tomatoes on the balcony that gets any kind of sun.

Pacific Beach has a few great community gardens where locals can rent out a spot of land and plant to their liking, while Cass Street’s Green Gardens offers those strapped for time “pre-grown” plants, otherwise known as pots already post-bud.

If you want to simply brighten up your day with flowers, Chase suggests planting native San Diego flowers like poppies that don’t require as much water and are capable of growing in San Diego’s climate.

The best advice she can give is steer away from the cliché — don’t assume your front yard looks best with a big patch of grass, Chase said. Instead, save water and showcase your personality with a little bit of pop and color from plants that require less maintenance than a weekly mowing.

“San Diego has a great amount of green space that people can take advantage of,” Chase said. “Just get a pot and water.”

— Meaghan Clark



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Outrigger Challenge returns to Mission Bay for ninth year

By **LEE CORNELL** | BEACH & BAY PRESS

The annual Wells Fargo Outrigger Challenge will be back for its ninth edition later this month. The nonprofit event held on Mission Bay has been steadily growing in popularity.

“Last year we had 99 teams enter the friendly competition and this year we’re hoping to surpass 100 boats,” said event coordinator Laura Delamontaigne.

The Outrigger Challenge has moved to Crown Point Shores this year.

The event will take place on Saturday, April 24, with registration starting at 8 a.m. The races get underway at 9 a.m. and go throughout the day until the championship battle around 2 p.m. It is a double-elimination tournament, so every team will get a chance to race at least twice. The course is only 200 meters and the races are typically over in a matter of minutes.

The last two challenges have been dominated by Paddle This! — a team that will be going for an unprecedented three-peat this year. Past winners also include the Coast Guard, which has claimed victory three times.

“They are the team to beat this year,” Delamontaigne said of Paddle This!

Outrigger canoes originated in Hawaii long ago but can now be found in aquatic communities around the world. The local Hanohano Outrigger Canoe Club provides all the boats for the event.

Each canoe carries five members and two must be women, as stated in the rules. Competitors must also be at least 18 years of age and a Hanohano member will be represented in each canoe to help out.

“They provide an experienced steersperson in every boat,” Delamontaigne said. “Even if you don’t have experience, they’ll train you and get you ready to race.”

The non-competitive participants shouldn’t be discouraged, because there is plenty of fun to be had out of the water. A luau gets under way with a Polynesian dance show from noon to 12:30 p.m. There will also be music and a beer and mai tai garden to spice up the atmosphere for attendees over the age of 21. The Outrigger Challenge is a public event, so everyone is welcome to watch the races or just enjoy the unique scene.


For teams that sign up before April 16, the cost is \$200. After that, sign-up fees go up to \$225 per squad. Every person in the challenge will receive a T-shirt, along with a ticket to the luau. For those who just want to enjoy the festivities, tickets are \$20. Grass skirts are encouraged but not required.

Profits from the competition go to help pay for the cost of hosting the Pacific Life Holiday Bowl in December. For more information, visit www.holidaybowl.com or call (619) 283-5808.

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Local couple in same boat when it comes to rowing

By ANTHONY GENTILE | BEACH & BAY PRESS

Some married couples would not be able to stomach being on a boat with one another for extended periods of time. That is not a problem for local pair Scott and Cathy Kemper, who often row together for hours on Mission Bay.

"It's very convenient. Now that he has joined me, it provides me with an excuse to travel, an excuse for a social life and it fits exercise into all of that together," Cathy Kemper said. "It works really well — one activity does several purposes."

Scott and Cathy Kemper have lived on Crown Point since 1970 and have rowed with San Diego Rowing Club

since the mid-1990s. They typically row on the bay six days a week.

"We literally just ride our bikes around Sail Bay to get over to the boathouse," Scott said. "Usually, we work out in SeaWorld channel. There's an area that's buoyed off and buoyed for steerageway only, and we do a lot of the sprints in there."

Both 72-year-old Scott and 64-year-old Cathy have rowed with success on the national and international level. In February, Scott captured a coveted hammer at the C.R.A.S.H.-B Sprints Rowing Regatta in Boston, winning the lightweight 70-74 men's class with a lead of 30 seconds in an indoor race on an ergometer rowing machine.

"It's a different thing," Scott said. "A lot of people who are on-the-water-rowers hate the rowing machine because it is just you and the machine and you're not trying to psych the machine out or anything like that. It's a real measure of performance."

Cathy served as a coxswain of sorts for Scott during the event, coaching him during the race. She was quick to point out that although not participating in the regatta this year, she has more hammers than Scott.

"His is bigger than mine, but I have two," Cathy said. "I'm going to have to make weight next year, so that I can keep one ahead of him."

