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BALANCING ACT David Ward of Pacific Beach rides his unicycle on the seawall two or three times a day, every day.

Earning a living in construction and remodeling, he doesn't have to think about why he balances on the narrow wall of cement: "Because it's there."

MARSHA KAY SEFF

Budget cuts may put community court programs in crosshairs By DAVE SCHWA

The Neighborhood Prosecution Unit (NPU) that helps fight quality-of-life crimes — including graffiti and gangs along the beachfront — could be doomed by proposed budget cuts.

Mayor Bob Filner's budget proposal specifically targets the City Attorney's Office for reductions. Unless reversed by the City Council, the cuts will force City Attorney Jan Goldsmith to eliminate functions that are not required by the city's charter, including

programs like the NPU.

The NPU partners with the San Diego Police Department, community organizations and leaders to aggressively and creatively combat crimes that impact quality of life. The unit's goals are to improve quality of life in targeted neighborhoods, build partnerships to solve community crime problems, expand prosecutorial tools to more effectively address neighborhood crime priorities and hold offenders

accountable in the criminal justice system and to the community

"The NPU uses problem-solving courts to quickly prosecute lower-level crimes like graffiti and public urination without clogging up the regular court system, directing offenders to work off citations through community service," said District 2 City

SEE CUTS >> PG. 5

Sip 'N' Stroll event to shine light on merchants, unite neighbors By DAVE SCHWAB

A new business marketing street fair showcasing north Pacific Beach is set for its inaugural run Sunday, Aug. 4 from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Cass Street between Loring and Opal streets.

Called North PB Sip 'N' Stroll, presented by Turquoise Cellars and supported by Discover PB, the function is billed as a family friendly event.

"It's all about uncovering North Pacific Beach's brick-and-mortar home businesses," said Michael Spangler.

He conceptualized and organized the event, raising \$5,000 to get it launched.

Spangler stressed that Sip 'N' Stroll is not a block party, but a bona-fide business fair to promote merchants in the northern part of the community.

"The idea is to have a sip of fine wine and beer at Turquoise Cellars, then to go around on the street and meet your neighbors," Spangler said.

Spangler said Sip 'N' Stroll is designed to appeal to all ages. A kids' court in Tula Ru parking lot at the corner of Cass and Loring streets will feature a bounce house, as well as dance, tumbling and musical performances. Kids' peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, courtesy of PB Peanut Butter, will be served at Turquoise Coffee.

For adults, there will be live

SEE SIP >> PG. 6



TASTE OF THE OLD WORLD Mamma Mia's clam and shrimp pasta. Inset, the Bruschetta Dello Chef with sautéed shrimp, tomatoes and spinach. COURTESY PHOTOS

Mamma Mia – a hidden gem in Pacific Beach By DAVID ROTTENBERG

If you live in Pacific Beach, chances are you've driven by it a thousand times without noticing. And, if you don't live in Pacific Beach, you have to add this restaurant to your "must visit" destination list.

Mamma Mia Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria is PB's Italian gem, hidden but well worth the effort to find it. It is on the extension of Balboa Avenue as it forks off of Garnet Avenue, just before it merges into Grand Avenue. Tricky? Use a GPS or Mapquest. Parking is limited as well. But the effort will be rewarded by incredibly good cuisine.

The owner of the restaurant, Cinzia Mezzetti, is pure Italian. Her accent is thick and her favorite word is "bravo" when she agrees

SEE MAMMA MIA >> PG. 7



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Pat Shea, former Chargers guard and MBHS standout, dead at 72

By KEITH ANTIGIOVANNI

Mission Bay High School (MBHS) alum and former San Diego Charger Pat Shea, 72, passed away May 24 from a heart attack. Shea's connections to the Pacific Beach area go back to his time at MBHS (1955-58), where he played for the fledgling Buccaneers football program under Harry Anderson.

MBHS classmate Bill Swank (class of 1958) remembers Shea as a "rough and tumble guy who was also very nice. He had a reputation and wasn't the type to look for trouble, but he didn't walk away from it either."

Another MBHS classmate and

[Pat Shea] was a rough and tumble guy who was also very nice. He had a reputation and wasn't the type to look for trouble, but he didn't walk away from it either.

BILL SWANK MBHS CLASSMATE OF PAT SHEA teammate. David Bruce. remembers Shea as a beach-area legend.

"There were some famous people to come out of Mission Bay and La Jolla in 1958, including Frank Zappa, Raquel Welch, Gordon and Smith, but Pat and his brother, Bob, were legendary. Everyone in Mission Beach, Pacific Beach, La Jolla and Clairemont knew about them [the Shea Brothers]."

Bruce also remembers the Shea brothers as a 1950s beacharea version of Wyatt Earp and Bat Masterson.

"Pacific Beach was like the Wild West back then, and those two guys kept order," said Bruce. "They didn't like strangers coming in here and making trouble. They were like men among boys and they protected us and made it safe for us."

After graduating from MBHS in 1958, Shea was recruited by the University of Southern California, where he played three years under for the legendary John McKay from 1958 to 1961. According to Swank and Bill Rice's book "Gold Leather Helmets and Black Hightop Shoes," which highlights MBHS sports from the 1950s, Shea reminisced about a recruiting trip to the University of Oregon, when McKay

was coaching the Ducks.

"There were some other schools interested in me, too," Shea reflected in the book. "I was up in Oregon. John McKay was showing me around, but he didn't seem too excited. I told that him that actually I was thinking about going to USC. He (McKay) said, 'Good choice.'"

McKay became the coach at USC the next

Shea went undrafted in the NFL and AFL Draft in 1962, but was signed as a guard by his hometown team, the San Diego Chargers, where he played

for Pro Football Hall of Fame head coach Sid Gillman. Another excerpt from Swank and Rice's book included how Shea recalled how he ended up with the Charg-

"I called Sid Gillman and asked for a tryout," he was quoted as saying. "[Gillman] said, 'OK.' I didn't even think to ask for train money. I hitchhiked down from L.A., had my tryout and signed a

TIES THAT BIND Bill Cravens, left, and former Mission Bay High and San Diego Charger Pat Shea are shown during the 2008 Mission Bay Homecoming game. Cravens and Shea were teamates at MBHS in 1956. Courtesy photo by Bill Swank

contract."

