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Thursday, November 11, 2010



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Belmont Park includes stores, restaurants and such attractions as (clockwise from above) the Wave House, the Giant Dipper Roller Coaster and the Plunge swimming pool.

PAUL HANSEN | Beach & Bay Press

Mission Beach landmark files for bankruptcy

By ANTHONY GENTILE | BEACH & BAY PRESS

A recent raise in rent at Belmont Park has raised questions about its future. Belmont Park operator Thomas Lochtefeld has refused to pay the increased rent and filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy Nov. 3, putting the fate of the Mission Beach landmark up in the air.

"I had to somehow get the city's attention and the reality is there's no way I was going to pay that rent or could pay that rent," Lochtefeld said. "This will obviously bring it to the forefront."

Belmont Park filed for bankruptcy with the aim of reorganizing while pursuing claims that the city has breached its lease agreement. With the rent credits expired, the rent for the property was raised from \$70,000 to \$480,000 annually — an increase of almost 700 percent — without offering additional development as an avenue to offset the costs.

"In terms of what's required to maintain the property, to pay the debt, to do the improvements that are required under the lease, and maintain The Plunge, I cannot pay the rent that they're requesting," Lochtefeld said.

Lochtefeld, who also owns the park's main attraction, the Wave House, estimated the annual cost to maintain and operate The Plunge at about \$1 million. He said the structure of the facility, built eight decades ago, is in need of constant improvements.

"It's the structure — the steel frame," Lochtefeld said. "A significant number of columns that support the roof are steel that was back from 1925. Those are flaking off and falling."

A redeveloper who has invested millions of dollars in Belmont Park since acquiring the park's lease in 2002, Lochtefeld said a potential

solution is to revisit redevelopment plans at the site. In 2006, he submitted a redevelopment plan to the city that included a 250-room hotel, underground parking garage along with additions and improvements to the park — and that plan was not further pursued after 2008, he said.

"It allows me to reinvest in the property with the expectation that, in the long run, we can really do something really good here and have a productive asset," Lochtefeld said.

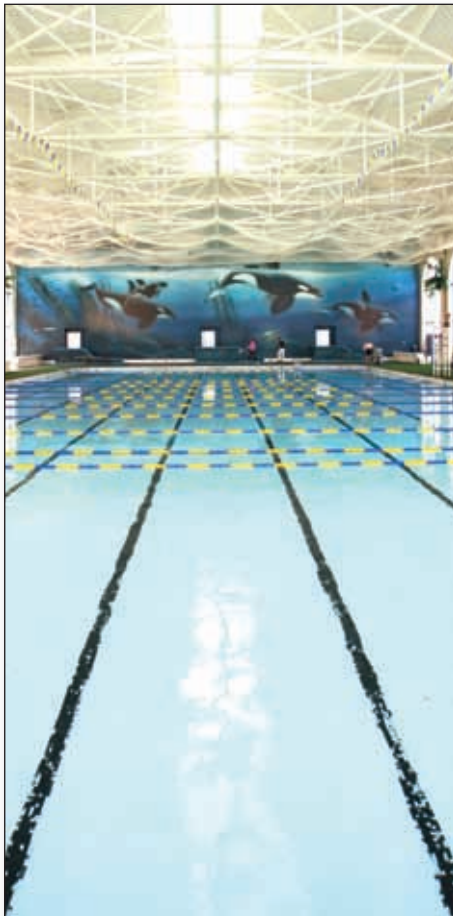
If a compromise can't be reached between the city and Lochtefeld, however, Lochtefeld would be forced to leave and the collapse of the park would become a very real possibility, he said. Lochtefeld said the park draws more than 4 million visitors per year and that the Wave House Athletic Club has approximately 4,000 members.

"The tenants here aren't national chain tenants," Lochtefeld said. "These are ma and pa-type operators and there's no way they can pay the rent increase."

Lochtefeld hopes to resolve things with the city in a way that will benefit both parties involved, as well as the surrounding community, he said. Now that he has filed for bankruptcy, the next step is to put the claim before a judge.

"It is very serious for me and I'm very certain in my moves that what I'm doing is right and what's best for the whole community and organization," Lochtefeld said. "This is a critical asset to the community and we really need to be very careful that we don't blow it, especially in these economic times."

Belmont Park is located at 3146 Mission Blvd. in Mission Beach. For more information about the park, visit www.belmontpark.com.



PB Holiday Parade makes a comeback

By DEBBIE HATCH | BEACH & BAY PRESS

The much-anticipated Pacific Beach Holiday Parade will once again travel through the heart of the business district on Garnet Avenue — this year on Saturday, Dec. 11 from 2 to 5 p.m.

The event did not take place in 2009 because of a lack of financial support.

Discover Pacific Beach, along with District 2 City Councilman Kevin Faulconer and Pacific Beach Honorary Mayor Todd Brown, will officially announce the event's return in front of Bub's Dive Bar, 1030 Garnet Ave., at 11 a.m. tomorrow, Nov. 12.

"Holiday Classics is the theme," said Discover Pacific Beach director Andy Hanshaw.

The parade was made possible this year because of funds distributed by Faulconer, the County of San Diego Neighborhood Reinvestment Program, County Supervisor Pam Slater-Price, Pacific Beach's hospitality community, the Pacific Beach Community Foundation and Discover Pacific Beach.

Parade organizers are seeking float entries from families, community groups and community supporters.

"Local businesses and restaurants, together with local community leaders, have all come together to bring back the parade," Brown said.

For float entry information call Discover Pacific Beach at (858) 273-3303 or visit www.pacificbeach.org.