Cathy had already been rowing with ZLAC for nearly a decade when she introduced Scott to the sport 12 years ago. When Scott first started rowing, he insisted that he wouldn't row competitively.

"He knows himself and he knows that he can be very competitive and he didn't want that much pressure in his life," Cathy said. "But I knew once



Cathy and Scott Kemper are two avid competitors who have occasionally joined in races together in a double boat.

COURTESY PHOTO

he got good that he wouldn't be able to resist."

Scott and Cathy have competed in races together in a double boat on occasion, most recently finishing third in the 2008 USRowing Masters National Championships in Long Beach. Scott said putting a competitive married couple in a boat together creates an interesting dynamic.

"In a double, when it's just the two of us, one of us has to be boss and one of us has to shut up and suck it up," Scott said. "Usually I'm the one that has to shut up."

Cathy didn't dispute that claim one bit.

"He is the one that has to shut up —

he has to bow before my superior experience," Cathy said. "He does pretty well with that."

But more often than not, Scott and Cathy row in sync with one another.

In and out of the water, the couple's shared passion for rowing certainly makes them unique.

"It's not a combination you usually see," Scott said.

SPORTS**brief**

Two MBHS stars earn all-CIF honors

Two Mission Bay High School athletes were named winter all-CIF performers by a panel of sportswriters and coaches from throughout San Diego at the Hall of Champions last month.

In boys' basketball, Buccaneers senior guard Derrick Thompson was named to the boys basketball all-CIF Second Team, the best player on a team that finished 14-11 and was knocked off in the CIF Division III quarterfinals.

In girls' soccer, sophomore Christian Burkenroad received Second Team honors. Burkenroad finished the season with 35 goals for a Bucs team that went 19-6-3.

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A black and white photograph of a man playing a trumpet. The man is wearing glasses and a dark jacket. He is shown in profile, looking down at the instrument. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights on his face and the trumpet, and deep shadows elsewhere. The background is dark and out of focus.

COURTESY PHOTO

By **BART MENDOZA** | BEACH & BAY PRESS

***Gilbert Castellanos: Saturday,
April 17, 8:30 p.m. at Tango Del Rey,
3567 Del Rey St. Cover TBD. All ages.
www.myspace.com/gilbertcastellanos***

It's not easy standing out in today's overwhelmed acoustic music scene, but singer-songwriter Allegra Barley, who performs at the Tiki House on April 20, manages to do so, using a tried and true gimmick; ace

*Allegra Sings: Tuesday, April 20,
9 p.m. at The Tiki House, 1152 Garnet
Ave. Cover TBD. 21 and up. www.myspace.com/allegrasing*

Formed in 1996, Marcy Playground, who appear at Brick by Brick on April 21 managed to hit the top 10 with their first single, 1997's "Sex and Candy." Unfortunately, despite four albums, a dozen singles and soundtrack appearances, that chart placing would prove to be the trio's peak. The epitome of the phrase "one-hit-wonder," the band's music deserves a much wider hearing, as frontman John Wozniak is a wonderfully eccentric writer adept at folk, rock or psychedelia. Though the loudest cheers will be for their hit's obligatory airing, Marcy Playground's other material is well worth investigating.

Marcy Playground: Wednesday,
April 21, 8:30 p.m. at Brick by Brick,
1130 Buenos Ave. 21 and up. \$ 16.
www.myspace.com/officialmarcy

Stick Figure: Saturday April 24,
9 p.m. at the 710 Beach Club, 710
Garnet Ave. 21 and up. Cover TBD.
www.myspace.com/stickfiguremusic

San Diego continues to attract bands from around the world to its music scene. The latest temporary transplant is Ireland's Mother Mary Mood, who perform at O'Connell's on April 25. The band wears its influences on its sleeve, with dashes of Pearl Jam, The Cult and the Who to be found amidst their power chords. Anyone who enjoys melody, anthemic passages or stadium rock in general will find much to enjoy here.

