Beach & Bay PRESS

www.beachandbaypress.com

Thursday, November 25, 2010

FALL/WINTER FASHIONS

Better in berry

Brittany Tall in an Aaron Ashe berry silk dress with a smokey quartz and gun metal necklace and a high-fashion handbag pewter-black clutch.

Photos by DON BALCH

Holiday styles shine with simple sophistication

By **DEBBIE HATCH** | Beach & Bay Press

Holiday fashion etiquette can be tricky, especially in Southern California where the weather dictates the style. While Southern California style is rarely too dressy, holiday dinners and New Year's Eve celebrations offer the perfect opportunity to exude sophistication and leave the flip-flops at home.

Two local fashion experts offer their advice to residents on how to pull off a more sophisticated look for the holidays — whether meeting a boyfriend's parents for the first time or a girlfriend's family.

"Never try and overdress yourself," said Mark Nussbaum, owner of Raw, a clothing company at 940 Garnet Ave. "If you do, you'll ruin it, like a girl who puts on too much make-up."

While flip-flops are part of everyday fashion at the beach, Nussbaum instructs people to choose other footwear for special occasions — such as boots or heels.

"San Diego is an anomaly. It really is not a dressy city, period," Nussbaum said.

He insists, though, that looking sophisticated is not difficult to do with just a few little pieces.

Jeans can be worn to most social occasions in Southern California, especially holiday soirees, as long as the denim is darker in color, he said.

With 30 years in the fashion world and 16 years in business on

SEE **FASHION,** Page 7

The casual Southern California holiday look for men is illustrated by Eric Blumenthal in a Chillers long sleeve, button down shirt, Retrofit sweater and Good Society jeans. DON BALCH | Beach & Bay Press

Mission Bay High School's Chris Byrd looks for daylight.
ANTHONY GENTILE | Beach & Bay Press

Bucs advance to quarterfinal action

With three touchdowns from senior running back Chris Byrd, pictured above, ninth-seeded Mission Bay High School upset eighth-seeded Palo Verde Valley High School 20-14 on the road in the first round of the Division IV CIF high school football playoffs Nov. 19. The defending champion Buccaneers (3-8) have won three out of their last four games and advance to face top-seeded Valley Center (10-0) in the quarterfinals on Friday, Nov. 26. The quarterfinal matchup is a rematch of last year's Division IV championship game, which Mission Bay won 48-17.

—Anthony Gentile

Pacific Beach Fish Shop co-owners Doug Sondomowicz (left) and Billy Ramirez admire their mascot, a 16-foot blue marlin. PAUL HANSEN | Beach & Bay Press

The one that didn't get away

By **DEBBIE HATCH** | Beach & Bay Press

The popularity of the new Pacific Beach Fish Shop has been quietly growing even before its grand opening ribbon-cutting ceremony Nov. 18.

One patron ate there 12 days in a row — and counting as of last week, said Doug Sondomowicz, one of the restaurant's owners.

A 16-foot blue marlin hangs on the edge of the outdoor patio from two 25-foot wooden poles, anchored five feet into the ground. People began pulling into the parking lot just to see what the big fish was all about.

SEE **FISH SHOP,** Page 8

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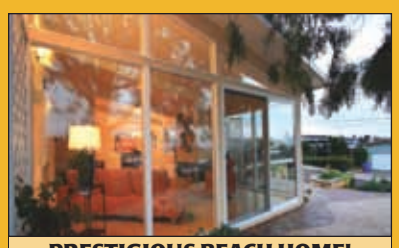

PRESTIGIOUS BEACH HOME!

This move-in-ready, 3Br, 2Ba has amazing sit-down ocean, bay and night-light views. Spacious and open floor plan with vaulted ceilings, beautiful wood flooring, huge windows to take in the views, luscious landscaping and so much more!

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GORGEOUS OLIVENHAIN HOME!

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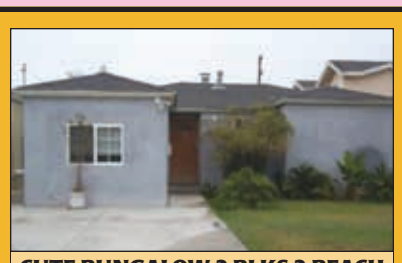

CUTE BUNGALOW 2 BLKS 2 BEACH

Recently upgraded 2 bedroom with wood laminate floors in living room and master bedroom and ceramite tiled kitchen. Fireplace, inside laundry, grassy front and back yards and much more! Walk to beach, shops and restaurants.

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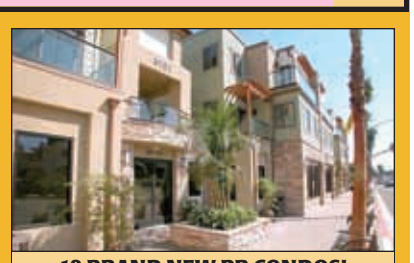

18 BRAND NEW PB CONDOS!

Walk to all shopping, restaurants, beach, bay, parks and more. Kitchens have stainless appliances and granite counters. These 3 bedroom, 3 bath condos have 1BR on the 1st floor and 2 up, an office and laundry. They are light, bright and very open too!

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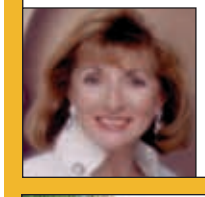

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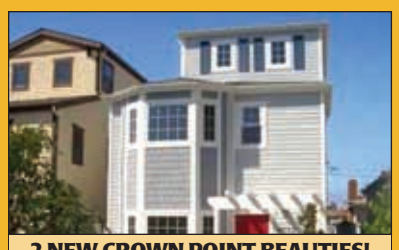

2 NEW CROWN POINT BEAUTIES!

Cape Cod style 3BR, 3.5 BA, single family home features white fence, red-brick trim, sunroom entry, beautiful kitchens with granite counters, stainless appliances, wrap-around breakfast bar and wet bar in dining area. Cozy fireplace in spacious living room too!

YOU HAVE TO SEE!!
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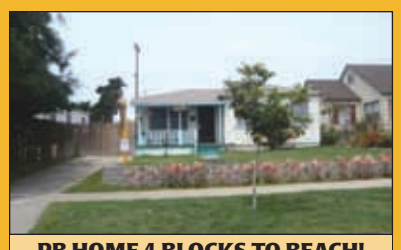

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Lay at the pool and gaze at the bay! This 2 bedroom, 2 bath has beautiful dark wood floors, granite kitchen, huge windows throughout for a view from every room. Underground parking for cars or boats and so much more!

