



SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER GROUP

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF MISSION BEACH!

Mission Beach civic groups, politicians, merchants and residents are preparing to launch the first in a series of months-long gala events to celebrate the long, rich history of this sunny beach paradise. A community walk and monument dedication is set for Saturday, March 22 to mark the centennial of Mission Beach, with a host of local movers and shakers preparing to join hands with friends and neighbors to celebrate the occasion. Story on Page 8



THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2014

BEACHANDBAYPRESS.COM





DOESN'T GET MUCH

BETTER THAN THIS IN PB Staff photographer Don Balch was on the hunt for photo possibilities recently when he came across these gems. Above, as Balch began to shoot his own picture of this gorgeous sunset, he noticed the silhouette of another man shooting the same setting sun and combined the two features into a single stunning photo. At left, Balch caught this candid shot of two ocean explorers taking a leap of faith and trying to keep their shoes dry along the tidepools at the Pacific Beach Point.

Bill could endanger SeaWorld's orca shows By DAVE SCHWAB

The heat is being turned up on SeaWorld San Diego to change its Bloom's bill. business model — the centerpiece of which is its killer-whale shows and trainers.

State Assemblyman Richard Bloom (D-Santa Monica) has introduced legislation that would ban SeaWorld from using orcas in tanshows at the marine-mammal park.

documentary "Blackfish," which bill." aired multiple times on CNN recently, points to animal abuse of orcas at marine parks — the inspiration behind his bill.

"There is no justification for the continued captive display of orcas for entertainment purposes," Bloom said. "These beautiful creatures are much too large and far too intelligent to be confined in small, concrete tanks for their entire lives."

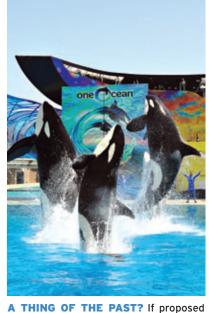
SeaWorld quickly responded to

"The premise behind this proposed legislation is severely flawed on multiple levels, and its validity is highly questionable under the United States and California Constitutions," said SeaWorld San Diego spokesman Dave Koontz. "We trust that our dem with trainers in those popular leaders who are responsible for voting on this proposal will recognize The assemblyman said the recent the clear bias of those behind the

> SeaWorld claims Bloom's backers on the bill are "well-known extreme animal-rights activists, many of whom regularly campaign against SeaWorld and other accredited marine-mammal parks and institutions."

The marine-mammal park insists

SEE ORCAS >> PG. 5



state legislation is passed by lawmakers, SeaWorld San Diego could be forced to halt one of its most popular features the performance of killer whales for audi-SeaWorld courtesy photo

Portions of PB streets to be car-free for March 30 cycling promotion By DAVE SCHWAB

Portions of Pacific Beach streets will be car-free on Sunday, March 30 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. to showcase the significance, benefits and joys of non-motorized transportation and to support and promote local merchants.

It is the second such CicloSDias event — a free celebration open to anyone biking, walking, strolling or skating — to be held in San Diego. This will be the first to happen in Pacific Beach. The first-ever car-free day was held in August 2013 in North Park and South Park in mid-city San Diego.

Its purpose is to connect local communities and encourage mobility, according to organizers.

SEE CYCLING >> PG. 13



PEDAL POWER Cycling advocates and Discover PB will sponsor CicloSDias on March 30 to showcase the significance, benefits and joys of non-motorized transportation and to promote local merchants. The event will involve the closure of a portion of Pacific Beach streets to enhance the car-free event like the one above last year held in North Park and South Park.

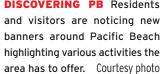
Discover PB continues to enhance community interests by Keith antigiovanni

Discover Pacific Beach (DPB) has made new strides in its mission to improve the community by adding 50 new street banners along sections of Garnet Avenue, Mission Boulevard, Mission Bay Drive and around Crown Point to highlight the various activities the area has to

DPB is also letting its member businesses know they have access to the public right-of-way program for such usages as "A" frame signs, displays or sidewalk-café seating.

Details from the DPB meeting

DISCOVERING PB Residents and visitors are noticing new banners around Pacific Beach highlighting various activities the



SEE **DISCOVER PB >>** PG. 7

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Tough questions on planned condo project By DAVE SCHWAB

tary School at Mission Boulevard and dents. Santa Barbara Place.

The school, which has been lightly because of declining student enrollfor the condo project.

In 2013, San Diego Unified School District Board voted 4-1 to accept a bid of \$18.5 million for the old Mission Beach Elementary School site.

The principals of the development company, who joined forces in February, have collectively developed more than 15,000 residential units, 2,500,000 square feet of office and industrial property and 5,000 units es. of master plans and subdivisions.

meeting and Q&A session at Santa McGowan said, adding the complex Clara Point Recreation Center, Chris

Developers with McKellar- McKellar, Tim McGowan and archi-McGowan unveiled preliminary plans tect Chris Barlow gave a brief presen-March 11 for a 63-unit, for-sale contation, displayed conceptual architecdominium complex on the 3.25-acre tural renderings of the project and site of the old Mission Beach Elemen- fielded tough questions from resi-

Concerns were raised about the prospect of the condo project worsenused since it was closed in 1996 ing traffic congestion, whether it presented a fire hazard and whether it ment, is now to be razed to make way might change the character of the beach community, including examples of noise and other problems by units being reused as short-term vacation rentals.