PBTC president warns: Be careful what you wish for

By DEBBIE HATCH | BEACH & BAY PRESS

Pacific Beach Town Council (PBTC) President Rose Galliher fears the future of the local business district might include more chain stores and fewer small businesses.

Her trepidation is based on the assumptions that national and local chains might not be ingrained into the culture of Pacific Beach enough to support nonprofit fundraising efforts and community improvement projects, noting that the contributions from businesses are what support both community and Town Council events.

Events supported by such funding include the annual Police and Emergency Services Appreciation Night (PAESAN), the Pacific Beach Holiday Parade — which was not held in 2009 because of a lack of funding — and the fall BeachFest celebration.

One concern of Galliher's is that chains can offer items at lower prices than local merchants, thus possibly driving long-time store owners out of business.

"If the big places gobble up the little places then the little places will not be able to survive," Galliher said.

Galliher said when it comes to funding community events, whether with sponsorships or by donating items to be raffled as part of a fundraiser, chains are less likely to feel obligated to participate.

"We're concerned about economic activity in general right now," said Andy Hanshaw, director of Dis-



PBTC President Rose Galliher
PAUL HANSEN | Beach & Bay Press



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NEWSdigest

• **A five-year-old boy died** at Rady's Children's Hospital Nov. 8 as a result of a canoeing accident in Mission Bay on Nov. 6, according to the San Diego Medical Examiner's Office. Keona Kazuo Ferreira of Escondido was initially transported via ambulance to Scripps Hospital after his father pulled him from Mission Bay after their 18-foot Coleman canoe capsized, said Lt. James Filley of the San Diego Police Department's Northern Division. The Medical Examiner's Office does not yet know the cause of death. "All indications at this point show that this was nothing more than a tragic accident," Filley said.

The investigation is ongoing.

• **Vons Gas Market, 1680 Garnet Ave., was robbed** Nov. 8 at 6:43 a.m. The suspect showed a note demanding cash. He then showed the clerk a gun in his waistband, according to a statement from the San Diego Police Department. He left on foot heading eastbound on Garnet Avenue. The suspect was described as a white or Hispanic male, 5-feet, 5-inches-tall with a medium build. He wore a dark-colored hoodie, and his face was covered by a red bandana.

• **Timothy Daly and Collin Tandy won the Green Idea for Life Video Competition** sponsored by the San Diego Air and Space Museum and the Ford Motor Company Fund on Oct. 23, earning \$1,000 — which they donated to the

Pacific Beach Middle School (PBMS) Garden Project. The boys ultimately won a grant from the Village Garden Club of La Jolla. PBMS is holding a planting party Nov. 12, 2-5 p.m. The school is accepting donations of snacks and drinks for the event in addition to organic mulch and soil, shovels, gloves and gardening tools. For information, call (858) 273-9070, ext. 2357.

• **San Diego Coastkeeper honored Amanda Sousa** of Pacific Beach with its Volunteer of the Year award and inducted her into its hall of fame. Fellow Pacific Beach residents who received honors were **Sierra Basegio** and **Rebecca Kanter** for their volunteerism with the organization.

SEE DIGEST, Page 5

Windansea Halloween block party was another big success

Palomar Avenue east of La Jolla Boulevard transformed into a hopping Halloween block party Oct. 30.

About 300 attendees, mainly parents with their kids, showed up for the event, which was a result of the time, funding and energy of residents Peggy Moore and Mike Campagna. Campagna is the owner of Cass Street Bar & Grill, located at 4612 Cass St.

Families enjoyed a face painter, clown, magician and a variety of sweets and snacks, including 250 hamburgers grilled by Campagna. Once it got dark, the DJ "Ace of Music" closed the event with Top 40 tunes. While many of the younger children left, a large group of teenagers stayed to dance. The event also featured a costume contest in which "all the little ones were winners," Moore said.



ABOVE: Teens and parents gather in front of the home of Peggy Moore near the end of the Oct. 30 block party celebration. INSET: Leonardo Najera poses with his mother, Mary Gorhal, at the annual Halloween block party, hosted by Windansea residents Peggy Moore and Mike Campagna. CLAIRE HARLIN | Beach & Bay Press

HALLOWEEN FUN



Children dressed as their favorite monsters, video game characters and all sorts of creatures, brightening the Pacific Beach Recreation Center during the annual Halloween carnival Oct. 29. Here, the kids line up for the costume contest. PAUL HANSEN | Beach & Bay Press

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SeaWorld announces new attraction

SeaWorld San Diego announced a new attraction for summer 2011 that will highlight up to 60 threatened or endangered sea turtles. In addition, the attraction will feature thousands of tropical fish and will include a large underwater viewing window. Turtles in the attraction's nearly 300,000 gallon aquarium will include some more than 50 years old. The attraction will

have interactive elements including a gaming wall and touch screen map where guests can track sea turtles in the oceans. There will also be a ride perfect for "tweens" who can spin in boats on their own rescue mission. SeaWorld officials said they will break ground for the attraction this month and construction will be complete in the summer of 2011.