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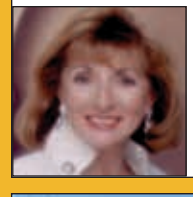
GREAT PACIFIC BEACH TOWNHOME

This nice 3BR, 2.5BA is in a nice 4 unit complex and is 4 blocks to bay and 5 blocks to beach. Nice patios and balconies, fireplace, full size washer/dryer, no popcorn ceilings, newer appliances, new water heater & so much more!



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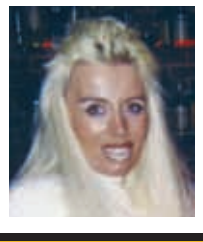

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December brings tree lighting, Holiday Parade

Holiday festivities from the arrival of Santa Claus to the lighting of a Christmas tree will take place on Crystal Pier Dec. 5, 2-5 p.m.

The event will kick off with Santa Claus arriving in a fire truck at 2 p.m., said Sara Berns, program manager at Discover Pacific Beach.

Two interactive stations will be set up on the pier for children. One will be a letter writing station where children can write letters to Santa and the other will be an ornament decorating station where children can decorate an ornament to take home with them.

Photography by Gabriela will be on hand to capture images of children sitting on Santa's lap. Photographs will be available on her website for parents to purchase.

Carolers and instrumental musical groups from area schools will entertain the crowd throughout the afternoon. Kono's Café will provide free hot chocolate to warm the crowd while supplies last.

Local businesses have purchased wreaths that will hang along the pier and school children have decorated stockings that will be on display near the tree.

The lighting of the pier and Christmas tree will take place at 5 p.m. after a short performance by the famed Dr. Seuss character the "Grinch."

On Saturday, Dec. 11 from 2 to 5 p.m., the much-anticipated Pacific Beach Holiday Parade will once again travel through the heart of the business district on Garnet Avenue. "Holiday Classics" is the theme. Parade organizers are seeking float entries from families, community groups and community supporters. For float entry information, call Discover Pacific Beach at (858) 273-3303 or visit www.pacificbeach.org.

– Debbie Hatch

Student medical clinic opens

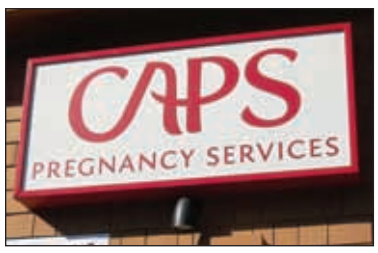
By **KENDRA HARTMANN** | Beach & Bay Press

College Area Pregnancy Services (CAPS) opened the doors to its new facility at 1856 Garnet Ave. in Pacific Beach on Nov. 7.

The nonprofit organization, which has operated on El Cajon Boulevard for 10 years, branched out to include a second location because of the number of students who reside in Pacific Beach and travel to the college area for prenatal care and counseling.

Located in a previously-abandoned building in a strip mall on Garnet Avenue, CAPS received $117,000 worth of donated time, labor and services for the construction of the new facility.

"We really depend on people who want to give, and that's exactly what happened," said Julie Niven, executive director of CAPS. "A lot of people came together to work on it, and it was a really great experience."



College Area Pregnancy Services opened a new facility at 1856 Garnet Ave. COURTESY PHOTO

Construction involved a complete renovation of the interior of the building shell, including sound insulation and some exploratory demolition.

Erickson-Hall Construction donated construction management services to the project, which was initially expected to cost $157,000. The actual cost of

SEE **CAPS,** Page 4

Ruling keeps Belmont Park open through February

By **ANTHONY GENTILE** | Beach & Bay Press

In danger of closing after operator Thomas Lochtefeld filed for bankruptcy earlier this month, Belmont Park will remain open — for now. On Nov. 18, a judge placed a stay on the bankruptcy case, preventing the city from forcing Lochtefeld out and keeping the Mission Beach landmark open until at least next February.

"It's great. I think it's the right decision," said Lochtefeld, Belmont Park operator. "Basically, the judge looked at our pleadings and agreed with us and precluded the city from being able to require the bank to pay in lieu of my not agreeing to pay."

The stay, granted by U.S. Bankruptcy Court Judge Laura S. Taylor, pushes the hearing to Feb. 11, 2011, when it will be decided whether or not to continue the stay. In the meantime, Belmont Park will be open and fully operational.

During this three-month period, Lochtefeld is hoping to work with the city to reach an agreement on the property that will work for both sides. He originally filed for bankruptcy in response to the city raising the rent from $70,000 to $480,000 annually without offering additional development options to offset the costs, he said.

"I want them to let me know how they can justify this rent increase. They haven't ever provided any logic for the rent increase, other than saying that the rent credits have expired," Lochtefeld said. "Yeah, the rent credits have expired but there was also supposed to be a Phase II development done."

A redeveloper who has invested millions of dollars in Belmont Park since acquiring the park's lease in 2002, Lochtefeld submitted a redevelopment plan to the city in 2006 that included a 250-room hotel, underground parking garage along with additions and improvements to the park. He said this plan was not further pursued after 2008.

"If the engine that was going to generate the revenue to be able to pay for this rent increase isn't in place, how can I pay that rent? It makes no sense and they won't explain it," Lochtefeld said.

If a compromise can't be reached between the city and Belmont Park, Lochtefeld would be forced to leave and the collapse of the park — with the exception of the Giant Dipper roller coaster — would become a possibility.

Lochtefeld started a "Save Belmont Park" online petition at www.belmontpark.com.

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PRETTY IN PINK

Walkers, many in pink tutus, stroll past the Pacific Beach-Taylor Library on Nov. 19 while participating in the Susan G. Komen San Diego 3-Day Walk for the Cure, a 60-mile journey from Del Mar to Petco Park to raise funds and awareness for breast cancer. The walkers headed to Crown Point Shores to spend a rainy Friday night before continuing the next day. PAUL HANSEN | Beach & Bay Press

EVENTS CALENDAR

Looking ahead

SUNDAY, NOV. 28

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-toddler fun, free. Call Bill, (619) 920-1032

MONDAY, NOV. 29

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

TUESDAY, NOV. 30

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

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 1

PB Woman's Club Christmas Party, 6 p.m., PB Woman's Club, 1721 Hornblend St., reserve a spot by calling Mary Lou Benzel at (858) 488-7520 or e-mailing speedy04120@earthlink.net, $25

Friends of Rose Creek meeting, 6 p.m., Pacific Beach Recreation Center, 1405 Diamond St., www.saverosecreek.org

Book Discussion Group, 6:30 to 7:45 p.m., Pacific Beach-Taylor Library, 4275 Cass St., "1999: A Novel of the Celtic Tiger and the Search for Peace" by Morgan Llywelyn; copies are available at the circulation desk, adults only, free. (858) 581-9934

THURSDAY, DEC. 2

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

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

Toddler Yoga, 11:15 a.m. to noon, Pacific Beach-Taylor Library, 4275 Cass St., also includes stories and a bit of singing, bring yoga mat or towel, free. (858) 581-9934

SATURDAY, DEC. 4

Clean PB Day, 9 a.m. to noon, Ocean Boulevard at Grand Avenue, www.cleanpb.com

The San Diego Audubon Society invites volunteers to help maintain a nesting site for endangered California least terns at Mariner's Point in Mission Bay Park, 9 a.m. to noon. Danielle Heckman, (858) 273-7800, ext. 104.