Mother Mary Mood: Sunday, April 25, 9 p.m. at O'Connell's, 1310 Morena Blvd. 21 and up. Cover TBD. www.myspace.com/mothermarymood

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 <p>4656 Mission Blvd. P.B. 858-274-2473</p>	<p>Nightly Specials: all you can eat wings for \$11.99 and buckets (5) of keystone light for \$10</p>	<p>Happy Hour All day and night!</p>	<p>Nightly Specials: 6pm-cl \$3 16oz drafts and 1/2 price sliders</p>	<p>Nightly Specials: 8pm-cl \$2 keystone light cans</p>	<p>Nightly Specials: 8pm-cl \$@ 16oz pbr drafts</p>	<p>Nightly Specials: \$2 mimosas, \$8 bottles of champagne, \$4 bloody marys</p>	<p>Nightly Specials: \$2 mimosas, \$8 bottles of champagne, \$4 bloody marys</p>
 <p>3714 Mission Blvd 858-488-668</p>	<p>HAPPY DAY: Happy Hour 11:30am - close, wii bowling tourney: sign up @ 9pm, starts @ 9:30 ½ price btls, drafts & cocktails. 25% off apps</p>	<p>TACO TUESDAY'S: Taco's starting @ \$1.50 \$3.00 Dos Equis pints and \$5 Corralejo Margaritas Happy Hour from 3pm-7pm</p>	<p>\$2 U Call It Night: \$2 and \$3 U-CALL-IT'S" from 9:00PM-close All Guava Sliders \$2.50 each , \$12 Bionic Beavers Happy Hour from 3pm-7pm</p>	<p>BURGERS MADNESS: \$5.99 Burger and Fries \$2.00 off all pitchers Friends Chili with Free pool, board games, 6 wii play games</p>	<p>FISH & CHIPS FRIDAYS: \$9.99 all you can eat fish & chips \$8 Dom. Pitchers, \$4 Jack and Cokes, \$4 Vodka Rockstar, \$3.50 Jager, Fernet & Tuaca Shots</p>	<p>SATURDAY SLIDIDERDAYS Party Night \$3.00 U call its 9:30 to close \$8 Dom. Pitchers, \$5 Bloody Mary's, \$4 Mimosas, \$12 Bionic Beavers, \$2.50 Kazis NFL, NCAA & NBA packages.</p>	<p>SUNDAY FUNDAY \$8 Dom. Pitchers \$2.50 Kazis, \$5 Bloody Mary's, \$4 Mimosas. NHL and NBA packages available</p>
 <p>5046 Newport Ave. 619-222-5300</p>	<p>All day, every day: \$3 Newcastle Ale & \$3 Landshark pints</p> <p>Nightly Specials: Open Mic w/ Jody Wood \$4 Vodka Redbull, \$4 Yager Bombs, Happy Hour 3-8 w/ \$3 Wells, \$8, \$10 & \$12 pitchers</p>	<p>Nightly Specials: Wii & full Rockband competitions \$4 Vodka Redbull, \$4 Yager Bombs, Happy Hour 3-8 w/ \$3 Wells, \$8, \$10 & \$12 pitchers</p>	<p>Nightly Specials: Hip hop night Happy Hour until 8pm, \$3 Wells, \$8, \$10 & \$12 pitchers</p>	<p>Nightly Specials: Reggae night with live bands & DJ Carlos culture, \$3 Redstripes Happy Hour until 8pm, \$3 Wells, \$8, \$10 & \$12 pitchers</p>	<p>Nightly Specials: Jason Otts accoustic showcase 6-9pm, Hip Hop, Bands + DJs. Happy Hour until 8pm, \$3 Wells, \$8, \$10 & \$12 pitchers</p>	<p>Nightly Specials: Live Music, DJ Chelu \$3 Mimosas, Bloody Marys & Beers</p>	<p>Nightly Specials: \$10 Corona Buckets \$5 Jager Bombs \$2 Buds</p>
 <p>5019 Cass Street P.B. Kitechen# 858-274-4172</p>	<p>\$5 Lunch Specials Fri Only Grill Open M –TH @ 4pm Fri @ 11am, weekends @ 9am Home of \$6.75 PBR Pitcher 6pm-12am Mon-Thurs. Happy Hour 11am-6pm Mon-Fri</p> <p>Nightly Specials: 4-10pm \$1.⁵⁰ PBR pint \$2 Domestic pint \$3 Micro Pints FREE POOL Mon & Tues</p>	<p>Nightly Specials: 4-10pm \$7.⁹⁹ 2 fish tacos w/ refried beans + pint of your choice Pint specials same as Monday</p>	<p>Nightly Specials: 4-10pm \$6.⁹⁹ Special 4-10pm Italian Night BYO Wine or \$10 bottle of wine available</p>	<p>Nightly Specials: 4-10pm \$9.⁹⁹ Special 4-10pm Pulled Pork Sandwich w/ coldslaw & fries + beer of your choice \$1 Draft 6-7pm</p>	<p>Daily Specials: Th-Fri 11am-3pm \$5 lunches, 50 cent Pool</p>	<p>Serving Breakfast 10am-1pm 10.5 Flatscreens. WATCH SPORTS HERE Mimosas not like grandma's.</p>	<p>Serving Breakfast 10am-1pm WATCH SPORTS HERE 6-10pm \$2 Domestic Draft Late Dinner Specials \$\$</p>
 <p>721 Grand Ave. 858-581-BEER</p>	<p>Open Wii play</p>	<p>All-You-Can-Eat Crab With hushuppies and salad + crab races at 10pm.</p>	<p>Uncorked 1/2 price bottles of wine 5-10pm + \$5 Martini Madness at 10pm.</p>	<p>Thursday Special \$3 U-Call-Its from 9pm – close.</p>	<p>Friday Special \$3 U-Call-Its from 9pm – close.</p>	<p>Breakfast (9am – 1pm) with Build Your Own Bloody Marys and Tropical Mimosas.</p>	<p>Breakfast (9am – 1pm) with Build Your Own Bloody Marys and Tropical Mimosas.</p>
 <p>4343 Ocean Blvd. 858-272-SURF</p>	<p>Nightly Specials: Beer Pong 9pm to Close .25 Wings and Industry gets 50% off bill</p>	<p>Nightly Specials: 1/2 off Appetizers 6pm to close</p>	<p>Nightly Specials: Goldfish Racing 9pm to close</p>	<p>Nightly Specials: \$3 U Call it 8pm to close DJ Tony A NO Cover</p>	<p>Nightly Specials: \$3 Drafts, \$3 Tacos NO Cover</p>	<p>Nightly Specials: Badgers Football DJ Tony A \$3 Drafts, \$3 Tacos NO Cover</p>	<p>Nightly Specials: Karaoke with DJ Franqueray Reverse Happy Hour 10pm to Close – \$3 U Cal it</p>