EVENTS CALENDAR

Looking ahead

THURSDAY, NOV. 11

Pacific Beach Kiwanis Club, 7:30 a.m., Broken Yolk, 1851 Garnet Ave. For more information, call Phyllis (858) 750-2554

Preschool Storytime, 10:30 to 11 a.m., Pacific Beach/Taylor Library, 4275 Cass St., ages 2-4; (858) 581-9934, free

VFW Post 5985 meeting, 7 p.m., 853 Turquoise St., (858) 488-3631, <http://vfw5985.com>

SATURDAY, NOV. 13

Pacific Beach Fall Festival and Craft Fair, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Pacific Beach Recreation Center, 1405 Diamond St., free to enter

SUNDAY, NOV. 14

Handling Grief Creatively, 9 a.m., Community Congregational Church of Pacific Beach (United Church of Christ), 2088 Beryl St., open to the public, (858) 274-6600, free

T.O.D.D.L.E.R.S. (Together Opportunities to Discover and Develop Literacy, Enrichment and Recreation Skills), 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Pacific Beach Recreation Center, 1405 Diamond St., parent and toddler fun. For more information, call Bill at (619) 920-1032, free

MONDAY, NOV. 15

Mission Bay Rotary Club, noon, Catamaran Hotel, 3999 Mission Blvd., lunch, www.rotaryclubmissionbay.org

Christian Youth Theatre presents 'Godspell'

The San Diego Christian Youth Theatre will present "Godspell" at the Pacific Beach Middle School Theater, 4676 Ingraham St., Nov. 12-20. The musical was scored by Stephen Schwartz and uses traditional techniques of pantomime, charades, acrobatics and vaudeville. Performance times will be 7 p.m. on Nov. 12, 13, 19 and 20, and 2 p.m. on Nov. 14 and 20. Ticket prices are \$10 to \$12. For tickets, visit www.cytsandiego.com or call (619) 588-0206.

TUESDAY, NOV. 16

PB Community Advisory Committee, 6 p.m., Discover PB office, 1503 Garnet Ave., (858) 273-3303

Pacific Beach Toastmasters, 6:30 to 8 p.m., Pacific Beach Recreation Center, 1405 Diamond St. For information, e-mail info@pbtm.freetoasthost.net

Under the Covers, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Pacific Beach/Taylor Library, 4275 Cass St. Local readers help each other discover new books, (858) 581-9934, free

Pajama Storytime and Crafts, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Pacific Beach/Taylor Library, 4275 Cass St., ages 2-6; (858) 581-9934, free

Mission Beach Precise Planning Board, 7 p.m., Belmont Park Meeting Room, 3146 Mission Blvd., www.missionbeachtc.org/ids23.html

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 17

PB Hospitality Task Force, 1 p.m., Discover PB office, 1503 Garnet Ave., (858) 273-3303

PB Town Council meeting, 6:30 p.m., PB Women's Club, 1721 Hornblend St., (858) 483-6666

Game Night, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Pacific Beach/Taylor Library, 4275 Cass St. Featured game is "Quiddler Deluxe," a word game, all ages, (858) 581-9934, free

THURSDAY, NOV. 18

Pacific Beach Kiwanis Club, 7:30 a.m., Broken Yolk, 1851 Garnet Ave. For more information call Phyllis (858) 750-2554

Preschool Storytime, 10:30 to 11 a.m., Pacific Beach/Taylor Library, 4275 Cass St., ages 2-4; (858) 581-9934, free

Toddler Dance Class, 11:15 a.m. to noon, Pacific Beach/Taylor Library, 4275 Cass St., ages 18 months to 6 years (858) 581-9934, free

"Titanic": Four Days of Light, 98 Years of Blackness, 1 to 3 p.m., Pacific Beach/Taylor Library, 4275 Cass St., learn hidden stories about the Titanic, registration required, (858) 581-9934, free

SUNDAY, NOV. 21

T.O.D.D.L.E.R.S. (Together Opportunities to Discover and Develop Literacy, Enrichment and Recreation Skills), 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Pacific Beach Recreation Center, 1405 Diamond St., parent and toddler fun. For information, call Bill at (619) 920-1032, free

MONDAY, NOV. 22

Mission Bay Rotary Club, noon, Catamaran Hotel, 3999 Mission Blvd., lunch, www.rotaryclubmissionbay.org

TUESDAY, NOV. 23


Pacific Beach Toastmasters, 6:30 to 8 p.m., Pacific Beach Recreation Center, 1405 Diamond St. For information, e-mail info@pbtm.freetoasthost.net

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 24

Cancelled: PB Planning Group meeting due to the Thanksgiving holiday

Miracle Babies 5K Family Walk/Run

The second annual Miracle Babies 5K Family Walk/Run will take place on Sunday, Nov. 14, 10 a.m. The race benefits the families of critically ill newborns in the neonatal intensive care unit who are in need of financial assistance. The event will take place at Mariner's Point in Mission Bay Park. There will be music, children's activities, food and drinks after. Strollers are allowed. To register, visit active.com.



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DIGEST

CONTINUED FROM Page 3

• **The ZLAC Rowing Club** will host its annual Very Merry Bazaar on Nov. 19, 4-8 p.m. and Nov. 20, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. ZLAC is an acronym for the four women who founded the club in 1892 — Zulette, Lena, Agnes and Caroline. The event both supports the organization and provides the public with a chance to purchase some unique holiday gifts including home décor, clothing and jewelry. The clubhouse is located at 1111 Pacific Beach Drive.

• **Registration is open for the Mission Bay Girls' Softball League** 2011 season. The league is for all girls ages 5-14 of any experience level from any school or community. Practices and games begin in February. Girls are entered to win an iPod if they register before Nov. 30. For information visit www.mbgsl.org.

• **Members of the Rotary Club of Mission Bay** presented third-graders at Kate Sessions, Toler and Bay Park elementary schools with dictionaries in an ongoing effort by Rotarians to support students in the Pacific Beach/Mission Bay and Clairemont areas. Three other local elementary schools will also receive dictionaries as part of the project. This year, the Rotary Club of Mission Bay received a matching grant from the greater Rotary district — \$600 in all — to provide all six schools with the dictionaries. For more information, call (858) 336-6474 or visit www.rotaryclubmissionbay.org.