Wagging Tales, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., Pacific Beach-Taylor Library, 4275 Cass St., children practice literacy skills by reading aloud to certified therapy dogs, free, (858) 581-9934

Trot for Tots, Dec. 4 and 5 at 9 a.m. Race begins at Hospitality Point, 2544 Quivira Court. This 24-hour event offers day and night 10Ks, half-marathons, marathons and a a 12-hour and 24-hour run. Benefits Rady Children's Hospital. Entry fees $35-$250. www.sunburntathletics.com.

SUNDAY, DEC. 5

Christmas on Crystal Pier, 2-5 p.m., at the foot of Garnet Ave., Santa will arrive at 2 p.m. and the Christmas Tree will be lit at 5 p.m., www.pacificbeach.org

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, free. Call Bill, (619) 920-1032

MONDAY, DEC. 6

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

TUESDAY, DEC. 7

Discover PB Board meeting, noon, Discover PB office, 1503 Garnet Ave., (858) 273-3303

Mission Bay Park Committee meeting, 6 p.m., Santa Clara Recreation Center

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

Stand Up for Kids Donation Drive, 4-5 p.m., PB Woman's Club, 1721 Hornblend St., accepting donations of socks, blankets, new or used, which will be donated to the nonprofit Stand Up for Kids

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 8

Art Lesson: Gingerbread House Decoration, 3 p.m., Pacific Beach-Taylor Library, 4275 Cass St., bring a bag of candy to share, ages 3-12, younger children require adult supervision, advance registration required, free, (858) 581-9934

PB Planning Group, 6:30 p.m., Pacific Beach-Taylor Library, 4275 Cass St., www.pbplanning.org

THURSDAY, DEC. 9

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

Library closes for holiday

The Pacific Beach-Taylor Branch of the San Diego Library will be closed Thursday, Nov. 25 through Sunday, Nov. 28. The library will reopen Monday, Nov. 29 with its regular hours. The outside book drop will still be available for patrons who need to return materials to the library.

CAPS

CONTINUED FROM **Page 3**

construction cost was $40,000 after the materials and labor were donated.

Dave Erickson, co-owner of Erickson-Hall, served as the project executive, and colleagues said he saw the project as something that was necessary for a cause that was close to his heart. Erickson-Hall specializes in civic buildings, and has built several fire stations, schools and churches.

CAPS, which relies on volunteer doctors and nurses, offers free medical care and counseling for couples facing unplanned pregnancies as well as STD testing and screening. Niven said the services are important for young women who aren't sure what kind of medical care they need at the beginning of their pregnancies.

"A lot of women don't think they can get care early on because they don't have insurance," said Niven. "They are often stuck not knowing what to do."

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CIVIC *meeting reports*

Mission Beach Town Council, Nov. 10

• **Belmont Park filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy,** Nov. 3. Thomas Lochtefeld said he is hopeful a deal can be made between his group and the city. The Mission Beach Town Council (MBTC) said it will send a letter to the city requesting a representative come to a council meeting to explain its position on this situation.

• **Thyme Curtis, speaking on behalf of the the City Council District 2 office,** said there won't be any repairs on local flood pumps until the spring. Temporary pumps will continue to serve Mission Beach and Pacific Beach until that time.

• **Area 9 MBTC representative Bob Craig** announced the installation of solar lights along the boardwalk wall that are intended to help with safety. A trial run of six of the devices (which were donated) will be placed along the wall. The MBTC will discuss their effectiveness at the next meeting.

• **The MBTC elections were voted on** and announced. Changes on the board include Bob Ruane taking over as president and Betty Jean Lundquist as secretary. New area reps are Debra Bowman for Area 3 and Sean McQuade for Area 8. The rest of the board remains intact. Outgoing MBTC President Willie Gardner is leaving after serving the limit of two years. "I'm going to stay involved," Gardner said. "It's been a lot of fun helping the community get things done."

• **The MBTC will not meet in December**. The next scheduled meeting is set for Jan. 12, 2011 at 7 p.m. at the Belmont Park Community Room

– Lee Cornell

Mission Beach Precise Planning Board, Nov. 16

• **Wave House director of operations Johnny Leal** asked the Mission Beach Precise Planning Board (MBPPB) for support in extending the Sound Wave's liquor license so that it can serve drinks on the patio on the southwest corner of the building. Limited hours and restrictions would apply to the patio, which is intended to be used as a breakfast restaurant. "Hopefully we can have something by next summer," Leal said. The board voted to support Leal's request and will write a letter that states so.

• **In response to the MBPPB's** recent decision to implement a pilot program which will plant five Mexican fan palm trees in vacant tree wells along Mission Boulevard, the Park and Recreation Department has received a request from the Community Forest Advisory Board to hear from a member of the MBPPB about the plan before allowing it to proceed.

• **The Park and Recreation Department** submitted its proposed budget for Mission Boulevard maintenance through Fiscal Year 2012. Expenses are expected to increase significantly in 2012 largely because of additional concrete tree well cuts.

• **The Planning Committee** will not meet in December. The next meeting will take place at the Belmont Park Community Room, Jan. 18, 2011 at 7 p.m.

– Lee Cornell

Pacific Beach Town Council Nov. 17

• **Pacific Beach Town Council** (PBTC) President Rose Galliher announced board election results for the new year. Joe Wilding was elected president and Jerry Hall will serve aas vice president. Glenn Olson will be treasurer. Others who will serve on the board of directors are Gregory Daunoras, Grant Williams, Adam Meyer, Nini Balistrieri, Richard Kaiser and Michael McQuary. New officers will take their posts Jan. 1.

• **San Diego Police Officer Bill Miles** instructed the public on how to assist police with vandalism-related crimes at the Pacific Beach Town Council meeting on Nov. 17. Citizens can email Miles at wmiles@pd.sandiego.gov to report vandalism crimes in the area. A photograph of the vandalism, the location of the graffiti, date and name of the victim must be included. He said he does review each reported incident.

– Debbie Hatch

NEWS *digest*

• **Members of the Mission Beach Woman's Club** recently filled and sent 76 boxes to a group of Marines stationed in Afghanistan. The club collected food, toiletries and other gifts to be sent to the troops, and San Diego Composites, Inc., a local engineering company, covered the $800 cost of shipping the boxes.