The 6-foot-1, 245-pound Shea started at guard for the Chargers in 1962, and then in 1963 as part of San Diego's American Football League championship team that crushed the Boston Patriots 51-10 in the title game. Shea stayed with the Chargers until 1965, when injuries forced him into premature retirement.

In his post football years, Shea

and former Chargers teammate Walt Sweeney, who passed away in February, started their own sports bar in the 1970s in Solana Beach, Sweeney O'Shea's.

Friends and patrons remember that Shea always wore his 1963 AFL Championship ring.

"He always said that being part of that championship team was his masterpiece," Bruce said.



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Public expresses wants, needs to bridge gap in completing Rose Creek bike path By DAVE SCHWAB

Residents told officials with the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) what they'd like to see — and not see — pan out with the design of proposed improvements along the Rose Creek bike path during a June 20 community workshop.

The Rose Creek segment, which is about a two-mile gap in the region's bicycle trail network, runs from the north end of Santa Fe Street, connecting south to the existing bike path at Damon Street and Mission Bay Drive near the Mike Gotch Memorial Bridge above the Rose Creek inlet.

Rose Creek is part of the greater Coastal Rail Trail, a visionary, long-term project to create a 40mile system of multi-use trails extending from Oceanside to downtown San Diego. The interlocking network would connect major activity centers, including University City, Mission Bay and Pacific Beach.

During the workshop, Charles Stoll of SANDAG, the region's transportation planning agency, talked about how small bike segments like Rose Creek figured into the "big picture" of master planning to provide San Diegans with What we're here to do tonight is talk about the benefits of an active transportation program for the whole region.

CHARLES STOLL

more transportation choices.

"What we're here to do tonight is talk about the benefits of an active transportation program for the whole region," said Stoll, who directed the 30-plus workshop visitors into three small working groups. Citizens, cyclists and merchants huddled with SANDAG

planners, inspecting maps of the northern, central and southern portions of the undeveloped Rose Creek bike path and brainstorming ways to make it more userfriendly.

"The next step is to refine the ideas we collected here tonight as to what we're actually going to be doing," Stoll said, adding that once planning and design is complete, there will be preliminary engineering work and environmental clearance done before the project is put out to bid.

"Hopefully, we can have construction starting sometime during 2016," Stoll said.

Chris Carterette, a transportation planner withn SANDAG, said the goal of bikeway improvement

SEE BIKE PATH >> PG. 13



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Pacific Beach woman, 70, will challenge herself – and poverty – in 500-mile trek

Loretta Smith, a 70-year-old breast-cancer survivor, is no stranger to big challenges. On her 60th birthday, she hiked to the top of Half Dome in Yosemite Valley. She has completed a six-day hike in the High Sierra and another in New Zealand with a broken wrist.

Starting in September, Smith and Sloan Sziros, her friend and racewalking coach, will hike El Camino de Santiago in Northern Spain. Smith hopes to complete the nearly 500-mile trek over the course of five weeks to not only challenge herself, but also to raise awareness and money to battle poverty for women and children around the world.

While Smith doesn't know exactly where the journey will take her, she knows she wants to help raise money for Women's Empowerment International (WE), known as the WE STAR Center for Women and the International Refugee Center of San Diego, programs which provide low-income, refugees with business training, technical support, loans and grants.

Smith became involved with WE in 2007. Shortly after joining, she became the organization's database manager, and has since served on the board and various committees.

Her plan to support WE through her walk will take shape as the journev unfolds.

"My whole reason for going is not really formulated yet and I'm not trying to formulate it to allow myself to become in sync with the pathway, Spanish culture and my religious roots. I'm just going to let myself go," Smith said.

Along the way, Smith said she will talk to fellow travelers about women's empowerment and poverty issues around the world. She said she wants to get people to really think about poverty and what they can do to help.

"You become more vulnerable and open doing this type of activi-

ty," Smith said. "It's different than having a conversation over a cup of coffee. You don't get that degree of intimacy."

One of the hardest parts of her trip was the decision to put her responsibilities at home on hold. Smith cares for her 92-year-old mother who lives with her, and she takes care of her grandchild four days each week. During the walk, Smith said she will also have to skip her 40th anniversary with her husband, as well as his birthday.

"This is something I have to do for myself, to allow myself to make the decision to take five weeks off from my life and to be away from the comforts of my home and daily routine," she said.

As she makes her way across the foothills of Northern Spain, Smith said she will only carry a backpack full of essential supplies and small rocks to place at the base of an old, weathered cross about 300 miles into the trip. The rocks, which sig-



UP FOR THE CHALLENGE Loretta Smith, 70, of Pacific Beach (right), will make a 500-mile trek to help fight worldwide poverty for women and children. She is shown here with her race-walking coach, Sloan Sziros.

nify prayers for Smith's loved ones and women in poverty, will be deposited among thousands of others placed there by past travelers.

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"I will think of all the women who aspire to improve their lives and those of their children while I aspire to complete my walk to complete my walk to Santiago," Smith said. "These will be my thoughts as I make my way to Compostela de Santiago."

To donate or to learn more about Women's Empowerment International, visit www.womenempowerment.org.

Senior volunteers sought

to augment police services

The San Diego Police Depart-

ment's (SDPD) Retired Senior Vol-

unteer Patrol (RSVP) in North-

ern Division — which serves

Pacific Beach, La Jolla and Uni-

versity City — is seeking more

volunteers to serve the beach

The RSVPs help bridge com-

Duties include patrolling local

neighborhoods, while serving as

additional eyes and ears for the

police, assisting uniformed offi-

cers with accident and crime

scenes and supporting disaster

preparedness and Homeland

Security efforts. In addition,

RSVP volunteers visit elderly res-

munity needs and help address

communities.

citizens' concerns.

QUICKHITS >>

Play fight at Mission Bay Park leads to stabbing

A man was arrested at Mission Bay Park July 13 when an apparent play fight turned into the real deal, said police investigators.

Although the suspect has been identified by investigators, his name has not yet been released. He was arrested shortly after the incident around 10:45 p.m., after allegedly stabbing a 29year-old man in the arm, buttocks and back when the play fight turned serious.