• **In addition, the Rotary Club** is selling Medjool dates as a fundraiser for the organization known for its commitment to eradicating the world of polio. The deadline to order the snack is Nov. 22. Medjool dates are gourmet dates and the only one of its kind to be picked fresh and eaten fresh. Prices start at \$5.50 for a 12-ounce tub. To order, call Jim Willis at (619) 275-4511.

Community gets crafty with holiday spirit

By DEBBIE HATCH | BEACH & BAY PRESS

The holidays are just around the corner and that can entail many shopping days spent sitting in traffic, searching for parking and fighting fellow last-minute shoppers. However, local community groups have worked together to give residents a holiday shopping alternative this year.

The Pacific Beach Woman's Club (PBWC), with the help of the Pacific Beach Town Council (PBTC) and the support of the Pacific Beach Recreation Center, will host the annual Pacific Beach Fall Festival and Craft Fair on Saturday, Nov. 13 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the recreation center, 1405 Diamond St.

An assortment of handcrafted goods will line not only the gym, but also the basketball court outside.

After the cancellation of the Pacific Beach Block Party in 2006, the Pacific Beach Woman's Club (PBWC) decided that it wanted to hold a new fundraiser that would add community spirit to the seaside community.

In 2008, it started the Pacific Beach Holiday Craft Fair, which was held at the PBWC building, 1721 Hornblend St. However, the PBWC envisions the event growing into a bigger festival each year and hopes it will attract the attention of shoppers from Pacific Beach, Mission Beach and the San Diego community at large.

Intending to grow the fair, organizers of the event approached the PBTC with its plans for the future and its desire to work together on the event. The PBTC thought it sounded like a great idea and was a winning option for everyone involved, including the recreation center, which agreed to host the event.

"We have the rec center that will take care of all the food and drinks, and the woman's club is doing a book sale, bake sale and raffle, and we are taking care of all the vendors," said PBTC President Rose Galliher.

The vendors will include jewelers, crafters, bakers and quilters. There will even be a woman selling homemade tamales.

Clubs create 1,000 pillows for cancer victims

The Pacific Beach Woman's Club (PBWC), in partnership with the Mira Mesa Woman's Club (MMWC), created comfort pillows which they will mail to men and women across the world who are coping with breast cancer.

"The Mira Mesa Woman's Club started this 15 years ago and they don't have a clubhouse, and we have a club house," said Jody Ross, president of the PBWC.

Ross believes this is the sixth year the PBWC has participated in the event which the MMWC began in 1995.

The MMWC has shipped more than 50,000 pillows around world. It is a service it provides to women and men who have had a lumpectomy, a mastectomy, chemotherapy and radiation for breast cancer.

The MMWC raises funds each year to afford mailing the gifts that are free of charge to recipients. A person-

alized card is included with each pillow.

The women create nearly 1,000 pillows at the annual sewing event.

Ross noted how uncomfortable post-surgery days can be for patients, especially after a mastectomy. The pillow provides squishy-comfort with which patients can cuddle.

"The pillow cases are absolutely beautiful," Ross said.

Each is one-of-a-kind and washable. They are approximately 8-inches-by-15-inches.

A pillow can make someone feel more comfortable when they are recovering from any one of those treatments.

"It's really a worthwhile thing," Ross said.

For more information, visit www.mmwomensclub.com.

— Debbie Hatch

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GUEST COMMENTARY



Now & Then
John Fry

DID YOU GET THE LETTER from the city of San Diego about Water Group Job 3012? Looks like they’re gonna replace some cast-iron water pipes around town. Not to worry, however. You won’t be affected — unless you live on one of the following streets: Academy, Balboa, Beryl, Cass, Crown Point Drive, Diamond, Donaldson, Emerald, Fanuel, Felspar, Fogg, Garnet, Gresham, Hornblend, Jewell, Kendall, Lamont, Loring, Los Altos Court, Malden, Oliver, Pacific Beach Drive, Promontory, Sequoia, Thomas, Turquoise, Wilbur or Windsor. Sleep well.

I THINK I’M IN LOVE. Her name is Nissa and she’s the new manager at Starbucks. You know the one, next to Carl’s Jr., where the music is too loud to talk over and folks huddle together wearing parkas because of the air conditioning. Nissa, at my request, turned the music down, although not without a “WHAT? You don’t like the Bee Gees?” She’s even trying to figure out how to override the thermostat and adjust the room temperature. Be still my heart!!!

MARGARET SMITH called to let me know that the “Smitty” memorialized on the bench near Kono’s was no beach bum. Bailey “Smitty” Smith was Margaret’s husband. He rode his bicycle to the beach each morning and enjoyed the ocean breezes with his friends. “He was a dedicated beach PERSON,” says Margaret. When he died in 1991 at age 69, Margaret immediately ordered the bench and plaque.

TURQUOISE COFFEE is quite the success story. It’s just not on Turquoise anymore. Look for it on upper Cass Street. Funny. La Jolla Car Wash isn’t in La Jolla, but it IS on Turquoise. And the late Mission Beach Key Shop wasn’t in Mission Beach. It was on Grand Avenue catty-corner from Good Time Charlie’s. It was bright pink for a couple of weeks, perhaps with an “Opening Soon” sign. It’s not pink anymore — and closed.