• **The Mission Beach Town Council,** Mission Beach Woman's Club and Old Mission Beach Athletic Club collaborated on a project to paint murals on three metal storage containers in the south parking lot of Belmont Park. The organizations worked with realtor and artist Catherine Viani to design and paint the graffiti-covered containers with scenes of the beach and amusement park.

• **Pacific Beach Elementary School** held a dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony Nov. 17 to present its new mural created by local artist Isaias Crow. The mural was commissioned by Friends of Pacific Beach Elementary School and stands outside the school at 1234 Tourmaline St.

• **Mission Bay High School's Dixie Jazz Band** is scheduled to play today, Nov. 25 at the House of Blues downtown during a special event to support disadvantaged families. The band will also be one of two youth bands performing this weekend at the 31st annual Thanksgiving Dixieland Jazz Festival at the Town and Country Hotel between Friday and Sunday. For more information, visit missionbaymusic.com.

The storage area at Belmont Park is now adorned by colorful murals. COURTESY PHOTO

• **Tula Ru Children's Boutique** will hold its Surfin' Santa Holiday Toy Drive and Photo Shoot on Saturday, Dec. 4 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at 5005 Cass St. All proceeds from the event will be donated to Rady Children's Hospital. For more information, call (858) 272-5622.

• **Active-duty military families** will be served a free holiday dinner at the Pacific Beach Veterans of Foreign Wars hall on Saturday, Dec. 11. Children 18 and younger will each receive a gift from Santa and his elf. Reservations are required by Dec. 1 and can be made by calling Nancy Person at (858) 246-6339 or Wes Williams at (619) 729-3527.

• **Karla Martinez, a Pacific Beach Middle School physical education teacher,** has obtained National Board Certification. There are only 68 physical educators in California who have been certified.

• **SeaWorld will host its annual Christmas Celebration starting Nov. 26.** The event, featuring holiday-themed animal shows, a movie at the park's 4-D theater and an ice skating rink, will run from Nov. 26 to 28, on weekends from Dec. 4 to 12 and daily from Dec. 18 to 31.

• **Mission Bay Little League has opened its registration process** for the spring 2011 season. Parents will save $20 by signing up their children prior to Jan. 1. Tryouts will be held Jan. 22 and Jan. 29 for ages 7 to 12, and the league is open to all children ages 5 to 18 that live in the 92109 or 92307 ZIP codes.

Students get the dirt on ocean-friendly garden

By **KENDRA HARTMANN** | Beach & Bay Press

In an effort to raise awareness of the importance of an ocean-friendly environment, students of Pacific Beach Middle School (PBMS) celebrated the introduction of their Waves of Green student garden Nov. 12 by getting their hands dirty.

More than 30 volunteers turned out for the event, during which students, parents and faculty dug holes and spread mulch for three hours. Members of the community, including a raw food educator, planting educators and a garden designer were also in attendance. Jennifer Sims, coordinator of the school's International Baccalaureate program, said the turnout was greater than expected, rendering coordinators hopeful for the garden's future.

"We want this to be a garden where learning will take place, where students can learn about local foods and what we can do in our own yards," Sims said. "The purpose is to learn how we can take care of our oceans and what we can do to grow our own food locally."

The event will be followed up by the actual planting of the crops on Jan. 8. Student gardeners said they are happy to have a chance to get their hands dirty and spend some time outdoors.

"Our school didn't have a garden before, and now we have this nice, big area," said sixth-grader Jacob Cayetano. "It was just fun to be with friends while helping the environment and the cool part is we'll get to see the plants grow and know we did that."

The project began two years ago with the suggestion to convert a vacant patch of

SEE **GARDEN,** Page 10

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Chicano rock, rock-reggae, classic rock and horror-punk

MUSIC*calendar*

By BART MENDOZA | Beach & Bay Press

Guitar and blues fans likely need no introduction to Kid Ramos. Known for his fiery fretwork, Ramos is currently a member of Los Fabulocos, a Los Angeles-based quartet appearing at Tio Leo's on Nov. 26. Specializing in self-described "Chicano rock," aficionados of groups such as the Texas Tornados will love this band, though they do have a harder blues edge to go with their Tex Mex rhythms. One live performance is all it will take to hear why Los Fabulocos is one of the hottest bands on the Southland club circuit today.

Los Fabulocos: Friday, Nov. 26, 9 p.m., Tio Leo's, 5302 Napa St. 21 and up. Cover TBD. www.facebook.com/losfabulocos

Sean Kelly, frontman for Colorado-based rock/reggae quintet The Samples, performs at RT's Longboard on Nov. 27. Formed in 1985, the Samples have released 15 albums to date, with the night's set expected to mix new tunes from Kelly with band classics. Kelly will be joined by drummer John Huntsinger and keyboardist Jeremy Miller, best known for his work with Stepping Feet and 40 Oz. to Freedom.

Sean Kelly: Saturday, Nov. 27, 9 p.m., RT's Longboard, 1466 Garnet Ave. Cover TBD. 21 and up. www.myspace.com/thesamples5

Four-piece band the Retro Rocketts, who perform at Tango Del Rey on Dec. 2, are a classic rock band with a 125-song set list that ranges across genres and decades. From Santo & Johnny to the Go-Go's, the band offers up something for just about anyone looking for a night of vintage tunes. The band particularly shines on their rockabilly-tinted material, but with so many songs to choose from, it's hard to go wrong.

The Retro Rocketts: Thursday, Dec. 2, 8:30 p.m., Tango Del Rey, 3567 Del Rey St. Cover TBD. All ages. www.theretrorocketts.com

Formed in 1973, reggae superstars Third World, who perform at the Sound Wave on Dec. 4, are one of the longest-running acts in the genre. The band has released dozens of albums and received 10 Grammy nominations in its career. On the road in support of new album "Patriots," the new tunes find the band in fine form, though the biggest crowd response at this show will likely be for the band's early hits such as "Try Jah Love." Making the bill that much stronger, Mighty Diamonds open.

Third World: Saturday, Dec. 4, 8 p.m., at the Sound Wave, 3125 Oceanfront Walk. $30. 21 and up. www.thirdworldband.com

The idea of combining horror and rock or punk is nothing new, witness Alice Cooper, The Cramps and the Misfits. That said, it's a music subgenre that still yields a lot of fun bands, such as Calabrese, a three-piece combo who perform at Brick by Brick on Dec. 4. Following in those hallowed bands' footsteps, this band's brand of punk rock and image evoke '50s horror movies, with amazing artwork on all of their merchandise. Currently touring behind their new album "They Call Us Death," the band releases the first issue of its own comic book this month.