The victim, who also was not

identified, was taken to a local trauma center with non-lifethreatening injuries.

'Spear-phishing' attacks on networks continue

FBI officials said they have seen an increase in the number of criminals who use so-called "spear-phishing" attacks to target multiple industry sectors. These attacks, according to authorities, allow criminals to access private computer networks. They exploit access to cre-

SEE QUICK HITS >> PG. 5



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idents to check on their welfare and safety as part of the YANA (You Are Not Alone) Program and do vacation house checks. Flexible schedules are available and a minimum of three days per month are required of each volunteer, who must be at least 50 years of age and possess a valid California driver's license.

The next RSVP Academy dates are Oct 21-25 and background packets must be completed by Aug. 10.

For more information or schedule a ride-along, call (858) 552-1737, or email sdpdNorthern@pd.sandiego.gov.



CUTS »

CONT. FROM PG. 1

Councilman Kevin Faulconer. "Mayor Filner's proposed budget prioritizes the preservation of government inefficiencies and bureaucracy over city programs that work directly in our communities. Cutting or eliminating the NPU could cause real-world problems in our neighborhoods that will have a negative impact on fighting crime and San Diegans' quality of life."

Angie Reddish-Day, deputy city attorney, said the NPU is composed of seven attorneys who collaborate with police, serving as community liaisons to solve neighborhood problems.

If NPU falls victim to the budget knife, the cuts could reverse

progressive efforts to alleviate court overcrowding.

"We've come up with a number of alternatives to address specific crime problems through creation of community courts which allow low-level offenses to be handled in a different way outside of the [usual] court system," Reddish-Day said.

"It would be a big step backward in working toward creative solutions to actually solve problems rather than just prosecuting people in the run-of-the-mill criminal court system," she said. "The criminal court system is so overwhelmed with cases ... The community courts offer a more meaningful resolution for the defendant and the community."

One of the casualties of city budget cutting could be the Instant Justice Program run by the



FAIR WARNING A sign in Pacific Beach warns of offenses that may draw citations from police or lifeguards. Community court programs, which help offenders keep citations off their criminal records, could be threatened by budget cuts.

DAVE SCHWAB

NPU, which allows offenders charged with minor infractions to skip court in return for community-service work.

The day after the summer holiday on July 5, deputy city attorney Terri Winbush, who works with the police department's Northern Division that covers the local beachfront, was out on Pacific Beach's boardwalk administering NPU's Instant Justice Program.

Winbush said the Instant Justice Program is a win-win situation for everybody.

"The idea is to give the community a clean neighborhood while giving the offender an opportunity to not have their ticket recorded by cleaning up trash on the beach," she said.

Offenses that qualified offenders for participation in the July 5

Instant Justice program include smoking on the beach, drinking in public, open containers, littering and being in possession of glass bottles, among other infractions.

"All of the things that are on that sign," said Winbush, who pointed to regulations mounted on a boardwalk lamppost.

Reddish-Day said NPU is not mandated in San Diego's city charter, which leaves it vulnerable to budget cuts.

"As one of the programs that's discretionary and not mandated, it's one of the places the city attorney has to look to when it comes time to cut," Reddish-Day said.

QUICK HITS» CONT. FROM PG. 4

ate fake identities, steal intellectual property and compromise financial credentials to steal money from the accounts of victims.

In spear-phishing attacks, cyber criminals target victims because of their involvement in an industry or organization the criminals wish to compromise, said FBI officials. Often, the emails contain accurate information about victims obtained via a previous intrusion or from data posted on social networking sites, blogs, or other websites.

This information adds a veneer of legitimacy to the message, increasing the chances the victims will open the email and respond as directed.

Recent attacks have convinced victims that software or credentials they use to access specific websites needs to be updated. The email contains a link for completing the update.

If victims click the link, they are taken to a fraudulent website through which malicious software (malware) harvests details such as the victim's usernames and passwords, bank account details, credit card numbers, and other personal information. The criminals can also gain access to private networks and cause disruptions, or steal intellectual property and trade secrets, said FBI officials.

If you believe you may have fallen victim to a spear-phishing attack, file a complaint with the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center at www.ic3.gov.

Candidates sought for seat with PB planners

The PB Planning Group has a vacancy in its north-central census tract. Board hopefuls must be a resident or owner of residential property in that area, bounded by Chalcedony, Fanuel, Noyes and the northern boundary of Pacific Beach.

The planning group, an advisory group sanctioned by the city, considers development projects, traffic and parking issues and other city or county projects and problems facing Pacific Beach. Candidates must gather petition signatures from 25 census tract residents to qualify.

The deadline is Aug. 14. The board will vote for a new member at its Aug. 28 meeting.

Interested candidates should contact Larry Emlaw at (858) 273-1788.

FBI warns of rental, real-estate scams

The FBI and the Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) urge the public to be cautious when posting rental properties and real estate online. The FBI and IC3 have received complaints from individuals who have fallen victim to scams involving rentals of apartments and houses, as well as postings of real estate online. FBI officials said individuals need to be cautious when posting rental properties and real estate online.

Rental scams occur when the victim has rental property advertised and is contacted by an interested party. Once the rental price is agreed upon, the scammer forwards a check for the deposit on the rental property to the victim, said authorities. The check is to cover housing expenses and is typically either written in excess of the amount required, with the scammer asking for the remainder to be remitted back, or the check is written for the correct amount, but the scammer backs out of the rental agreement and asks for a refund.

Another type of scam involves real estate that is posted via clas-

sified advertisement websites. The scammer duplicates postings from legitimate real-estate websites and reposts these ads after altering them. Often, the scammers use the broker's real name to create a fake email, which gives the fraud more legitimacy.

If you suspect you have been a victim of Internet crime, file a complaint at www.IC3.gov/.

How to Sell High: Avoid these Three Mistakes When Selling Your Pacific Beach or Mission Beach Home this Summer

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Pacific Beach/Mission Beach - When you decide to sell your home, setting your asking price is one of the most important decisions you will ever make. Depending on how a buyer is made aware of your home, price is often the first thing he or she sees, and many homes are discarded by prospective buyers as not being in the appropriate price range before they're even given a chance of showing.

Your asking price is often your home's "first impression", and if you want to realize the most money you can for your home, it's imperative that you make a good first impression.