> McGowan said these individual, California coastal-style condo units that are 1,300 to 1,600 square feet in size will likely be priced at \$900,000plus. There will be four units in buildings likely to be constructed in phas-

"It will be in the higher-end range At the March 11 informational of what's in Mission Beach (now)," will be run by a homeowner's associ-



TOUGH CROWD Audience members packed an informational meeting March 11 to pepper developers with McKellar-McGowan with questions regarding a planned 63-unit condominium complex at the former site of Mission Bay Elementary School. Photo by Dave Schwab

SEE CONDOS >> PG. 4

Loss of farmers market sparks new MBHS funding ideas By DAVE SCHWAB

Now that the Seaside Farmers Market at Mission Bay High School (MBHS) is kaput because of high operating costs, the Mission Bay High School Alumni Association is switching to Plan B in its ongoing in April. fundraising efforts.

number of things: the sale of memorial "bricks" for the new \$13 million MBHS athletic facilities which broke ground Feb. 12, along with a 5K run the district were what tanked the

The farmers market, established a

And Plan B is likely to involve a year ago on a trial basis as a fundraiser with all proceeds benefiting MBHS, was closed after its last event March 8.

> "The custodial requirements by farmers market, unfortunately," said Kim Schoettle, president of Friends of

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Pacific Beach Secondary Schools, a nonprofit consisting of teachers, principals and parents supporting both Pacific Beach Middle and Mission Bay High schools.

Schoettle said the farmers market run by the MBHS Alumni Association provided grants to Mission Bay High for all sorts of things, including fans in the new weight room, murals and improvements to the gymnasium foyer.

"The Alumni Association has really helped improve the campus and these improvements would not have happened without the support and funding from them," Schoettle said.

She said the inaugural 5K run will

SEE MARKET >> PG. 5





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News

2014 MBHS seniors won't graduate on home turf by DAVE SCHWAB

the much-anticipated \$13 million Mission Bay High School (MBHS) athletic complex is under way.

The bad news is construction on that new sports complex will impact MBHS's graduating class of 2014, which now is forced to find a new venue for graduation ceremonies.

And, to the consternation of Clairemont High School.

"They finally broke ground at Mission Bay for the new sports complex, which is great news, unless you're a graduating senior," said Tom Norton, the parent of a graduating senior. "Not only did they [students] not get to use the new sports complex while at MBHS, but now they have no location for graduation.

" ... High school graduation is one of the biggest milestones in their lives that they will remember forever. This year, the Mission Bay seniors will have to hold their commencement ceremony at a rival high school in Clairemont."

MBHS principal Fred Hilgers, however, said his graduating students are largely fine with the Clairemont High option and countered that Clairemont is the best alternative, given the circumstances.

"Clairemont is not our rival," said Hilgers. "We don't play them in our sports."

sports complex construction would the kids would have had to do graduations."

tion ceremony, Hilgers said an allout effort was made to find viable alternative graduation venues.

He said he and a group of parents have sought alternatives for an alternative graduation venue. All possibilities proved to be either too expensive or inconvenient.

"We could have gone in with a some, that venue most likely will be couple of other schools and rented the Civic Center downtown, but PB parents decided they didn't want that," Hilgers said. "Viejas (amphitheater) at San Diego State was too expensive, as was the Jenny Craig Pavilion at University of San Diego. The costs were very prohibitive — in the tens of thousands of dollars."

> Hilgers said MBHS typically spends \$8,000 to \$10,000 on its graduation ceremony, adding the San Diego Unified School District at present provides a \$2,000 graduation subsidy to the school's senior

field is a beautiful venue, the price was right and that the school's field was available on Friday, June 13 the last day of this school year.

Pam Dietz of the MBHS Alumni Association, who joined the graduation venue search, agreed Clairemont is the best available alterative.

"We tried to get Liberty Station, When it became clear the new but it was just so much money that

The good news is construction on impact this spring's senior gradua-fundraisers to get it," Dietz said. "They'd rather spend that money on the prom and other things for the graduating class."

> Jerrilyn Goldberg, Mission Bay High's 2014 senior class president, said Clairemont High School "is a perfectly acceptable location for us. It's close enough to our school that we can easily transport decorations and students ... The stadium seats significantly more people than our old bleachers, so we can allow students to purchase as many tickets as they need. ... This location will allow graduation to be a community celebration available to more who may want to attend."

> Goldberg said, "After the initial confusion over where we would be graduating, everyone I've spoken to has agreed that spending on our other senior activities — prom and brunch specifically — is much more valuable than an expensive graduation ceremony location."

"Even so, we will be decorating Hilgers said Clairemont High's the field to better represent our school," Goldberg added.

> Hilgers said he and others are still open to other viable alterna-

> "Hey, if somebody can come up with an affordable money package, we'll do the logistics to move it," he said. "But it will have to happen soon, as parents will be sending out announcements for their kids'

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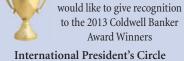
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CONDOS»

CONT. FROM PG. 2

ation that will "control a lot of things."

"The pattern of development is the same that's currently in Mission Beach, with front doors coming off courts and with parking in garages off alleys," said Barlow.

McGowan said the project originally had been proposed to have partial underground parking. But he said that idea was nixed by community planners and the city because it might "lose alleys, disrupt normal work patterns and threaten Mission Beach's character."