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PBTC Dineouts spice up social time

By SHANNON MULHALL | BEACH & BAY PRESS

Tuesdays can be rather ho-hum. Having eased into the work week, the weekend is not yet in sight. Even in a bustling social hub like Pacific Beach, it can be a slow night for restaurants. That's one reason the Pacific Beach Town Council (PBTC) visits one local eatery the last Tuesday of the month for its dineout event. This month's dinner takes place at 6 p.m. Tuesday, April 27 at China Inn, 877 Hornblend St. The public is welcome to attend. "We thought restaurants might welcome the business on a slow night," said Town Council member Mary Cook. "We want to help area restaurants as much as we can."

Restaurants aren't the only ones who reap the benefits.

"It's just a great way to meet other people and go to new restaurants. They really cater to us so it's kind of special," said

PBTC President Rose Galliher.

Dineout spots have included Café Athena, The Green Flash, Lamont Street Grill, Lotsa Pasta, Marino's Italian Restaurant, Nick's At the Beach, The Fishery, World Famous and Caffè Bella Italia.

"People really look forward to it," Cook said. "They're always asking me where we're going next time."

Cook has organized the dineouts since 2000. A beloved fixture of the Pacific Beach community, she served as honorary mayor in 2002 and spent three of her 10 years on the Town Council serving as secretary.

Organizing the dineouts is a fun way to stay involved with the community, Cook said. She works with restaurant staff to establish a menu of select entrees for the events and then takes orders from Town Council members and other attendees beforehand.

Cook took the dineout baton from

Town Council members Georgina Smith and Elaine Hespel, who organized the dinners for years.

The dineouts began in 1985, when Pacific Beach newcomers Tom and Jeanne Richards — who would eventually become the first husband and wife to be named honorary mayor — wanted to learn more about their new community and its residents. Mary Wilding, then PBTC secretary, knew of a group that got together once a month at local restaurants — and the Town Council has been doing just that ever since.

At one point, the monthly event was referred to as the DOG, or Dine Out Group. To help alleviate confusion, the dinner is now known simply as the dineout.

But some misconceptions remain. One is that the event is restricted to Town Council members, but anyone from the community is welcome. Cook said the Town Council prefers that



Diners attend last month's Pacific Beach Town Council Dineout held at World Famous, 711 Pacific Beach Drive.

PAUL HANSEN | Beach & Bay Press

attendees consider membership but that it is not required.

"It's a fun, relaxing time with different groups of people — young, old, a variety of people," said Galliher.

Cook agreed that the dineouts, which typically attract a group of roughly 25, are a fun evening for young and old alike.

Other area groups such as Discover Pacific Beach also participate from time to time, Cook added.

Cost for both members and non-members includes dinner, tax, gratuity and one non-alcoholic beverage. The price varies depending on the menu, selection and type of cuisine, Cook said. The cost of the group's last dineout was \$30 per person.

To attend this month's dineout, call Cook at (858) 450-0422. For more information on PBTC events, visit www.pbtowncouncil.org or call (858) 483-6666.

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