Calabrese: Saturday, Dec. 4, 8:30 p.m., Brick by Brick, 1130 Buenos Ave. $12. 21 and up. www.calabreserock.com

Los Angeles-based Los Fabulocos bring their brand of Tex Mex rhythms to Tio Leo's Nov. 26.
Photo by KIM MARTIN

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FASHION

CONTINUED FROM **Page 1**

Garnet Avenue, Nussbaum said he carries only quality brands at Raw such as Ben Sherman shirts for men and Hudson denim for women.

"We sell popular brands such as Frankie B," Nussbaum said.

Premium jeans are considered to be part of the lifestyle in Pacific Beach. Nussbaum suggested that one can dress nicely without conforming to simply one style.

Dark denim can be easily dressed-up, especially if worn with a nice woven shirt from 7 Diamonds or Ben Sherman.

"Denim is considered to be both casual and dressy," Nussbaum said.

For women, dark jeans can be worn with a top that has some sparkle or shine to it — with a pair of boots and some fancier accessories.

Dresses are best for New Year's Eve or holiday parties, said Lauren Yates, buyer and manager of Chillers Showroom, 4667 Cass St.

Relaxed silk dresses with boots or flats are big this year, Yates said.

Chillers is also selling many men's zip-up sweaters, which are great for holiday attire. For men, dark jeans and a button-up shirt can look sharp, but zip-up hoodies should not be worn, Yates said.

Fun and flirty is the fall style for women.

Military looks are popular right now for both and women. Military style can add structure and clean lines, which cleans up anyone's look.

Yates suggested that in Southern California, it is acceptable for men and women to be more casual for daytime celebrations. Men can wear plaid, flannel, button-up shirts with dark denim. Women can wear shorter dresses with leggings and flats.

Men and women can easily transform these outfits to evening wear with a few simple adjustments. Men can forego the plaid for a nice cotton button-up shirt. Women can wear the same dress and wear high boots instead of flats with leggings.

Kailee Steward is ready for a holiday party wearing a Kill City top with one shoulder leather strap detail and James jeans.
DON BALCH | Beach & Bay Press

Eric Blumenthal sports daytime Christmas apparel in a Chillers long sleeve shirt, Chillers gray track jacket and Good Society jeans.
DON BALCH | Beach & Bay Press

Brittany Tall dons a T Los Angeles cream lace poncho over a Chillers white racer-back tank top and Liz Larios fire agate with coral necklace along with Blank denim bootcut jeans and a High Fashion cognac handbag.
DON BALCH | Beach & Bay Press

Kailee Steward in an organically hand-dyed Indah top and James jeans, showing that denim is a fashionable choice for Thanksgiving or Christmas.
DON BALCH | Beach & Bay Press

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Holiday Gift Guide

FISH SHOP

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

"We've been busy since we opened," Sondomowicz said.

The Pacific Beach Fish Shop underwent $250,000 in renovation prior to opening he said.

There is a system to ordering from the area dishing out sashimi-grade fish. The first step is to choose from a selection of fish varying from albacore to swordfish. Step two is to select a marinade, whether it is blackened seasoning or garlic butter. The final step is to select a style. The fish can be prepared as tacos, a sandwich, a salad or as a plate served with a choice of two sides, such as house cut onion rings, six-grain rice or seasonal vegetables.

The group of owners wanted the restaurant to be a neighborhood fish market and grill.

"We want to offer quality fish in a relaxed atmosphere," Sondomowicz said.

For the owners — all locals — it is all about staying true to that culture. The shop offers 50 choices of San Diego-area brewed beers.

"San Diego is turning into the number one microbrew town in the nation," Sondomowicz said.

The owners also boast a "no corkage fee" if patrons choose to bring their own wine. Sondomowicz said the reason was just to be neighborly.

The restaurant has a parking lot and a heated patio. Included in the Baja-inspired layout is a fire-pit with seats wrapped around it and a tiled external bar. One idea floating around is as an oyster bar.

The Fish Shop oyster shooters consist of spicy or non-spicy oysters served with a beer chaser and are garnished with a poached shrimp.

PACIFIC BEACH FISH SHOP
1775 Garnet Ave
(858) 483-4746
www.thefishshoppb.com
HOURS: Mondays-Thursdays 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., Sundays 11 a.m. until customers dwindle

Celebrating the ribbon cutting for Pacific Beach Fish Shop are (from left) Billy Ramirez, co-owner; Anthony Pedroso, chef; Doug Sondomowicz, co-owner; and Andy Hanshaw, executive director of Discover PB. PAUL HANSEN | Beach & Bay Press

Additional highlights to the menu are the salmon sandwich with marinated teriyaki, the seabass and the fish and chips.

Lobster lumpia is a signature dish by executive chef Anthony Pedroso. He uses his mother's recipe, but cooks with his own flair.

The Fish Shop crew did the math and the menu offers more than 2,000 different combinations, which can be as healthy or as deep fried as one chooses. Prices range from $3.50 to $25.

PB Surf Shop offers art, music during holiday party

By KENDRA HARTMANN | Beach & Bay Press

Pacific Beach Surf Shop will host its second annual holiday party and Christmas sale on Saturday, Dec. 4. The celebration will feature works of art from "Surf Story Project," a published collection of surfing art and writings, and jazz guitarist Peter Sprague will perform with his band, Peter Sprague and Friends.

The event will include a raffle and silent auction to benefit Surfers Healing, a nonprofit organization for autistic children. Up for bid will be original art by surfers featured in "Surf Story Project," created by surfer/artist Robb Havassy. All proceeds will go to Surfers Healing, and Havassy said that for every book sold, he will donate $50 to the organization.

"The idea is to get more interaction in the Pacific Beach community," said Pacific Beach Surf Shop owner Randy Strunk. "I always want to keep a pulse on the times and make it known that there are cool things happening here."

Strunk, a San Diego native, has owned Pacific Beach Surf Shop for 16 years. The iconic store, which opened in 1962, had fallen on hard times in 1994 when he stepped in. According to Strunk, the recession hit the surfing industry even before that of real estate, which prompted him to reconsider the goals of the shop. By incorporating some green business practices and supporting local talent, he said, he now tries to run his business in a way that enhances the community. He holds eight to 10 events per year, all benefiting various causes, from environmental groups to organizations for needy children. Most of the performers who play at his events are surfers themselves.

Visitors enjoy live entertainment during last year's holiday party and Christmas sale at Pacific Beach Surf Shop, 4150 Mission Blvd. In The Promenade. This year's event will be Dec. 4 from 6 to 10 p.m. PAUL HANSEN | Beach & Bay Press

"When I was growing up, it seemed every kid in town had something from Pacific Beach Surf Shop," said Strunk. "This is just something that I really want to do. I just really want to keep connecting to the community."