This is not as easy as it sounds, and pricing strategy should not be taken lightly. Pricing too high can be as costly to a homeseller as pricing too low. Taking a look at what homes in your neighborhood have sold for is only a small part of

ly enough to help you make the best decision. A recent study, which compiles 10 years of industry research, has resulted in a new special report entitled "Homesellers: How to Get the Price You Want (and Need)". This report will help you understand pricing strategy from three different angles. When taken together, this information will help you price your home to not only sell, but sell for the price you want.

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SIP >> CONT. FROM PG. 1

music, a beer and wine garden with tastings for \$10 and educational workshops by Green Gardens Nursery.

There will also be more than 30 booths showcasing North Pacific Beach businesses and organizations, including the Pacific Beach Town Council.

"It's a great idea," said Patsy Eppler of Green Gardens, a family owned nursery in business 35 years in North PB. "It's family friendly and something for the neighborhood that's not bars and football, which is fine, but there's so much than that on Garnet and Grand [avenues]. We really wanted something here with a family orientation."

Eppler said the nursery will give out gifts to lure stroll guests into their establishment.

PB Peanut Butter owner Matthew Mulvihill said he's excited at the chance to participate in the stroll.



ing local stuff. We are

very local first," he said. "It's a really a great way to showcase your product and get more local people to visit your place. Everything we've ever done locally has always had a good outcome. So we jump at the chance."

Spangler said one objective of the stroll is to get merchants to work together as a team.

"PB businesses working with other PB businesses. It's all about collaboration and promotion," he said.

For more information, visit www.-spanglereventproductions.com.

Oversize-vehicle ordinance to roll toward citywide reality By DAVE SCHWAB

After first deadlocking 4-4 on a new oversize-vehicle ordinance pilot program targeting just coastal areas, the City Council voted 6-2 this month to implement a more costly citywide plan.

Councilmembers Sherri Lightner of District 1 and David Alvarez of District 8 opposed the final measure. Councilwoman Marti Emerald of District 9 was absent.

Some councilmembers said they were concerned that a citywide oversize-vehicle pilot program might be too costly and unwieldy to manage. But council president Todd Gloria, speaking for the majority, expressed fear that implement-



TAKING IT TO THE STREET An ordinance governing parking of oversize vehicles has cleared the City Council once and will return for a second reading and final adoption in a matter of weeks.

FILE PHOTO

ing a coastal-only pilot program would be unfair and push the problem of illegally parked oversize vehicles elsewhere.

News of the new oversize-vehicle ordinance's passage was well received on the beachfront.

"The Pacific Beach Planning

Group has been a very strong advocate of the oversize-vehicle ordinance for a long time — too long," said PBPG chairman Brian J. Curry. "Although we would have been delighted to see a more comprehensive and strict ordinance, we are very happy to see that the City Council approved it and is appreciative of the efforts of [District 2 City] Councilmember Faulconer to see it through."

Noting the new ordinance pilot

Being an RV owner, I'm a little torn on this issue. How do we take care of the problem without punishing those of us who live by the rules?

SCOTT SHERMAN

is citywide, rather than beaches only, Curry added, "Either way, we finally have an oversize-vehicle ordinance and are delighted."

Several RV owners argued at the July 8 City Council hearing that a punitive ordinance would be excessive, warning it could force low-income people, with no other alternative but to live in their vehicles, into homelessness.

As originally proposed, the oversize-vehicle ordinance pilot program would only have been introduced in the coastal areas of Lightner in District 1 and that of Faulconer.

Faulconer's staff estimated that a coastal oversize-vehicle pilot program would cost \$14,000 for signage, personnel and other upfront costs, versus \$44,000 for a citywide program. Staff estimated another \$20,000 would be spent for public outreach on the new pilot program.



MAMMA MIA»

CONT. FROM PG. 1

with something you say. When in Italy, she was on the nation's skydiving team, a sport she gave up when she had children. But it demonstrates she is a woman of courage, driven to achieve excellence. Now she devotes all of her considerable energy to making her restaurant a success.

The restaurant may look small from the outside, but it actually seats 140 guests. It consists of two historic buildings joined in back with a small courtyard between them. An enclosed patio in the front has transparent screens that can be removed to allow cool ocean breezes to flow through, as the location is only blocks from the beach.

The ambiance is rustic and it feels like a neighborhood place, where locals come often to relax. People come and go in a steady stream, arriving hungry and leaving smiling and full.

The menu lists many popular Italian selections, but the primary style is of northern Italy near the French border. The difference between Mamma Mia and other eateries? Mezzetti makes everything in house and from scratch — including the pastas, dough and tasty desserts. Ingredients are always fresh, and Mezzetti does her own shopping.

Wine goes so well with Italian food — Italian wines best of all, of course. The wines listed are all Italian, at reasonable markup. I enjoyed Aglianico, a full-bodied red with strong fruit accents and high acidity, which pairs especially well with meats. There's also a special offer on Tuesday in which guests can bring their own wine with no corkage fee.

Bruschetti are an excellent way to begin the meal. There are a number of delightful toppings to the homemade bread, crafted from a traditional recipe. The bread is crusty on the outside, springy on the inside, with a subtle flavor that goes well with anything placed on top. The Bruschette Della Casa is topped with tomato, basil and olive oil. Another favorite is the Bruschette Dello Chef, topped with shrimp, tomato and spinach.

Or, go with fritto or the focaccine, mouthwatering little mouthfuls of lightly fried pizza dough stuffed with good things like ham and mozzarella. Focaccine Asinara combines focacia with prosciutto, melted brie and artichoke. The flavors will really set you up for the entrees.

One could make a meal of the delicious Zuppa Lipari, a tasty red wine broth cooked with clams and red onions. But why pass on the delicious entrée specialties — pasta, pizza, seafood and meat. One of my favorite pastas — lasagna — was outstanding. The pasta layers were tender and soft, easy to slice with a fork. The meat was savory and the



COOKING UP GOOD STUFF Cinzia
Mezzetti even offers cooking classes,
sharing her secrets with her appreciative students.

COURTESY PHOTO

besciamelle sauce, which is difficult to make, was outstanding. The sauce's origins are in the French-Italian regions, reflecting Mezzetti's style.