Plans for the as-yet-unnamed development also call for it to include a small population-based park that would provide green space and could have public art. But it would not be a sit-down, picnic-style

McGowan said construction on an approved project design would not likely begin for another year and a half, and take 18 months or more to complete once construction

begins.

Residents weighed in.

"I have concerns about the (high) density and about it being a fire hazard, which is a concern to all of us living in the area because we just had a traumatic experience with a fire," said one resident.

"I suggest low water-use landscaping," said another resident.

One prospective neighbor suggested there should be something in the terms of the sale of units requiring that those repurposed as vacation rentals be done on a month-bymonth basis, rather than week-byweek to avoid noise and other prob-

One resident challenged the project's appropriateness in general.

"You're not presenting anything here that's an asset to this community," he said. "You're going to cause great difficulty for the community, and it's not a project I'd like to see. Don't tell me you aren't maximizing profits."

After the meeting, McGowan said developers will spend the next month making all necessary project submittals to the city.

7 deadly mistakes that will cost you thousands when you sell your home

SAN DIEGO, A new report has homesellers make 7 deadly mistakes just been released which reveals 7 costly mistakes that most homeowners make when selling their home, and a 9-Step System that can help you sell your home fast and for the most amount of money.

This industry report shows clearly how the traditional ways of selling homes have become increasingly less and less effective in today's market. The fact of the matter is that fully three quarters of homesellers don't get what they want for their home and become disillusioned and - worse - financially disadvantaged when they put their home on the market.

As this report uncovers, most

that cost them literally thousands of dollars. The good news is that each and every one of these mistakes is entirely preventable.

In answer to this issue, industry insiders have prepared a free special report entitled "The 9-Step System to Get Your Home Sold Fast and For

To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this report, call toll-free 1-800-276-0763 and enter 1000. You can call any time. 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

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OBITUARIES

Alfred Strohlein, 80; veteran, SDCNG newsman

Alfred Cramer Strohlein — a passionate newsman with the San Diego Community Newspaper Group during its early days — was born in Riverton, N.J. to Adolf Strohlein and Ethel Cramer Strohlein on March 21, 1934.

He passed away at home in Pacific Beach on March 8, just shy of his 80th birthday.

Al grew up in New Jersey with sister Florann and brother Joe, spending many summers at the shore in Wildwood.

He enjoyed working at Groff's restaurant, his "best job ever," where he learned to recognize integrity, honesty, hard work and a marvelous sense of humor. After graduating from Camden Catholic High School, Al attended Drexel Institute of Technology for one year, where he joined the Reserve Officer Training Corps marching band. From there, he attended La Salle College in Philadelphia. It was at LaSalle he met Francis Sterling, who would introduce Al to his future wife, Catherine.

Al fulfilled his military obligation by joining the Navy after college in 1956. He attended Officer's Candidate School at the Naval Academy in Newport, R.I., then was assigned to the Pentagon for intelligence training. From there he was stationed in Coronado, which cement-Hong Kong and Hawaii.

from the department of art as recruited by the University of Mel-He traveled there by ship in Octothe university. He met many, good lifelong friends in Australia.

Al and Catherine married on Oct. worked at the Smithsonian Instituwhile Catherine worked across the his death. street at the U.S. Post Office. This



ALFRED CRAMER STROHLEIN

"Al Strohlein was an outspoken and spirited community activist who cared very deeply about San Diego and the democratic process."

JOHN GREGORY FORMER SDCNG MANAGING EDITOR

allowed them to commute together and "do lunch."

Daughter Katherine was born in ed his love for San Diego. His naval 1963, followed by Margaret exactservice took him on a trans-Pacific ly one year later. The family moved cruise to the Philippines, Japan, to San Diego in 1967, where daughter Maria was born. Al After he was discharged from the worked at UC San Diego in the Navy in 1959, Al attended Johns Office of Learning Resources in the Hopkins University, where he Biomedical Library. Al was a "plasobtained a masters of arts degree tic-embedding specialist." He embedded specimens like brain applied to medicine. He was slices into resin, which were used by medical students. While at bourne, which was establishing the UCSD, Al was charged with creatfirst illustration unit in Australia. ing a mold of a moon rock provided by NASA. He also classified slide ber 1961 and spent nine months at images produced by his department.

The family moved to Atlanta and then Los Angeles, but ultimately 27, 1962 in Philadelphia. Al returned to Pacific Beach in 1979. The home on Jewell Street in Crown tion's Natural History Museum, Point is where Al would live until

Al lost Catherine in 2010 and Church, 4735 Cass St.

struggled to carry on without her. Babe the cat, Al's recent pride and joy, helped Al with his depression and brought him a great amount of pleasure.

Al was also a published author and wrote several books: "Surviving Death"; "Don't Die in San Diego"; "The Valley of Tears;" "Angel of Amsterdam;" and "It's a Bungle Out There!" Al wrote his autobiography, which is nearly completed. Writing was a constant passion in his life.

He worked for the San Diego Community Newspaper group years ago, writing and editing for the group in its early days.

"Al Strohlein was an outspoken and spirited community activist who cared very deeply about San Diego and the democratic process," said former SDCNG managing editor John Gregory, who worked closely with Strohlein. "He wrote numerous eloquent letters to Beach & Bay Press, which stirred passions and offered readers an interesting viewpoint."