Peter Sprague grew up in Del Mar and has made a name for himself playing with jazz greats such as Chick Corea and Al Jarreau. This will be his fourth appearance at Pacific Beach Surf Shop. Strunk said it's an opportunity for Sprague to give back to the community while finding new followers.

"He's connecting to a new audience here," said Strunk. "If he can turn a young guy on to jazz who had previously only known reggae or grunge, that's a cool thing."

For Strunk, the benefit lies in knowing he is still relating to the members of his beloved neighborhood.

"It's fascinating to have this growing, vital business in this place. I just keep putting one foot in front of the other," he said.

The event at 4150 Mission Blvd., Suite 161, will run from 6 to 10 p.m. and is free. The nearby BeachWood restaurant will provide catering.

Luncheon gives holiday cheer to local seniors

The Santa Clara Recreation Center, 1008 Santa Clara Place, will host its annual senior holiday luncheon Dec. 4, from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The holiday lunch is free for seniors and includes a meal, desert, a "goodie bag," entertainment and plenty of holiday cheer.

Games are also part of the annual festivities and prizes are always awarded.

The menu this year will include lasagna, salad and rolls. Olive Café will provide the food.

RSVPs are required. Transportation is provided by the center for those who need it and can be arranged by calling the center. For more information, call (858) 581-9928.

—Debbie Hatch

SENIOR HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

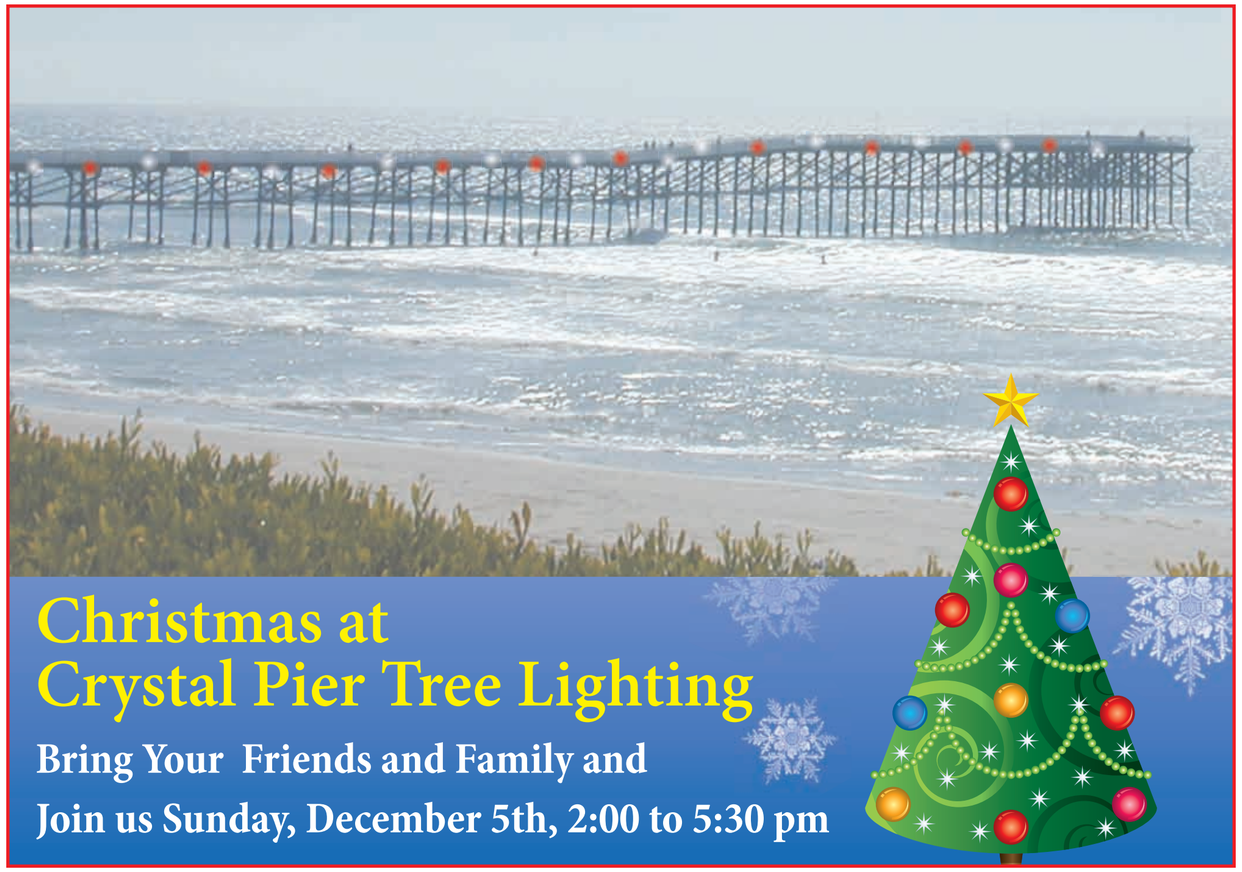
WHO: All seniors are welcome

WHERE: Santa Clara Rec Center, 1008 Santa Clara Place

WHEN: Dec. 4; 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

COST: Free

CONTACT: RSVP required by calling (858) 581-9928



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FIT AND FABULOUS

Gina Reyes and Dave Nielsen, partners in the newly-opened Republic Training Center, 1735 Garnet Ave., pose with daughter Serenity Reyes-Nielsen, 8 months, during a Nov. 14 fundraiser they held for Mama's Kitchen, an organization providing meals and nutritional assistance to victims of AIDS and cancer. The event featured a kickboxing exhibition, live music and an art and photo exhibit. Republic Training Center is a sport, fitness and martial arts gym offering Pilates, personal training and more. PAUL HANSEN | Beach & Bay Press

GARDEN

CONTINUED FROM **Page 5**

land on the school's campus into a student garden. Ideas about how the small plot could be used and what the ultimate goal of the garden would be circulated among faculty, until it was decided that an "ocean-friendly" garden was the way to go. Hannah Bloom, a sixth-grader at the time, started a fundraiser called Leaves that Grow Trees to procure the garden's anchor tree, around which all the other plants will be placed. The garden further benefited from a $1,000 donation from students Timothy Daly and Collin Tandy, who contributed the scholarship money they won for the Green Idea for Life Video Competition.

Designated by the Surfrider Foundation, ocean-friendly gardens have to meet a strict set of requirements based on three principles: conservation, permeability and retention, with the idea being that crops are locally sustainable and rainwater is retained for use in the garden instead of running off into the ocean. Sims said PBMS plans to incorporate ocean-friendly requirements gradually, with the ultimate goal of earning the official title.