BEA’S RANCHO CHICO restaurant is a distant memory, but not their chile verde. Not far from Carl’s Baseball Inn on 16th and Island, it was a tiny place with jukeboxes on each table — and the songs were totalmente en Español. A few months ago, I discovered Don Ernesto’s, a fixture in San Marcos since 1966. The chili verde was as if Bea herself had cooked it. Someone recently made Don Ernesto’s an offer they couldn’t refuse, and the doors are now closed. I’ve got my fingers crossed that they will relocate.

ARTISTIC LICENSES — I’m not sure if “SAABRAT” is a rat or a brat, but he (or was it a she?) drives a Saab.

— John Fry may be reached at (858) 272-6655 or by e-mail mail@johnfry.com.

PBTC
CONTINUED FROM Page 1

cover PB, which operates the Pacific Beach Business Improvement District. “Our role is to help all of the businesses in the district by promoting and enhancing PB as a destination for shoppers, visitors and guests, and really helping businesses in our district,” Hanshaw said.

He said that one of the aspects making Pacific Beach unique is the assortment of small businesses.

“We so appreciate that and what they bring to the community with their uniqueness,” Hanshaw said.

He cited Surf Club Surf Shop, 952 Garnet Ave., which is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year, saying there are many businesses in Pacific Beach with similar longevity.

“It makes sense that we all work together to continue to make PB a great place to live, to play and to stay,” Hanshaw said.

In addition, Galliher warned, local activists voicing a single-minded agenda — such as that of alcohol licensing — may inadvertently open the door to other problems.

Galliher hopes to redirect the attention of the PBTC’s general membership away from issues such as the deck expansion to the Pacific Beach Shore Club to finding ways to maintain the integrity of the small business dynamic. She noted that the Shore Club has always gone above and beyond in its financial support and commitment to community events.

“We need to change things,” Galliher said.

She said the issue of alcohol licensing in Pacific Beach has been made, by some, a topic that has divided the general membership of the Town Council.

A number of local activists have pushed an agenda asking for more control and stricter standards when it comes to issuing alcohol licenses to businesses in Pacific Beach. They state that the business district is already saturated with establishments serving alcohol — to the point that the area is unsafe after dark.

“It’s okay to have an agenda about

whatever it is you are passionate about, but it’s not okay when you are dividing the community,” Galliher said.

She said there have always been bars in the community and there will continue to be. Some of them are good and some are not good for the community, based on whether they control their patron’s behavior and alcohol consumption or they over-serve their patrons — who then become disruptive, Galliher said.

For more than six months, Galliher has been at the center of an ongoing dispute over a letter of support from the council’s board to the San Diego Police Department (SDPD) Vice Squad in support of a deck expansion for the Pacific Beach Shore Club, a beachfront bar and restaurant.

“It was more than a deck expansion, it was 125 more bar stools,” said Joe Wilding, a PBTC board member who is currently running for the position of president against Galliher.

His concern is that alcohol outlets do not seem to have any accountability to anyone.

“The ABC is pretty much nonexistent,” Wilding said.

“I think we have too many alcohol licenses in PB,” he added.

Those bringing up the issue have disrupted council meetings and caused gridlock to the point that some no longer bother to attend the monthly civic meetings, Galliher said.

But Wilding does not view the problems facing the Town Council as “gridlock” nor as a deterrent for more people to become involved with the organization.

“It takes two to argue,” Wilding said.

Galliher has stated several times that she wants to move forward and have the Town Council focus on other issues facing the community, such as how to help maintain the integrity of the business district during a down economy.

“Be careful what you wish for because bigger places are taking over and they don’t need to go through all of the [same alcohol] restrictions,” Galliher warned, stating that large chains go through a different process to gain alcohol licenses.

“They don’t have to go through anybody,” she said.

Problems plague PB
Town Council elections

Elections for the 2011 board of the Pacific Beach Town Council (PBTC) are underway, and this year’s version has not been without problems.

Each year, PBTC members are mailed a ballot with the names of the candidates, but this year’s ballots had to be sent twice because the first version contained incorrect instructions. Despite some ballots having already been turned in, the council had to have a second round of ballots printed and mailed as a result of the error.

In addition, PBTC President Rose Galliher, who is running for a second term, said the Town Council’s general membership contact information was stolen from the PBTC office. It contained phone numbers, mailing addresses and e-mail addresses, she said.

Galliher has been instructing the membership not to give out personal information and to be aware.

“We have a lot of elderly people who are members and we need to protect them,” Galliher said.

This explains why PBTC members are receiving e-mails suggesting who to vote for, she said. Members are also receiving unsolicited phone calls from individuals regarding the election.

“We [the Town Council] are liable for their privacy,” Galliher said.

“It is not public record. They give us their information and we assure them that that information will be confidential,” Galliher added.

Galliher is concerned that members will challenge the election outcome as a result of these problems. Galliher said the PBTC was looking into who took the information and that police may be contacted to investigate, if necessary.

The second round of ballots need to be turned in by Nov. 15 to the PBTC office, 1706 Garnet Ave.

— Debbie Hatch

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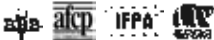
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OPINIONS Signed letters to the editor are encouraged. All letters must include a phone number for verification. The editor may edit letters for clarity and accuracy. Letters should be 350 words or less. Views expressed are not necessarily the views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

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

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Five Guys Burgers and Fries opens on Garnet Avenue

By DEBBIE HATCH | BEACH & BAY PRESS

Five Guys Burger and Fries is tentatively scheduled to open Nov. 17 at 1020 Garnet Ave. The 4,000-square-foot restaurant will be open every day from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. The menu, while simple, offers 14 burger toppings creating a possible 250,000 burger topping combinations, said Ethan Janke, Five Guys area manager.