Family and friends said Al will be remembered for his raucous and infectious laugh and wicked sense of humor. He was an accomplished pianist and painted beautifully.

He fought for what he believed in and was known for his prolific letters to the editor and speeches to the City Council. He and Catherine were very active in local politics and were instrumental in slowing growth in Pacific Beach.

He was an accomplished author, musician, artist, chef and perfectionist. Al and Catherine were members of St. Brigid Catholic Church for more than 40 years and were active in the choir. Al often played the pipe organ at Masses throughout the year.

Al is survived by his three daughters, Katherine, Margaret and Maria (Jay Manning); and six grandchildren, Sebastien, Trevor, Isabella, Julian, Peter and Josephine. He is also survived by his sister, Florann; brother Joe; and Babe the cat.

A funeral Mass for Al was held March 19 at St. Brigid Catholic

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Doug Irwin, Jr., 58; PB resident and a man of many interests

ed a tree, "Slinky" to his basketball buddies, a Parrothead when Jimmy Buffett came to town, and a friend

Pacific Beach.

A. Douglas Irwin, Jr. was born 2014 at the age of 58.

He is survived by father A. Douglas Irwin, Sr.; mother Barbara

"Dougie Fresh" when you need- Irwin McCauley (Edward); sister involved in many businesses, Colleen Irwin (Martin Linder); brothers Michael, Christopher (Diana), Shaun (Cindy); nieces and to more people than you could ever nephews Jesse and Micaela Linder, Caroline, Connor and Campbell He made his home and his life in Irwin, Christopher Welsh, Patrick and Colleen Irwin.

Doug graduated from Lenape Feb. 18, 1956 and died March 5, High School and Rutgers University before finding San Diego and Pacific Beach.

For the next 34 years, he was

including the P.B. Christmas Tree Country, Pumpkin Patch and Hot Dog Stand.

A special thank you from his family for the loving care shown him throughout his illness. Frankie will forever be a brother for his dedication and friendship. He will be missed.

A celebration was held at Hoboken Pizza on March 15.

EDITORIAL

David or Goliath? Who really has your community's best interest at heart?

There's a battle for freedom and independence going on.

But this time, it isn't a British invasion. It's real-estate baron "Papa" Doug Manchester, the owner/publisher of the *U-T San* Diego.

Manchester has embarked on a grand plan to bolster his flagging metropolitan daily's readership by gobbling up local, independent pub-

Is it "Papa" Doug's intent to improve the local print product? Or are his acquisitions a thinly veiled attempt to buy out his competition so he can claim circulation increases and enhanced market penetra-

What does this consolidation bode for the future of San Diego's independent newspaper voices and our local readers who hunger for community news and insight about our neighbors and families? Is this a positive change benefiting the print newspaper industry as a whole or a harbinger of "land grabs" yet to come?

Examine the track record. A case in point is the sale of the North County Times, which "Papa" Doug purchased in September 2012, claiming he would maintain the publication's integrity and independence.

The end result: one-third of the Times' staff was subsequently laid off. Ultimately, the print edition of the North CountyTimes was folded into the *U-T*. Barely six months after the Times' acquisition by Manchester, the supposedly independent *U-T North County Times* name was dropped all together and a *U-T North County Edition* was produced, essentially wiping out community autonomy.

These are disturbing times in the local journalism industry, said Julie Main, publisher of the San Diego Community Newspaper Group, which publishes The Peninsula Beacon, covering Point Loma and Ocean Beach; Beach & Bay Press, covering Mission Beach, Pacific Beach and Mission Bay; and La Jolla Village News, which serves La Jolla, University City and the Golden Tri-

angle area.

"The media industry has changed drastically over the last 30 years," said Main. "Dailies failed to heed the warning signs from competition. Little by little, they lost insert business to direct mail. Shopper-type publications and local community weeklies gained momentum through direct delivery and market saturation, luring retail-advertising business away from the dwindling subscription numbers of the dailies.

"More recently, Craigslist devastated classified revenues," she said. "Plus, countless print, online, TV and radio outlets have vied for regional ad dollars. It does not come as a surprise that the *U-T* would try its hand in gaining back market share by buying out the competition as they did in North County, and now through the Main Street Media acquisition (the La Jolla Light and sister publications). We will continue to do business as usual, providing our readers with an independent voice. We will continue to publish fair and balanced local news coverage to these neighborhoods in print and online, as we've always done. We have a solid reputation for providing businesses with cost-effective advertising solutions that work. It's a natural win-win."

Noting the U-T "has deeper pockets than any of us," Jim Kydd, publisher of Coast News and Rancho Santa Fe News, emphasized these are, indeed, uncertain times for print journalism as a whole.

"We're going to keep doing what we've been doing for 28 years. We're still here, stronger than ever, with a very good reputation."

Perhaps more readers should begin asking the question: Will "Papa" Doug Manchester save San Diego's independent print media or plunder and profit from them, ultimately absorbing and digesting them?

Stay tuned.

– The San Diego Community Newspaper Group

ORCAS»

Bloom's supporters include "some of the same activists that partnered with People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals in bringing the meritless claim that animals in human care should be considered slaves under the 13th amendment of the U.S. Constitution — a clear publicity stunt. This legislation reflects the same sort of out-of-themainstream thinking."