Meat dishes include Tagiata Lobby, sliced steak sautéed with garlic and wine and topped with Parmesan. Lamb devotees will enjoy the Agnello alla Pizzaiola, lamb steak sautéed in marinara and olives and topped with mozzarella.

Mezzetti prides herself on the many unusual dishes listed on her menu and on the quality of her production

"My gnocchi are the best," she said, "because of the special quality of the potatoes I use. Many of my dishes are unique to my restaurant."

She is an energetic mother who divides her time between working in the restaurant and caring for her two daughters. She is passionate about her dishes, her guests and her children.

Mezzetti does it all and does it by herself. She does not have expensive chefs or staff. She keeps her overhead low. As a result, she keeps her prices exceptionally low, given the quality she produces. Even so, she offers many specials. Happy Hour is featured every afternoon. Tuesdays are BYOB nights, Wednesdays feature pizza specials, Thursdays and Sundays offer wine tasting combined with a free Italian buffet. Bottom line, Mamma Mia can be both a dining gem and a bargain.

Want to know how Mezzetti does it? She offers cooking classes, sharing her secrets with her appreciative students. She also has a DVD with 10 of her delicious, easy-to-do recipes. Her cuisine was wonderful. I can hardly wait to return for more.

Mamma Mia Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria is located at 1932 Balboa Ave. It is open Tuesdays through Sundays for lunch, dinner and late night. Call (858) 272-2702 for information, directions and reservations.

Care and feeding of your surfboard

Even though dogs are considered man's best friend, for me it's my surfboard. And just like anything, there are dos and don'ts for taking care of your own board.

First thing to remember is surfboards are fragile! Built out of a light foam material, in most cases they are sealed using fiberglass and resins. The best are made by hand but all can be damaged or broken, so handle with care.

Temperature is a major cause of surfboard damage and breakdown. Heat of any kind can cause various bad things to happen to a board. At the very least, it will cause a premature discoloration of the board, along with a breakdown in the fiberglass, foam and resin used in the construction.

A board left in a hot car or strapped to the roof can cause delamination to occur. The actual fiberglass covering on a surfboard can and will separate from the foam core of the board, which will severely decrease its strength and performance. A large soft spot will eventually develop, and sooner or later, water will get inside to increase the weight of the board, while weakening its overall construction.

Just waxing your board by laying it on the sand can cause damage from grinding it into shells and rocks while you push down on the deck. Transport and storage/handling dings are more apt to happen than those that occur in the water. A decent board bag is a wise investment, to be sure.

Letting others use your equipment is also an almost sure way of inflicting damage on your board, as well.

Inevitably, some repair work will need to be done — whether or not you choose to do it yourself is up to you. For small temporary repairs, a decent-quality sticker, ding tape or even good old duct tape can keep you in the water for a while. Don't expect this procedure to keep all the water out, but it will help a bit to protect your body parts from being cut by raw fiberglass.

Never cram wax into an opening, as this does absolutely nothing, other than to make repairing the area much more difficult. All that nasty wax will need to be cut out and the overall damaged area will be enlarged considerably. Grabbing a tube of Solarez and gobbing it into a hole is not repairing your

board. Follow the proper steps required to prep the board and seal it properly.

In my opinion, most often it's best to run a repair by master repairman Joe Roper and have either him or one of his highly qualified staff take a look at the damaged areas. They will give you an estimate — give them a call at (619) 275-0447 — and you can decide if it's worth the money to have it repaired properly. A well cared-for board rides better and the resale value is higher if you keep it clean. If you decide to patch

Bird's surf scoor



Photo by Goulding/jagmediaproductions.com

Bird Huffman

it yourself, try and practice on an old beat up model before diving into your killer new stick.

Keep it clean and keep it real!

—Bird

Have a question or comment for Bird? Send it to ljvn@sdnews.com.

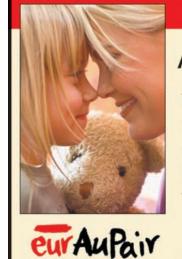


HOT TIME ON THE FOURTH

Four local girls, (from left) Ashley Soto,
Caitlin Eichlin, Amy
Jarrah, and Lauren
Flaherty celebrated
the Fourth of July at
Mission Beach and
Pacific Beach. The
Independence Day
adventure included a
stop at the the Pacific Beach fire station.







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Bite of Boston Opens in Pacific Beach

Bite of Boston is three family-owned and -operated fast-casual food establishments located in the city of San Diego, the newest of which recently opened in Pacific Beach..

The BoB is best-known for our authentic Maine lobster rolls, wicked awesome New England clam chowder, lobster bisque, and our seafood plates — whose ingredients are flown 3,000 miles once or twice-per-week to ensure that foodies in San Diego are eating the freshest North Atlantic sea creatures.

Bite of Boston offers many variations and different products from what is traditionally served in sandwich shops and deli's on the West Coast. The most



Cafe Athena still a favorite after 23 years

For 23 years Cafe Athena has thrived on loyalty; most of its customers are repeaters who come to dine again and again. They come to enjoy a cuisine that is shaped by simplicity and spawned by ingenuity. For those who have been to Greece, we hope your dining experience at Cafe Athena is something of a nostalgic reminiscence. ..or a toothsome delight awaiting those who plan to visit Hellas. We look forward to seeing you again, dear friend.

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TUESDAY

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Tuesday Seniors:

WEDNESDAY

Game Night: \$3 Drafts 7pm-Close Any sandwich/wrap w/draft \$10 Free Pool, Jumbo Beaver Blocks, Boards Games & Beer Pong! You be the VJ 8pm-close!

Wednesday Hump Day:

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All Panini 20% off; Soup,

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Thirsty Thursdays: \$2 U Call Its from 9pm-Close \$5.99 1/2 lb Guava Burger & Fries

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\$4 Fridays: \$4 U Call Its from 9pm-Close Weekend Dinner Specials by Chef Shelly V.

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Wing Wednesday: 2lbs. of wings for the price of 1

College Night 7pm-close: Large Pizza for the price of a small \$3 Wells and Skyy Drinks \$3 Domestic Bottles

\$4 Fridays 7pm-close: \$4 Selected Drinks

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All of these specials are available 7 days a week from 4 pm- 7 pm. However, happy hour pricing on food items only goes all night on Monday night.