Some of the more unique toppings include grilled mushrooms, jalapeño peppers and A1 Sauce.

Five guys, all brothers, opened the first restaurant in Virginia in 1986 and still remain involved in the business, Janke said.

"Everything is fresh," Janke said. They hand roll the burger patties and

hand cut the fries each day, and nothing in the store is ever frozen, he added. Hamburgers, cheeseburgers, bacon burgers and "Little" options for smaller eaters are all on the menu.

There are 710 locations nationwide and the chain was introduced to California in 2008.

The menu also includes Hebrew National Hot Dogs and grilled cheese or veggie sandwiches as well. The first San Diego area location opened at the North Island Naval Base on Coronado in October 2009.

The economy has not deterred the chain from opening the new location that will employ approximately 40 people.

"We have plenty of burger-craving customers who come in," Janke said.



Construction nears completion at the new site of Five Guys Burger and Fries at 1020 Garnet Ave.
DEBBIE HATCH | Beach & Bay Press

He added that Five Guys officials are excited to set up shop in Pacific Beach.

"We think this is going to be home run for us," Janke said.

Atmospheric rock, jazz and hip-hop

MUSICcalendar

By BART MENDOZA | BEACH & BAY PRESS

Helmed by frontman Matt Molar-ius and guitarist Jason Cardenas, indie rock quartet Transfer is perennially on the road. Just back from a U.K. road trip with Killers frontman Brandon Flowers, playing such legendary venues as Brixton Academy, the group is already heading out again. They kick off another tour of the U.S. and Canada at the Wavehouse on Nov. 20. Three-time San Diego Music Award winners, most recently a 2010 trophy for their album "Future Selves," the band's atmospheric rock sound is catching on thanks to their road work. There is lots of great music coming out of San Diego at the moment, but few bands currently show the promise of breaking nationwide like these four musicians.

Transfer: Saturday, Nov. 20 at the Wave House, 3125 Oceanfront Walk. \$13. 8 p.m. 21 and up. www.myspace.com/transferband

An off/on duo since the mid-1970s, saxophonist Phillip Johnston and pianist Joel Forrester are best known as the co-leaders of jazz group The Microscopic Septet, who provided NPR program "Fresh Air" with its theme song. On Nov. 21, the pair stop in at Tango Del Rey to promote a new album, "Friday The 13th: The Micros Play Monk," an album devoted to the music of pianist Thelonius Monk. A West Coast appearance from these performers is a rare event which jazz aficionados won't want to miss.

Phillip Johnston and Joel Forrester: Sunday, Nov. 21 at Tango Del Rey, 3567 Del Rey St. Cover TBD. 8 p.m. All ages. <http://www.myspace.com/phillipjohnston88>

The Gone 'til November tour, featuring Seattle rapper JFK, Phoenix-based trio The Insects and Colorado



Indie rock quartet Transfer is on the verge of national stardom and scheduled to play Nov. 20 at the Wave House, 3125 Oceanfront Walk. **COURTESY PHOTO**

hip-hop collective Black Mask, stops in at Access Music on Nov. 21. Top of the bill, JFK, better known as Ninjaface of duo Grayskul, recently released a solo album, "Building Wings On The Way Down," which includes an impressive recasting of the Pharcyde's "Passin Me," but this is a solid bill all around. If you are a hip-hop fan, this show is easily one of the month's highlights.

JFK aka Ninjaface: Sunday, Nov. 21, 2 p.m., at Access Music, 1537 Garnet Ave. Free. All ages. www.myspace.com/jfkakaninjaface

MUST READ

Book recommendation from the Pacific Beach-Taylor Library

TITLE: "Ice Cold"
AUTHOR: Tess Gerritsen

SYNOPSIS: Boston medical examiner Maura Isles is in Wyoming for a medical conference and joins a group of friends on a spur-of-the-moment ski trip. Their SUV stalls on a snow-choked mountain road where they are stranded with no help in sight. They find the remote village of Kingdom Come where the dozen eerily-identical homes are dark and abandoned. Footprints in the snow betray the presence of someone who is watching Maura and her friends. Boston homicide detective Jane Rizzoli learns that her friend Maura's charred body has been found in a ravine. Jane heads to Wyoming to discover what has happened to her friend. As horrifying revelations come to light, Jane closes in on a powerful enemy and the chilling truth about Maura's fate.

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Las Posadas holiday event celebrates its 60th year



Dec. 12 will mark the 60th annual Las Posadas event in Old Town San Diego State Historic Park.

The Las Posadas procession is a walking reenactment of the biblical story of Mary and Joseph's search for a birthplace for the Christ child. Everyone is invited to join the candlelit procession and sing traditional holiday songs in both Spanish and English as the players go from inn to inn, asking for symbolic lodging. The procession culminates with a live nativity scene in front of Casa de Estudillo as well as a piñata party at El Fandango Restaurant.

"This event combines the Anglo custom of caroling with the Hispanic tradition of the procession and the breaking of the piñata," said Chuck Ross, owner and operator at Fiesta de Reyes. "Las Posadas is a long-standing tradition in many Latin cultures and we hope to recreate the same kind of celebratory day that everyone can enjoy."

The Las Posadas procession will be lead by professional actors in period costume, including Willie, the acting donkey.

Before the procession that takes place at 5 p.m., this event will also feature a daytime celebration and preshow with live

music, performances and activities for children from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. A variety of local music and performing arts groups such as Metro Dance and Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church will perform from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

For children's entertainment, there will be free craft activities that include making pioneer-style cloth dolls, as well as corn-husk dolls and paper holiday flowers. Hot cider, pastries, Mexican baked goods, tamales, hot soup and more will be available for purchase from El Fandango Restaurant and Barra Barra Saloon.