Referring to SeaWorld and similar institutions as "abusement parks," animal-rights activists are increasingly calling on the marinemammal park to retire its orcas to seaside sanctuaries.

The animal-rights group People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals has also reportedly threatened to sue San Diego's airport for refusing to allow advertising urging visitors to not go to SeaWorld until the marine-mammal park changes its allegedly abusive policy of requiring animals to perform in entertainment shows.



help replace the lost farmers market Pete Hess, who are true professionals proceeds.

"Friends is having its first 5K run on April 26," she said, adding that a the "School Yard Dash" will include a one-mile fun run, a walk, a vender village, a YMCA rock-climbing wall, giveaways, medals, T-shirts and a delicious brunch along beautiful De Anza Cove/Mission Bay, beginning at 9 a.m.

"This is our largest fundraiser and so far we have exceeded our expectations for registrations and local business support," Schoettle said. "We have an amazing team of organizers, including High Performance Movement's Eric Marenburg and at organizing these sorts of events."

Anyone interested in supporting 5K event can www.schoolyarddash.org.

Pam Dietz, director of the MBHS Alumni Association, said it was regrettable the farmers market didn't work out in the end, but "we didn't want to gamble on holding it another year and not making any money."

"We want to sell memorial bricks for the new stadium," she said. "With that on the horizon, we really feel it is an opportunity to make a big impact."

"As one door closes, another opens," said Dietz,

MBHS principal Fred Hilgers said the farmers market will be missed.

"They funded some things within our art and science departments and for our lacrosse team that we couldn't fund with the normal San Diego Unified School District allocation," Hilgers said

He even adopted his dog there.

"The real upside of the market was that people — parents, faculty, kids would meet informally, hang out," Hilgers said. "It was a nice gathering place for the community."

Change is good - Bill Luther resigns from realty business

After 40 years in the realestate business, Bill Luther owner and founder of Bill Luther Realty, Inc. — has resigned as chairman and CEO. His new title is chairman emeritus. Assuming the title of chairwoman and CEO is Loretta Luther. The new chairwoman and CEO is none other than his wife and partner of more than 40 years. Loretta, in addition to becoming the new chairwoman and CEO, will continue as director of the vacation rental division, which she has headed for the last 15 years.

When asked about his retirement and changes, Bill said, "The role as COO and director of the truth is that Loretta has been doing that job for a number of years and I have been receiving the credit. It's time for the truth to finally come out."

In addition to naming Loretta as chairwoman and CEO, Deena Stoeff has been promoted to chief operating officer. Stoeff has been an integral part of Bill Luther Realty, Inc. for more than a decade and has been the director of the property management

division for the last 5 years. "

As the director of the management division, she has done more than demonstrated her outstanding management skills. Bill said.

"Under her guidance, the property management division has tripled in size over the last five years," he said.

Stoeff holds the designation of certified property manager (CPM) from the Institute of Real Estate Management, in addition to membership in the National Association of Realtors and California association of Realtors.

When asked about her new property management division, Stoeff said, "I will miss Bill being the boss. I started with Bill almost 15 years ago as his receptionist. He told me if I wanted to make a career in real estate he would teach me everything he knows and someday I would be running the business. He kept his word."

The brokerage division has been renamed California Listing Services. Damien Lyon has been promoted to manager and will assume the responsibilities of the brokerage for Bill Luther Realty, Inc. under the newly named division.

There will be a brand-new look and feel of the brokerage division with the launch of the California Listing Services website this coming month.

When asked about retiring, Bill said, "I would like to thank all of my clients, friends and colleagues who have made the last 40 years a rewarding and enjoyable career. I will be hanging around the neighborhood just in case the new bosses or my clients want to ask me a question or maybe seek some advice. However, my operational and brokerage duties are completed. I'm looking forward to spending more time spoiling my grandchildren, playing a little more golf and maybe lowering my handicap."

For mor information, call (858) 488-1580, or stop by their office at 3685 Ocean Front Walk,

CA ID# 01357686

Blondies: serving up delicious BBQ with warmth and woodsy humor

By DAVE SCHWAB



Blondies owner Wendy Dohner brings a little sass and a lot of humor to her new barbeque establishment on Garnet Avenue.

DAVE SCHWAB

BLONDIES
BROWNER
BROWNER
BROWNING
BLONDIES
BRO

pulled pork," Dohner said of her slogan, noting her special is

exactly that.

"I smoke it for 10 hours and stick it in the oven for another 10 hours so it's very tender, very juicy, with a very smoky flavor," she said.

She also offers a beef brisket marinated in honey barbecue sauce.

Blondies' menu also includes a full line of steaks including rib eye, tri-tip, New York and filet mignon, as well as a full selection of half-pound burgers and a one-pound, Western Bliss burger with bacon, cheese, onion ring and jalapeno peppers smothered in barbecue sauce. Rounding out the menu is

barbecued chicken and baby-back

Dohner said she's only been open a couple of weeks but is surprised by at least one thing about her Pacific Beach clientele.

"It's all been take-out, not a lot of dining in," she said. "PBeans are used to having things delivered."

With a flaming pig as her logo, Blondies already is catching fire in PB.

"It's downhome, very casual, warm, friendly, family oriented," Dohner said.

For more information, call (858) 274-4211.

Blondies is a barbecue joint with a sense of humor.