Voodoo, Royal Heart and some sweet flugelhorn

LIVEMUSIC >>

Formed in 1988, skapunk heroes Voodoo Glow Skulls return to San Diego on July 19 for a show at Brick by Brick. Just back from a short European tour, the band is still fronted by the Casillas brothers, Eddie, Frank and Jorge, and still deliver a manic set sure to inspire mass skanking. Though they've never quite scored a hit, the band draws a devoted audience, ready to dance and shout. Voodoo Glow Skulls is currently promoting its latest album, "Break the Spell," but wherever they dip into, its extensive back catalog is sure to please long time fans.

• Voodoo Glow Skulls: Friday, July 19 at Brick by Brick, 1130 Buenos Ave. 9 p.m. 21 and up. \$14. www.brickbybrick.com

Mixing reggae, pop and ska, six-piece combo Royal Heart covers a lot of stylistic ground. Freeform enough to



SWEET SOUNDS Bay-Area flugelhornist Dmitri Matheny will stop in at Dizzy's on July 26 to perform recast versions of classic TV and movie music. COURTESY PHOTO

please jam-band fans and with enough up-tempo rhythms to keep reggae aficionados happy, Royal Heart may be just about the perfect band for the beach area. Appearing at Café-Bar Europa on Friday, July 19, the band's music is danceable and energetic, with trumpet and percussion flourishes that keep things from get-

ting clichéd. Summer's heating up and Royal Heart offers a good soundtrack for it.

• Royal Heart: Friday, July 19, at Café-Bar Europa, 873 Turqouise St. 9 p.m. 21 and up. www.theturquoise.com/wordpress

Bay-Area flugelhornist

Dmitri Matheny stops in at Dizzy's on July 26. To date, the flugelhorn is best remembered from the 1977 Chuck Mangione hit "Feels So Good," but that just may change with a bit more exposure to Matheny's masterful playing. A protégé of Art Farmer, Matheny has released nine albums since 1995, most recently "Grant & Matheny" in 2010, each disc showcasing his sublime playing and unique arrangements. For this performance, Matheny will spotlight Jazz Noir, performing recast versions of classic TV and movie music, accompanied by pianist Nick Manson, bassist Ruth Davies and drummer Duncan Moore.

It all adds up to a concert that's a must for jazz or soundtrack fans.

• **Dmitri Matheny:** Friday, July 26 at Dizzy's, 4275 Mission Bay Drive. 8 p.m. \$15. www.dizzysjazz.com

Fans of classic rock or anyone wanting to end a weekend on an up-note will want to check out the nine-piece Wild Nights, performing at the annual Concerts on the Green series at Kate Sessions Park on July 28. Yes, they play the Van Morrison classic they're named after, also mixing up hits from rock, soul and funk. Bottom line, music fans will be able to sing along and dance, all while taking in one of the most breathtaking views in Southern California. For free, family-friendly fun, this concert can't be beat.

• Wild Nights: Sunday, July 28 at Concerts on the Green, Kate Sessions Park. 4 p.m. All ages. Free. www.pbconcerts.-

song, belting out the blues or vocalizing something jazzy, there's no one quite like Whitney Shay. A mesmerizing performer, she will appear at the Kona Kai on July 28. Shay's music, a mix or standards and originals, is danceable, intriguing and a lot of fun. Shay performs in many different lineups and configurations, but here, she'll be joined by a band that includes keyboardist Ed Kornhauser. If you're a novice to her sound, this

By BART MENDOZA

Whether singing a torch

• Whitney Shay: Sunday, July 28 at 2 p.m. at the Kona Kai Resort, 1551 Shelter Island Drive. www.resortkonakai.com

free performance, part of

the Kona Kai's summer

beach concert series right

on the water, is the perfect

introduction.



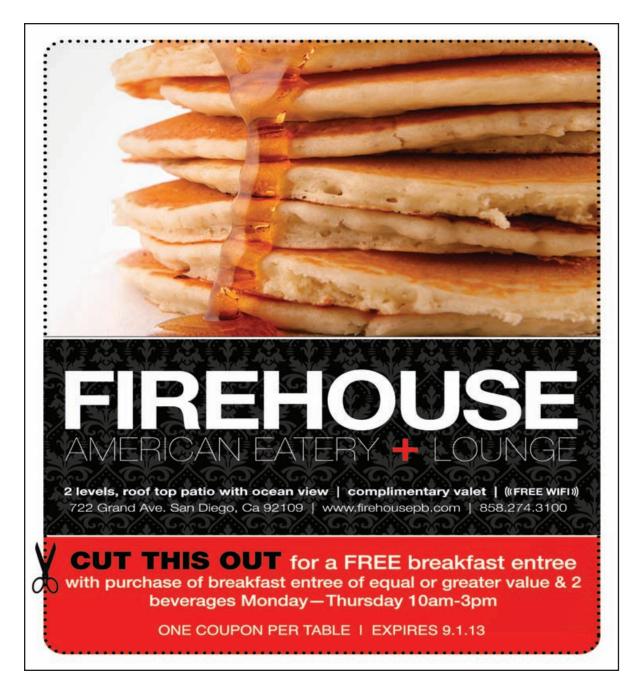
MUSTHEAR >>

The annual Concerts on the Green series at Kate Sessions Park kicks off with a bang on Sunday, July 21 with a performance from blues favorites The Bill Magee Blues Band. Magee has been performing since the 1960s, once a compatriot of Jimi Hendrix. An understated guitarist, Magee's tight, stinging style, full of short, sharp bursts of six-string fervor, keeps him at the forefront of local blues players. To date, Magee has only released a pair of albums, both worthy additions to any music lovers' collection. That said, Magee is someone you have to experience live for full effect.

• Bill Magee Blues Band performs at 4 p.m. on Sunday, July 21 at Concerts on the Green, Kate Sessions Park. All ages. Free. www.pbconcerts.org — Bart Mendoza







COLE TAYLOR MSRTGAGE

Councilman, assistant police chief prep for 620-mile cycling fundraiser

District 2 City Councilman Kevin Faulconer and San Diego Police Department Assistant Police Chief Shelley Zimmerman are gearing up for an arduous sevenday, 620-mile bicycle ride in October that event organizers hope will raise \$1 million for the Challenged Athletes Foundation (CAF).