Students at Pacific Beach Middle School recently prepared the soil for ocean-friendly plants in the school's Waves of Green student garden. KENDRA HARTMANN | Beach & Bay Press

Sims and other administrators are looking at incorporating some of the fruit and vegetables from the garden in the school cafeteria, primarily in the salad bar. The school is also in talks with local restaurants to "rent" out some of the crop rows for locally-grown produce during the summer when classes are not in session.

For some students, the real honor is in having an activity that gives them something to be proud of. Ariana Iverson, 12, said she was grateful for the opportunity to participate in an event of an environmental nature.

"I usually don't have anything to do after school when I get home, but I saw my friends were doing it, so I joined them," said the sixth-grader. "This is healthy for the environment and it's really inspirational."

MUST READ

Book recommendation from the Pacific Beach-Taylor Library

TITLE: "The Reversal"
AUTHOR: Michael Connelly
SYNOPSIS: Defense attorney Mickey Haller ("The Lincoln Lawyer") receives a strange request from the district attorney. He is persuaded to cross the aisle and lead the prosecution's retrial case against convicted child killer Jason Jessup. Jessup, in jail for 24 years, has been granted this trial because of new DNA evidence. Haller is convinced that Jessup is guilty and he assembles his dream team: longtime associate detective Harry Bosch and, as second chair, deputy DA ex-wife Maggie McPherson, to help the prosecution keep this killer in jail. Michael Connelly's "The Reversal" is his most relentless thriller yet.

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Clubs, Bars & Music Scene

MISSION BEACH	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Dirty Birds 4656 Mission Blvd. P.B. 858-274-2473	**Nightly Specials:** 6pm -close All you can eat wings $13.99 – Bucket of Keystone Light $10.00	**Happy Hour** Happy Hour All Day 1/2 price domestic pitchers 1/2 price wings	**Nightly Specials:** 6pm –close Turkey Burger and Domestic Beer $8.99	**Nightly Specials:** 8pm –close $2.00 Keystone Light can	**Nightly Specials:** 8pm –close $3.00 16oz PBR draft	**Nightly Specials:** $4 Bloody Mary's and $2 Mimosas $10 bottle of champagne $15 bucket of Coors or Miller	**Nightly Specials:** $4 Bloody Mary's and $2 Mimosas $10 bottle of champagne $15 bucket of Coors or Miller
Guava Beach Bar & Grill 3714 Mission Blvd 858-488-668	**HAPPY MONDAYS:** Happy Hour 4pm to Close 1/2 off Beers and call shots 25% off appetizers	**TACO TUESDAY'S:** Tacos starting @ $2 $3.50 Dos Equis Pints $1 off Grande Margaritas	**$3 U Call It Night:** $3 u-call-its 9:30pm to close Happy Hour from 4-7pm 25% off appetizers	**BURGERS MADNESS:** $5.99 1/2lb Burger & Fries $1.00 off Draft Beer !	**$4 FRIDAYS:** $4 shots of Jager, Tuaca, Fernat $4 Vodka Rockstars $8 Miller Lite or Bud Lite Pitchers all day	**Weekend Brunch 9pm – 1pm** $4 u-call-its 9:30pm to close $8 Miller Lite or Bud Lite Pitchers $3 Krazis - $5 Mimosas $12 Bionic Beaver	
Pacific Beach Ale House 721 Grand Ave. 858-581-BEER	**Burger Bliss** $5.00 Burger – 6-10pm	**All-You-Can-Eat Crab Night** $24.95 – 6-10pm	**Uncorked & Unplugged** 1/2 off all bottles of Wine & Premium Corked Beers 6-10pm Live Music – 9pm to Close	**Thursday Special** $3 22 oz Mugs of House Beer $3 U Call Its DJ Music – 10pm to Close	**Good Times Friday** $3 Sushi Rolls, $3 Good Times Gold 3pm to Close DJ Music – 10pm to Close.		**Pacific Sunset Sunday** $3 fish tacos, $3 IPA – 5pm-9pm **Industry Night:** 1/2 off bar tabs, DJ Music – 10pm to Close
Shore Club 4343 Ocean Blvd. 858-272-SURF	**Nightly Specials:** Beer Pong@9pm-close/ Restaurant and bar Industry 50% off cocktails and beers/$3.50 pacifico, bud , and negra modello drafts all day	**Nightly Specials:** 1/2 apps 6pm to kitchen close/ $3.50 Pacifico, Bud, and Negra Modello drafts ALL DAY/ DJ MCLOVIN 8pm-12	**Nightly Specials:** $3 SVEDKA vodka 9pm-cl / GOLDFISH RACES@10pm/ DJ mike Czech/$3.50 Pacifico, bud , and negra modello drafts all day	**Nightly Specials:** 2-4-1 burgers and chicken sandwiches 5pm-to kitchen close/ $3-u-call-its 8pm-close with DJ DEVOY /$3.50 pacifico, bud, and negra modello drafts all day	**Nightly Specials:** Live DJ 8pm-12/ $3.50 pacifico, bud, and negra modello drafts ALL DAY/ 2-4-1 fish and chips or shrimp and chips 5pm-close	**Nightly Specials:** college football tv packages / navy football / live dj 8pm-12/ $3.50 pacifico, bud , and negra modello drafts all day	**Nightly Specials:** NFL ticket/ $3.50 pacifico, bud , and negra modello drafts all day / karaoke with DJ franqueray@9pm
Nick's 809 Thomas 858-270-1730	**Nightly Specials:** Happy Hour Food 4 to Close & Drinks 4 to 7	**Nightly Specials:** $2.00 Tacos and $5.00 Select Tequilas	**Nightly Specials:** $3.00 Wing Basket & $5.00 Selected Whiskeys	**Nightly Specials:** Burger, Fries & 16 Ounce Domestic Draft $7.00	**Nightly Specials:** Happy Hour 4 to 7	**Every Saturday** $2.50 Mimosas & College Gamday!	**Every Sunday** $2.50 Mimosas, $9.00 Bud Light Pitchers, And All The NFL Games! Chance to win a flat screen TV.

Happy Hour 4 to 7 Every Night in the Bar Areas! Coming Soon DJ's and Bands Thurs – Sat!