Named for the blonde tresses of its owner, Wendy Dohner, the new Pacific Beach eatery is sandwiched in between a Thai restaurant and Subway sandwiches at 2015 Garnet Ave.

"This is a fun place," assured Dohner, who referred to her eclectic establishment as "my little barbecue place."

The décor of Blondies is as novel as its owner, who previously had a barbecue place up in the Sequoias, five hours drive away. But she opted to trade the rain, cold and snow of Northern California for San Diego's sun, surf and laid-back beaches.

"This hole-in-the-wall place became available in this little shopping center and I decided to take it," said Dohner, who's brought the woodsy décor with her to the beachfront with its faux wood walls and handmade wooden tables and chairs.

"This is me," Dohner said, pointing to her busy walls that are covered with personal photographs, saucy sayings, Mickey Mouse memorabilia, license plates and publicity shots of heyday Hollywood stars Marilyn Monroe and James Dean.

"I'm a country girl with a little bit of New York flair," said Dohner, noting her decorations are participatory in that people are always contributing items to add to it.

Dohner said hers is the only barbeque restaurant now in the Pacific Beach area.

Some people expressed doubt that her outdoorsy décor would fit in with the beach, but Dohner disagrees.

"This is something people will talk about," she said.

The slogan for Blondies barbecue is "best butt at the beach."

"It's because my speciality is



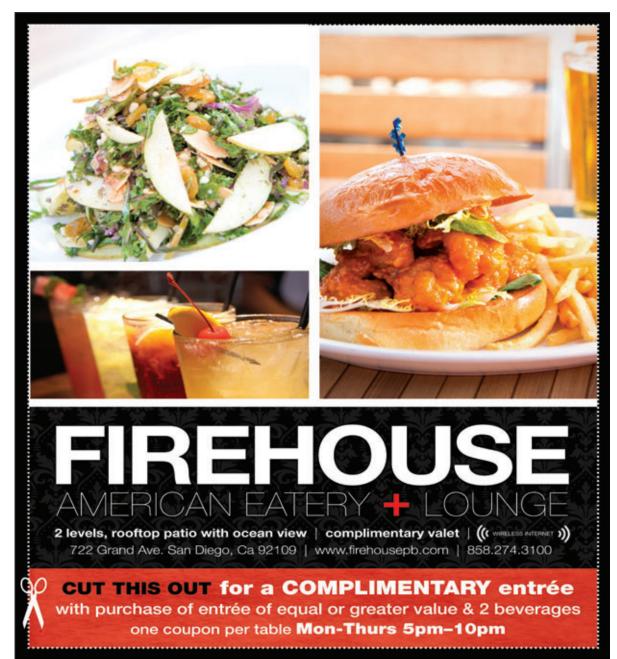


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Crosswalk project targets safety to enhance neighborhood

Mural, stop signs planned for intersection at Diamond and Haines streets

A crosswalk, which will be located at the intersection of Diamond and Haines streets in front of Pacific Beach Middle School, is in the final stages of approval from the city. The project, which has been spearheaded by the community group beautifulPB, will implement a threeway stop at the cross section and feature artwork from a local student.

The group held a design contest for 7th- and 8th-grade students to submit pieces for consideration. Once the artwork is selected, local artists will help transform the design concept into a practical mural to be painted by the community on the street in the center of the intersec-

The mural will be a creative interpretation of the vibrant Pacific Beach community, with an emphasis on culture, arts, food and music. Sustainable, weather-proof materials will be used to construct the piece.

"This is literally the first step for a network of safer routes we have planned to connect all the schools in dle School, located at 4676



our community," said Chris Olson, Ingraham St. co-founder of beautifulPB. "It's about community building and encouraging our students to walk, bike or skate to school.'

Work is set to begin on the cross-April. The pedestrian-oriented intersections and safer routes to school are two of many initiatives that will be discussed at a community Ecodistrict workshop at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, April 29 at Pacific Beach Mid-

BeautifulPB is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization consisting of active Pacific Beach residents, business and property owners working collaboratively to walk and intersection mural in improve the environment of the Southern California beach commu-

For more information, call Samantha Robinson at (716) 946-7319, or email samantha@luvsdsurf.com.

— Contribution

DISCOVER PB ..

CONT. FROM PG. 1

in March included discussion on a resolution to support the enforcement of illegal business operations within the district, specifically the Pacific Beach.

The board also discussed its financial arrangement and profit-sharing plan it has with north Pacific Beach resident Mike Spangler of Spangler Event Productions regarding the second annual North PB Sip and Stroll planned for August.

DPB president Elvin Lai provided an update on the fledgling Pacific Beach Parking Committee, which now includes two board members each from the DPB, Pacific Beach

Town Council and Pacific Beach District 2 seat between April and Planning Group. There is also a after the November election, when search under way to recruit four atlarge members to round out the committee.

In other announcements, the first annual CicloSDias is scheduled for Sunday, March 30 between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. and medical marijuana dispensaries in DPB will host its annual dinner and business awards March 27.

reports" portion of the meeting:

- Sara Boot introduced herself to the board and announced she will be running for now-Mayor Kevin Faulconer's vacant District 2 City Council seat in November.
- and charter DPB member Don Ave. Mullen announced his interest in applying for the special City Council appointment to temporarily fill the 273-3303.

the winner of that race is sworn in.