At end of the festival, a bonfire will be lit in the middle of the state park and El Fandango Restaurant will host a piñata-breaking party following the Las Posadas procession at 6 p.m. Stores and museums within the state park will have extended hours until 8 p.m. that evening.

This is the second year that the Las Posadas procession is produced by the Old Town San Diego State Historic Park concessionaires. They expanded the procession to feature an entire festival that includes family-friendly seasonal activities.

Admission to Las Posadas is free. For more information, phone (619) 297-3100.



Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick staging the 2nd 'Fiesta de los San Patrios'



The second Fiesta de los San Patrios features a rare appearance of the Cameron Highlanders Pipe Band dressed in kilts.

Fiesta de Reyes, located in Old Town San Diego State Historic Park, is hosting an Irish-Mexican Fiesta on Saturday, Nov. 13, with the oldest fraternal organization in the United States, the Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick. The goal of the event is to eat great food, enjoy a drink with friends and raise some money for Operation Caregiver who send 'comfort packages' to soldiers on the front lines of battle.

Featuring traditional Irish music and a blend of Mexican and Irish food, the celebration honors Saint Patrick's Brigade, a legendary artillery unit led by Irish immigrants who became a one of the Mexican Army's most highly decorated brigade during the Mexican-American War.

Members of the world-famous Cameron Highlanders Pipe Band will make a rare appearance in full dress

kilts followed by traditional Irish dance and song. In the Fiesta de Reyes plaza, \$2 Guinness beers, corned beef tacos and potato flautas will be offered to the celebrants. The Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, will be in attendance at the festival.

Admission to this event is free. The event begins at noon and ends at 3:30 p.m.

Fiesta de Reyes is a plaza of 18 shops and three restaurants within Old Town San Diego State Historic Park. Located at Wallace and Calhoun streets, Fiesta de Reyes is a one-block stroll from the Old Town Trolley Station. Free parking is available in the Caltrans parking lot all day on weekends. All shops are open daily from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. For more information call (619) 297-3100 or visit www.FiestaDeReyes.com or text "Fiesta" to 53137.

Bonfire Nights Illuminates Old Town

Piñata Parties Entertain Children

Throughout the month of December, bonfires and old-fashioned piñata parties will be bringing a festive holiday atmosphere to Old Town San Diego State Historic Park.

Presented by Fiesta de Reyes, El Fandango Restaurant, and all the Old Town San Diego State Historic Park merchants, bonfires will light up the winter nights at dusk and free s'mores will be provided.

At 7 p.m., El Fandango Restaurant will host a special piñata party where children of all ages will get a chance to whack a holiday piñata.

Bonfire Nights will take place Dec. 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 28, 29, and 30. The event is a part of line up of festive holiday

events taking place throughout December in Old Town.

Bonfire Nights is coupled with other festive holiday events in the park, such as the state's presentation of the Victorian Tea Party throughout December, Holiday in The Park on Dec. 11 and the Las Posadas procession on Dec. 12.

Fiesta de Reyes is located in the northeast corner of Old Town San Diego State Historic Park at Wallace and Calhoun streets, a one-block stroll from the Old Town Trolley Station. Fiesta de Reyes boasts 16 specialty stores open daily from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. For more information call (619) 297-3100. Text "Fiesta" to 53137 to sign up for weekly updates on events at Fiesta de Reyes or visit www.FiestaDeReyes.com

Something for everyone at Tienda de Reyes

Tienda de Reyes, located in Old Town, has an amazing selection of very special gifts. The store is overflowing with beautiful women's wear and accessories from all over the world. Beaded bracelets and handbags from Guatemala, colorful, comfy knit jackets from Nepal, one of a kind sterling silver jewelry from Mexico or a hand carved wooden box from Bali would be a treasured gift for the lady on your list. For men, you'll find unique leather wallets, fashionable

hats and an extensive variety of t-shirts and jackets. If you really have the "hard to buy for" person, you'll appreciate Tienda's uncommon gift alternatives like hand painted barware, Day of the Dead art, holiday ornaments and a magnificent collection of crosses and Nativities from Peru. When you do your holiday shopping at Tienda de Reyes, you'll find the perfect gifts and you'll truly enjoy the experience.

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ease-fighting white cells in our bloodstreams, and contribute to the development of stroke and heart disease by dumping high levels of adrenaline into the bloodstream. Adrenaline constricts blood vessels, particularly to the heart, raising blood pressure and potentially damaging arteries and the heart itself. What this means is that the more we experience a sense of gratitude, the more endorphins and the less adrenaline we pump into our systems, thus contributing to longer, healthier lives. As we count our blessings, we literally bathe ourselves inwardly in good hormones

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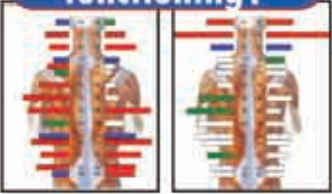
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Greg Lazarus, a Pacific Beach resident, rode to his first Overall Team Championship at the International FLOW Championship in Singapore. COURTESY PHOTO

From Wave House to Singapore, Team USA brings home a title

By AMBERLY DRESSLER | BEACH & BAY PRESS

Last month, Pacific Beach's Greg Lazarus rode an artificial wave to his first Overall Team Championship at the International FLOW Championship (IFC) in Singapore. Team USA, comprised of Lazarus, Point Loma's Eric Silverman, Salt Lake City's Kristen Barney (formerly of San Diego) and Dallas' Tyler Danek, brought home the title after a three-day competition that ended Oct. 31.