Now & Then

John Fry

WHO KNEW? I thought it was another clothing store, or possibly an auto parts retailer, but the article in the last *Beach & Bay Press* revealed the fact that Five Guys, at 1020 Garnet Ave., is a build-your-own burger place, part of a large, national chain. That sort of brings us full-circle to my item awhile back about the mystery girl who showed up at Las Panchos craving spicy carrots. She seemed very near an emotional melt-down when she learned that the place was closed. I sympathized, mentioning that I loved their cheese enchiladas and also was a fan of the hot carrots. Diane Gormsen has informed me that I can once again enjoy my cheese enchiladas at Maria Juana's, next to Filippi's Pizza. Perfect! That's the spot I first frequented as Carillo's, which became Bustamante's after a divorce. They had the best machaca con juevos, but that happy story came to an end also. That's not the full-circle part, though. Los Panchos is now the Fish Shop, which got Norman Piper quite excited. Norman hoped they would have fish and chips comparable to his native England. Getting back to Five Guys — wasn't the Fish Shop, on the southwest corner of Kendall and Garnet, originally a build-your-own burger place?

IT WAS A HUNDRED YEARS AGO this week that Col. Thomas A. Davis established the San Diego Army and Navy Academy (SDANA) in Pacific Beach on a 16-acre tract that, 23 years earlier, had been the campus of the short-lived College of Arts and Letters. "A select school for manly boys," Davis' academy thrived for two decades, but couldn't survive the Great Depression. Well, actually it could. It moved to Carlsbad in 1936 and is still going strong today. Brown Military Academy replaced SDANA and turned out "manly boys" until 1958. The campus is better known today as Pacific Plaza shopping center. The November issue of the Pacific Beach Historical Society newsletter is devoted to the story of the founding of the academy and has some pretty snazzy photos. Contact me if you'd like a copy.

SPEAKING OF PACIFIC PLAZA, I was headed for CVS last week when I spotted the ubiquitous "AMYINMB". I don't think she's ever been to Mission Beach. Three cars down was "I (HEART) SO MB," which I assume refers to South Mission Beach. "OWWEFXR" pulled in as I was leaving. I'm guessing doctor, nurse, mommy — or all three.

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

Enjoy the colors & beauty of Old Town

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 from 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 .

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS IN OLD TOWN SAN DIEGO

Old Town San Diego will be the place to celebrate holiday traditions and create new memories all month long:

HOLIDAY IN THE PARK On Saturday, Dec. 11, from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m., all of the museums, stores and restaurants in Old Town San Diego State Historic Park will be open and richly decorated for the holidays. Guests will enjoy special holiday treats, and extended shopping hours until 9 p.m., along with strolling carolers and live music. This event is free.

CYGNET THEATRE PRESENTS 'IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE: A LIVE RADIO PLAY' Cygnet Theatre Company presents Joe Landry's "It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play" Nov. 26 through Dec. 31. The famous story of George Bailey and Clarence the Angel comes to life as a 1940's live radio play, filled with music, live sound effects and plenty of heart. The performance on Dec.30 will feature an appearance by Karolyn Grimes, who played Zuzu in the original Frank Capra film of "It's A Wonderful Life."

For more information, visit cygnettheatre.com or call the box office (619) 337-1525.

WRITE OUT LOUD PRESENTS 'GIVING SEASON Write Out Loud presents its 4th-annual holiday program for families called "Giving Season," which includes stories by Bret Harte, A.A. Milne, Grace Paley and others that are appropriate for all ages. Kids 12 years and under are $5 and regular tickets are $15, or $13 for seniors and military. Performances are at The Old Town Theatre, 4040 Twiggs St, on Saturday, Dec. 11, at 12:30 p.m. and on Monday, Dec. 13, at 7:00 p.m. Call 619-297-8953 for more information.

VICTORIAN TEA AT THE COSMOPOLITAN HOTEL & RESTAURANT Mrs. Sarah Robinson, widow of the late Governor of Texas, James Robinson, will be pouring tea for her friends at an early San Diego 19th century tea party with delicious food and beverages and typical Victorian entertainment. This immersive theatre experience will take place in the gorgeously restored 1872 Cosmopolitan Hotel & Restaurant in Old Town San Diego State Historic Park. The performance takes place on Dec. 10, 11, 17, 18, 28, 29 and 30 at 4 p.m. at the Cosmo. Adults are $40.00 per ticket; children 6 to 16 are $18.00. For reservations, call 619-297-1874. For more info visit parks.ca.gov/oldtownsandiego or oldtowncosmopolitan.com

Bonfire Nights Illuminates Old Town

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.

'Tis the Season to Shop & Dine at Old Town's Fiesta de Reyes

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.

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Fiesta de Reyes in 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 FiestaDeReyes.com

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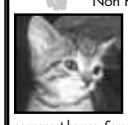

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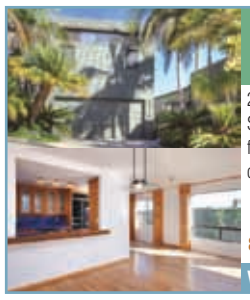

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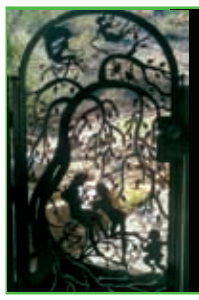

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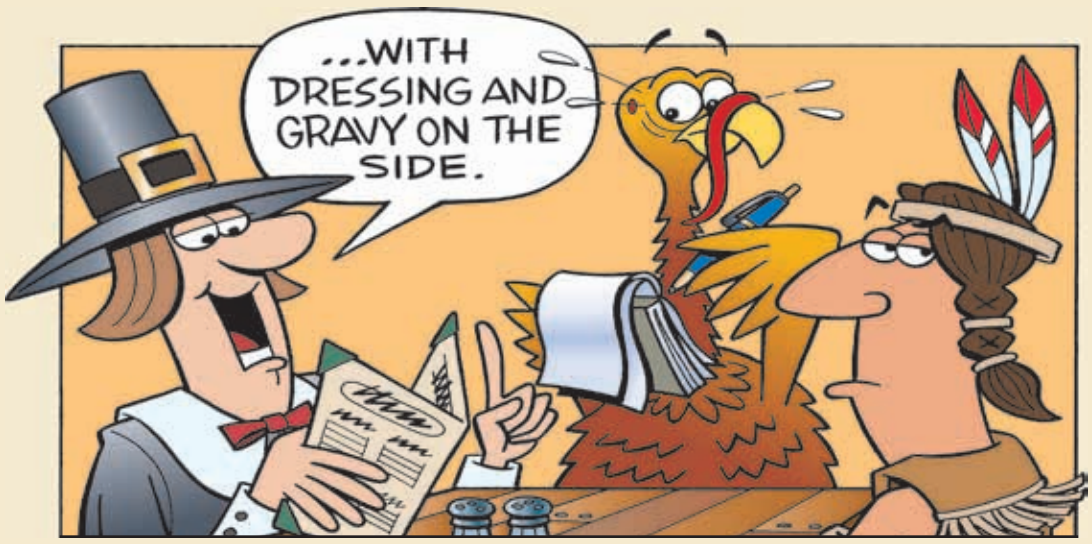

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