- Liz Studebaker, the business improvement district advocate with the Mayor's Office, reported the city is looking into locations for its bikeshare program that will not impact local bike shops.
- Julio DeGuzman of the City Attorney's Office gave a report on During the "community partners" the Pacific Beach Community Court that helps offenders with minor infractions perform community service and have their offenses expunged.

The monthly DPB meetings take place the first Tuesday of each • 30-year Pacific Beach resident month at noon at 1503 Garnet

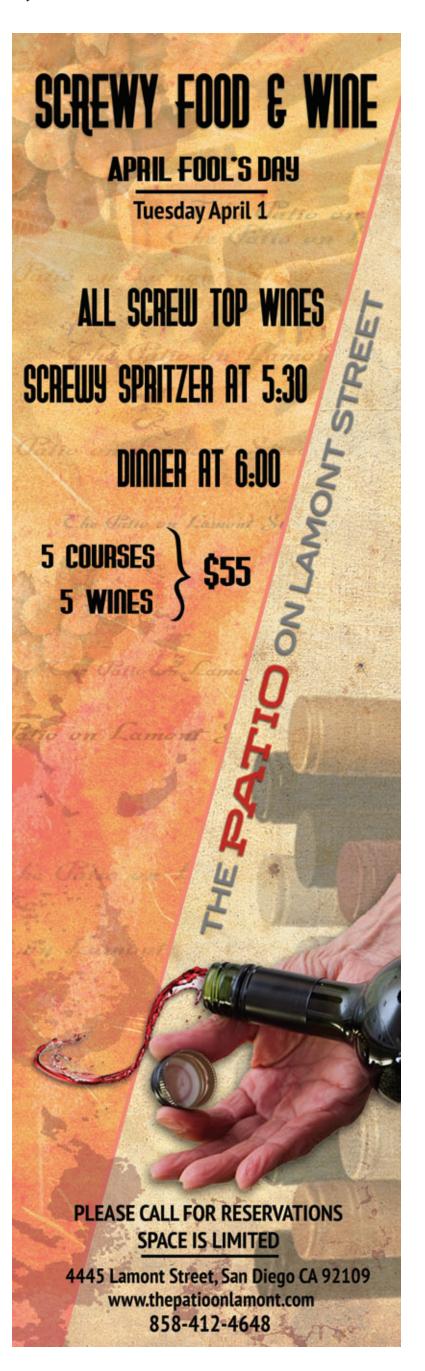
> For more information, visit www.pacificbeach.org or call (858)

Something's Fishy A brief history of April Fools' Day

We all know that April Fools' Day is celebrated by playing a light-hearted joke on a friend or family member, but few people understand how this tradition actually began.

While the exact origins of the holiday are unknown, several theories do exist. The most popular explanation dates the holiday back to France in the 1500's, when the Gregorian calendar was officially adopted and replaced the Julian one. This meant that the start of the new year was suddenly changed from April 1st to January 1st. News traveled slowly back then, and those who did not hear of this reform immediately, or who simply chose to ignore it, were ostracized by having paper fish secretly stuck to their backs. The victims of the prank were called "Poisson d'Avril,"--- "April fish"--- and this tradition still continues today among school children in many French-speaking countries.

The Patio will be celebrating April Fools' Day by hosting "Screwy Food and Wine Dinner," featuring eclectic courses paired with screw-top wines. Themed wine dinners are held the first Tuesday of every month, beginning at 5:30 p.m. with a welcome spritzer. To learn more or to make a reservation, call 858-270-9900 or visit www.thepatiosd.com.



Centennial set to hit high gear with community gala by DAVE SCHWAB

launch in a months-long series of events to commemorate Mission Beach's centennial, will be held Saturday, March 22 starting at 10 a.m. with a neighborhood walk followed by an 11 a.m. formal

The community is invited to join the processional by walking to Oceanfront Walk from their courts, then join speakers at the dedication site during a presentation of a city proclamation. Speeches will be given by Mayor Kevin Faulconer; Nancy Geller,

president of the Mission Beach Women's Club; and Scott Morrison, president of the Mission Beach Town Council. There will also be an appearance by Sea-World's Shamu Mascot.

The monument is being funded by the Mission Beach Women's Club and the Mission Beach Town Council.

"A boulder monument with an embedded, oxidized bronze plaque with sponsors' names will be placed in the southwest corner of Belmont Park between the bathrooms and the new

restaurant (under construction)," said Wendy Crain, centennial celebration co-chairwoman with Debbie Watkins for the event. "Residents will meet at the boardwalk, to include centennial committee members, who will walk to the monument for the mayoral proclamation. After that, we'll have refreshments with music from Mission Bay High School jazz band."

Refreshments for the free centennial celebration event are being supplied by Olive and Firehouse cafes, Caffee Calabaria and Bahia Resort Hotel.

Crain said the monument walk's special guests tennial, visit www.missionbeachcentennial.org.

A monument-plaque dedication, the symbolic will be on hand, including Mission Beach centennial's "instigator," local historian Phil Prather, who co-wrote "Images of America Mission Beach" with

> Another notable on the centennial guest list will be Elaine Harris, Mission Club Women's Club's "mascot" in the late '20s.

> The event will also feature a Mission Beach memorabilia sale, including T-shirts, house flags and the

The Mission Beach centennial beach "birthday"

features an event each month, continuing in April with a Taste of MB that will feature food samples from local restaurants. May's festivities showcase a surf contest and meet-the-legends event, followed in June with a Father's Day vintage car show at Belmont Park.