"The IFC is the event that will grow the sport of flowboarding to new levels," said Lazarus, 29. "It's a platform in which the top riders in the world are competing in one place. It's what the sport needs."

Lazarus participated in three events at this year's IFC: the flowrider, the strapped flowbarrel and the strapless flowbarrel. He finished second in each of his events.

Lazarus compares flowriding to snowboarding and said the main focus is keeping weight shifted on your back foot. The sport is also compared to wakeboarding, surfing and snowboarding and was created by San Diegan Tom Lochtefeld, founder and CEO of Wave House.

Wave House San Diego played a heavy role in Team USA's title. Not only did Lazarus secure his spot on the team in September at the IFC qualifier, which

took place there, but the Team USA foursome were all riders at Wave house San Diego. Lazarus said being the best of their specific divisions brought them together.

Three years later, the squad has the hardware to show off.

"Eric, Tyler, Kristen and myself put a lot of hard work into bringing back that trophy," Lazarus said.

In addition to being a champion, Lazarus, originally from Durban, South Africa, also considers himself a pioneer of the sport.

"Well, I would like to believe that I have had a small influence in the growth [of flowriding]," Lazarus said. "I started riding back in 2001 and went on the Siemens Mobile [Wave] Tour and was one of the first professional riders in the sport. Since then, I have dedicated my time and moved to the states to work for Wave Loch and help market and grow the sport wherever possible. And, hopefully I will be doing that for the rest of my life."

Places like Wave House San Diego and competitions like IFC could turn his dream into reality.

"Every venue that opens up has a potential to breed new riders, which they do, but at the end of the day its events like the IFC that really project the sport to a new level," Lazarus said. "And, I am confident that every year the sport will get bigger and better."



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Chargers make up ground headed into bye week

By LEE CORNELL | BEACH & BAY PRESS

The Chargers head into the bye week on a two-game winning streak that has brought the team out of the ashes of despair and back into playoff contention.

San Diego's last two contests may not have technically been must-win games, but in the minds of most, had the Chargers lost one of two heading into the bye, their postseason chances were over. Chasing down Kansas City and Oakland in the AFC West seems much more plausible with a 4-5 record after beating Tennessee and Houston.

What makes the Chargers' most recent run of success so impressive are the receivers who have stepped out of anonymity and into the spotlight. A relative unknown before this season, Seyi Ajitutu most recently took over the deep-threat wide receiver role. Ajitutu caught four passes for 111 yards and two touchdowns against Houston, including a 28-yard fourth quarter score that put the team up for good. Antonio Gates did not play in the win against Houston but his backups kept up the

pace as Randy McMichael caught two passes — both for TDs — and third-stringer Kris Wilson added a terrific run and catch for 37 yards.

If wide receivers Malcolm Floyd and Legedu Naanee and Gates emerge healthy from the bye week, the Chargers will boast a deep and now more experienced array of receivers.

With all the injuries to his receiving crew (not to mention playing without Vincent Jackson so far), Philip Rivers has put up impressive — if not outstanding — displays of distribution. Through nine games, Rivers has thrown for a league-high 2,944 yards and 19 TDs. He is on pace to break Dan Marino's record for passing yards in a season. In a much-needed road victory against Houston, the former N.C. State quarterback completed passes to eight different players and threw four for four scores and not one of those receivers were named Jackson, Floyd, Gates, Nannee or Davis. This guy is pretty good.

By now, most fans are aware the Chargers are the No. 1 passing team in the NFL, averaging 312 yards per game.

But in a league where passing is considered king, the Chargers also boast the fourth best pass defense, holding opponents to 185 yards a game through the air. Most surprising, though, is the Chargers' run-stopping defense, which is limiting opposing runners to 89.4 yards per game (No. 5 in the NFL). If the Bolts limit their turnovers (they had two against Houston), they could be in for a big second half.

CHARGERS GAME PREVIEW

Denver at Chargers

Monday, Nov. 22, 5:30 p.m.

Qualcomm Stadium

TV: ESPN

All-time series: Denver leads 54-45-1

Last meeting: Chargers won 32-3 at Denver Nov. 22, 2009

Key matchup: Chargers secondary against Denver receiver Brandon Lloyd — the Broncos love to throw the ball and Lloyd is quar-

terback Kyle Orton's favorite deep threat. If the Chargers DBs can keep Lloyd in check, Denver doesn't have much of a chance.

Players to watch: Chargers QB Philip Rivers — Rivers especially enjoys beating the Broncos and should enjoy a career day if Denver's defense continues its struggles.

Fun Fact: The Chargers have won six of their last eight meetings against Denver.

Prediction: Chargers 42, Broncos 17



Chargers quarterback Philip Rivers leads the No. 1 passing team in the NFL and is on pace to break Dan Marino's record for passing yards in a season.
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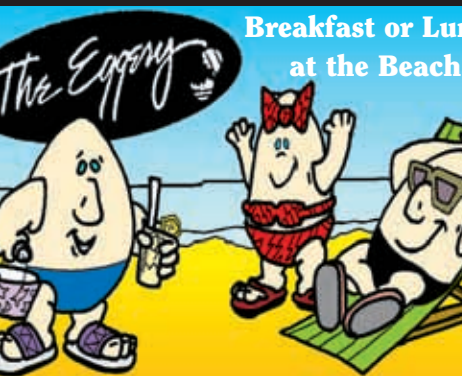


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