The Dodge Million Dollar Challenge, slated to take place from Oct. 12-18, will cover a route from San

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The proceeds from the bicycle ride and fundraising effort will help the San Diego-based nonprofit purchase sports equipment for challenged athletes.

"This week-long bicycle journey will directly support veterans who have lost limbs in combat, first responders who have suffered traumatic injuries and all others who need help to overcome a permanent physical injury," said Faulconer.

"I am not a professional athlete or professional bicyclist," he said. "I am a San Diegan who believes that — together — we can make a difference through the power of San Diego's vibrant bicycling community."

Zimmerman was similarly enthusiastic.

"I am honored to have this opportunity to participate in helping bring awareness and raise the needed funds to assist our challenged athletes get off the sidelines and back in the game," said Zimmerman. "And, I do realize riding in the 620-mile Dodge Million Dollar Challenge will not be easy, but my challenge will pale in comparison to the challenges these athletes have overcome."

The CAF's bicycle ride will raise money for challenged athletes, including veterans, police officers

READY TO ROLL District 2 City Councilman Kevin Faulconer and San Diego Police Department Assistant Police Chief Shelley Zimmerman are training for a 620-mile bicycle ride in October to benefit the Challenged Athletes Foundation. **COURTESY PHOTO**

and children. Faulconer and Zimmerman have committed to raise \$12,500 each. About 100 people will join them on the journey, cycling side-by-side with challenged athletes.

It is the mission of the Challenged Athletes Foundation to provide opportunities and support for people with physical disabilities so they can pursue active lifestyles through physical fitness and competitive athletics. The Challenged Athletes Foundation believes that involvement in sports at any level increases self-esteem, encourages independence and enhances quality of life.

San Diegans can follow Faulconer's and Zimmerman's training progress and get information on how to donate by visiting facebook.com/KevinFaulconer and tinyurl.com/shelleyz.

— Staff and contribution

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REMEMBER WHEN? >>

I WISH I KNEW who took this picture and when. It shows Food Basket, of course, and Crystal Pier. On the left is the sign for Oscar's Drive-In. I'm guessing it's 1960. I got it from Pete Gerrity's phone. He apparently now lives in Columbus, Ohio and spotted Mission Bay High buddy Johnnie Wilding with me at Starbucks on July 4.

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





CANINE CAPERS

The Patio on Lamont Street recently hosted a Canine Comic Contest, a fun event designed to coincide with the opening of this year's Comic-Con. The third-place winner, left, was Herbie, a Jack Russell mix as Capt. Jack Sparrow with owner Maureen Minder both of Pacific Beach. The winning canine was, Max, right, a cocker spaniel dressed as Captain America. **COURTESY PHOTOS**







ENJOY THE BEAUTY OF OLD TOWN

STAGECOACH DAYS: CELEBRATING THE WILD WEST IN OLD TOWN Old Town San Diego State Historic Park is celebrating travel and transportation in the era of real horsepower at "Stagecoach Days" from noon to 5 p.m. on eight Saturdays in July and August, kicking off on July 6.

Sponsored by Fiesta de Reyes, the free event features a different theme each Saturday such as: Californio Day, Women of the West, Soldiers and Citizens, TwainFest and Taste of the Past.

Attendees will enjoy afternoons filled with activities that reflect life in early San Diego and celebrate the West on the move. Through vignettes, demonstrations, living history activities, stories and songs, visitors will gain an appreciation for early modes of transportation and daily life.

"This Stagecoach Days will be

the best one yet," stated Greg Gia-copuzzi. "There is a plethora of added activities for all ages to the event this year so visitors will get a true taste of what Old Town was like in the 1800s."

A special aspect that has been added this year is a passport program featuring collectable bookmarks for each of the Stagecoach Days. Anyone attending the event can go in to the Robinson-Rose Visitor's Center with their passport and collect a bookmark to commemorate the day. Special prizes will be awarded to those who can collect them all. The free passport cards can be picked up at any of the state park and Fiesta de Reyes merchants or at the Robinson-Rose Visitor's Center.
The 2013 Stagecoach Days

schedule is as follows:

July 6 – "Games and Amusements" -- In the 1800s, games and amusements were commonly associated with either large celebrations or after-school play days incorporating most of the local townspeople. This day will pay tribute to traditional amusements of the time such as egg races, tug of

war and circus performers.

July13 -- "Californio Day" Between 1821 through 1848, the people who lived in Southern California were called "Californios" rather than Mexicans. Those unique "Californio" cultural elements will be presented this Sat-urday such as gambling, paper flower making and horseback

demonstrations.

July 20 -- ""Women of the West"

-- Women played an important
part in the development of the

West. Some of the daily activities of these women will be demonstrated on this Saturday. Aspects of this day include a quilt walk, a fashion

show and carriage rides. Old Town San Diego State Historic Park, with the support of the Boosters of Old Town and a donation from Fiesta de Reyes, is proud to offer these free activities for adults and children of all ages. The park is located on San Diego Avenue and Twiggs Street in San Diego, and is conveniently located next to the Old Town Transit Center, with Coaster, Trolley, and MTS bus service. Free parking is available at the CalTrans headquarters, just two blocks from the park at 4050 Taylor St.

For more information, go to www.parks.ca.gov/oldtownsandiego.





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SeaWorld to celebrate 50-year anniversary with 18-month gala

SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment will launch a multi-park celebration to commemorate the opening of the original SeaWorld park on Mission Bay in March 1964.

SeaWorld's 50th Celebration will feature a Sea of SurprisesTM starting March 21 and take place at SeaWorld's parks in San Diego, Orlando and San Antonio for an 18-month celebration.

During SeaWorld's 50th Celebration, visitors can take part through new interactive experiences, shows and pathway performances, even more up-close animal encounters throughout the park and the SeaWorld "Surprise Squad" treating guests with prizes every day.

HIGHLIGHTS

· SeaWorld San Diego will celebrate 50 years with a new interactive entrance plaza. The area will be called Explorer's Reef and will open in March for the celebration kickoff. The 16-month construction project will transform the existing front-gate area through sculptural and design elements inspired by waves crashing over a reef, as well as up-close encounters with marine life. The new front-gate concept will replace existing ticket booths with a

SeaWorld San Diego will celebrate 50 years with a new interactive entrance plaza, transforming the front-gate area with sculpural and design elements.

beach-themed, concierge-style ticketing area that will provide guests with a single location to purchase admission, as well as sign up for tours, animal interactions and dining experiences.

From the moment they enter the park, guests can connect with the sea through multiple touch pools featuring shark pups, stingrays and cleaner fish. Explorer's Reef encompasses more than three acres, including new and innovative retail and culinary opportunities for guests. The multi-million dollar renovation effort will not only make entering the park faster and more efficient, but will significantly enhance the arrival experience.

• Expect more surprise encounters with animal ambassadors throughout the day. A pair of Magellanic penguins, a lemur or even a parade of flamingos could surprise guests at any moment at all three SeaWorld locations.

• The SeaWorld "Surprise Squad" will roam the SeaWorld parks giving away prizes and special gifts. Guests could receive exclusive access to rides or behindthe-scenes experiences, celebration T-shirts or Shamu-themed merchandise, reserved show seating and more.

- A series of giant sea-life sculptures will be displayed throughout the parks. SeaWorld commissioned environmental art group Washed Ashore for the large-scale art created from ocean debris. The works serve as a reminder that our animal friends need healthy envi-
- SeaWorld's 50th Celebration will include new ways for fans to

connect to the parks and each other though digital devices. The parks will be launching a variety of enhancements, from interactive apps that provide fun new ways to experience the park to new games and video content.

For more information and news about SeaWorld's 50th Celebration, visit www.seaworld.com/celebration.

Staff and contribution

BIKE PATH »

CONT. FROM PG. 3

projects like Rose Creek is to "expand the use of bicycles so people have the choice to ride."

Carterette said promoting active modes of travel like bicycling has a number of benefits, including "connecting neighborhoods and enhancing neighborhood character and economic development."

"We believe active transportation helps improve the quality of life and public health," Carterette said. "We want to give people more choice on how they get around, whether that be biking, walking, buses or other mass transit or the highwav.

SANDAG planner Chris Kluth said the idea is to "raise the bar with a bike plan that appeals to everyone who could potentially ride."

Noting there are segments of the population who always or never choose to ride bikes, Kluth said the target audience is those in

CLASSIFED MARKETPLACE

between who might ride if improvements like separated lanes, road shoulders and side paths are made to make bike paths safer and more attractive.

Kluth said the biggest challenge with redrawing the transportation map is "balancing the needs of cyclists and roadway users," adding that "parking is never not an issue."

For more information email chris.carterette@sandag.org, call (619) 699-7319, or visit www.keepsandiegomoving.com.

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PARKING »

CONT. FROM PG. 6

"Rarely does everything work right the first time. And with a city as large as this, costs will be larger and it will be more complicated implementing a citywide pilot," said Faulconer, who had proposed restricting the pilot program to the coast, and whose staff has labored for years hammering out the particulars of a workable oversize-vehicle ordinance. Under the pilot program, parking RVs and oversize vehicles like motor homes, vans and trucks with trailers would be prohibited from 2 and 6 a.m. without a permit.

The program allows RV owners to apply for a free annual permit to allow them to park on the street at their residence for up 72 hours at a time four times a month. Residents can also apply for a similar 72-hour permit for guests up to six times a year.

While bowing to the will of the City Council majority, Faulconer cautioned, "We need to implement an ordinance that works."

Conceding that oversize, illegally parked vehicles are a citywide problem, Faulconer added, "They take up valuable parking space in front of businesses and residences, blocking views, limiting access to driveways and are a major impediment to pedestrians

and bicyclists."

Gloria noted constituents in his downtown San Diego district didn't feel safe walking where oversize vehicles are parked. Gloria also asked that the city's Real Estate Assets Division look into finding places where RV owners could move to should they end up being displaced by the new oversize-vehicle ordinance.

Other councilmembers also weighed in on the pilot program.

"I'd ask that staff report a year after this ordinance is in place to see how we have done on the enforcement, and how happy the public is with the result," said

Councilman David Alvarez also stressed the need for citywide cohesion.

"We need to do this for the entire city, not just for one section of the city," said Alvarez. "If these are the rules we're going to live by in the city, then let's keep the rules the same for everybody."

District 7 Councilman Scott Sherman had his own take.

"Being an RV owner, I'm kind of torn on this issue," he said. "How do we take care of the problem without punishing those of us who live by the rules?"

The new citywide pilot program for oversize vehicles will come back to the City Council in a couple of weeks for a second reading before it takes effect.

ANNOUNCEMENTS 100

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BY TONY FRANCO

Another Garnet Avenue commercial property sold

The property located at 1968-1972 Garnet Avenue in Pacific Beach recently sold for \$890,000. The commercial property was leased to The Pretty Kitty, Princess Nails and two apartment units.

Income Property Investors,

Inc., led by Tony Franco, represented the seller in the transaction. The property was on the market for three months before a 1031 exchange buyer purchased the property with an all-cash down payment and quick close of escrow, another indicator that the market is strengthening.

The seller was Seth Reynolds, a local tattoo artist who owns Funhouse Tattoo located at 1453 Garnet Avenue. Reynolds specializes in Polynesian-style tattoos and has been in business for more than 10 years. The buyers were the Kollias Family and Konstantarakis family from Orange County.

This is the third real-estate transaction to happen on Garnet Avenue in the last six months.

The capitalization rate reported for this transaction was 6.9 percent. The price per square foot for the building was \$280 per square foot, while the land went for \$192 per square foot.

— Tony Franco specializes in coastal commercial real estate and can be reached at (858) 717-1697.







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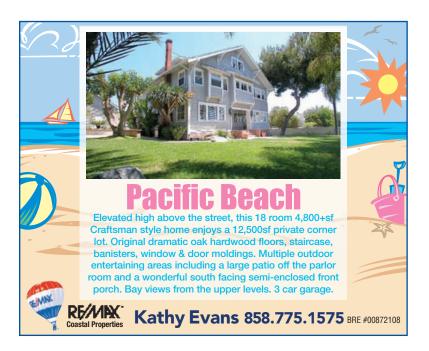
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