The party renews with a movie viewing at The Plunge pool in July and an August sandcastle event. The celebration concludes with a volleyball/horseshoes beachfest in early September and the grand finale, a

Sept. 27 Centennial Festival at Belmont Park/Ventura Boulevard.

The first big milestone in Mission Beach's history was June 14, 1914, when a syndicate headed by John D. Spreckles and managed by George S. Barney submitted a subdivision map surveyed by D.A. Loebenstein to the "Common Council" of San Diego for approval and acceptance in Dec. 14, 1914, the first official map of Mission Beach was signed and

For more information about Mission Beach's cen-



AN ICON OF MISSION BEACH While there is certainly plenty of rich history to celebrate over the last 100 years in Mission Beach, one of the icons that remains today is The Plunge, which opened in May 1925 as the centerpiece of Belmont Park. The 60-foot-by-175-foot pool was, at the time, the largest saltwater pool in the world holding 400,000 gallons of water. Courtesy photo

Mission Beach Centennial - Help Mission Beach Celebrate 100 YEARS





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LIVEMUSIC>>

By BART MENDOZA

One of the area's best-loved performers, Candye Kane appears at Tio Leo's on March 21. The bawdy blues singer's latest album, "The Power in You," contains plenty of Kane's signature sounds, but the cancer survivor has put together this inspirational album for a special reason. "Despite health problems over the past decade, Kane continues to be a live powerhouse, is on the road somewhere around the globe more often than not, and is one of the greatest ambassadors this city has ever had.

• **CANDYE KANE** performs at 9 p.m. on Friday, March 21 at TIO LEO'S, 5302 Napa St. 21 and up. Cover TBD. www.tioleos.com.

A good cover band should have a repertoire that appeals to a broad range of listeners. Night Shift, appearing at the Kona Kai Resort on March 22, certainly fits the bill. The quartet features male and female vocals, shifting between the classic rock of artists like Santana or Journey and new-wave groups like the Bangles or Romantics to a bit of soul and the occasional 1960s track, making for an effective live jukebox. Nothing too challenging here, but anyone wanting a good soundtrack for a Saturday night of dancing will find Night Shift to be



quite enjoyable.

• **NIGHT SHIFT** performs at 7 p.m. on Saturday, March 22 at the KONA KAI RESORT, 1551 Shelter Island Drive. www.resortkonakai.com.

Local quintet Random Radio does, indeed, sound like its name. Listening to one of its sets is like listening to a very good radio station. The key is that its set list includes modern hits by the likes of Lady Gaga, Foo Fighters and Bruno Mars, while also turning in great versions of classics by the likes of Badfinger, The Kinks ("Lola") and Chuck Berry. The band puts on an excellent live show. This band includes singer Jo-Z Williams, front person for San Diego Music Award nominees 321 Stereo, while drummer Ted Reed was a member of Tommy Shaw's (Styx) band for eight years.

• RANDOM RADIO performs at 9 p.m. on Saturday, March 29 at BEAUMONT'S, 5662 La Jolla Blvd. 21 and up. www.beaumontseatery.com.

Contemporary jazz fans won't want to miss Patrick Yandall,

appearing at Humphreys Backstage Live on March 30. Yandall's smooth, lyrical guitar playing has seen him release 16 albums since his 1992 debut, with songs appearing in such films as "Fruitvale Station" and "War, Inc." Meanwhile, his music continues to be used as a soundtrack on the Weather Channel, easily making Yandall one of the most-heard musicians in the area. His most recent album, "Soul Grind," is a worthy listen, adding funk and more dance rhythms, perfect for a performance like this.

• PATRICK YANDALL performs at 9 p.m. on Sunday, March 30 at HUMPHREYS BACKSTAGE LIVE, 2241 Shelter Island Drive. \$12. www.humphreysbackstagelive.com.

Dizzy's continues to be the place to go in San Diego for jazz. Among this month's highlights will be a performance from pianist Joshua White on March 15, backed by bassist Dean Hulett and drummer Danny Campbell. One of the brightest new talents to emerge from the local jazz community in the last few years, White has won major awards and acclaim from his musical heroes. He often plays as an accompanist to other notable musicians, but it's his own intense performances that have cemented his reputation as an artist on the rise.

• JOSHUA WHITE performs at 8 p.m. on Thursday, March 27 at **DIZZY'S,** 4275 Mission Bay Drive. \$15. www.dizzysjazz.com.

MUST SEE >>

Mission Bay High School's acclaimed eleven-piece student group The Preservationists will be going to New Orleans from April 17-20 to perform, learn and soak in the culture. To raise money for the trip, the band is holding a fundraising concert at Tango Del Rey on March 26. Featuring pianist Sue Palmer alongside the Preservationists, the night will showcase the music of the Crescent City and selections from their most recent album, "New Orleans Preserves." The trip will see the Preservationists perform on historic stages. "We have already set up shows at Preservation Hall, WWOZ New Orleans Radio and the New



Orleans Jazz and Heritage Museum," said the school's musical director, JP Balmat. "We are also setting up special workshops/master classes with professional musicians in the city. We are hoping to give students the trip of a lifetime, learning traditional jazz from its birthplace."

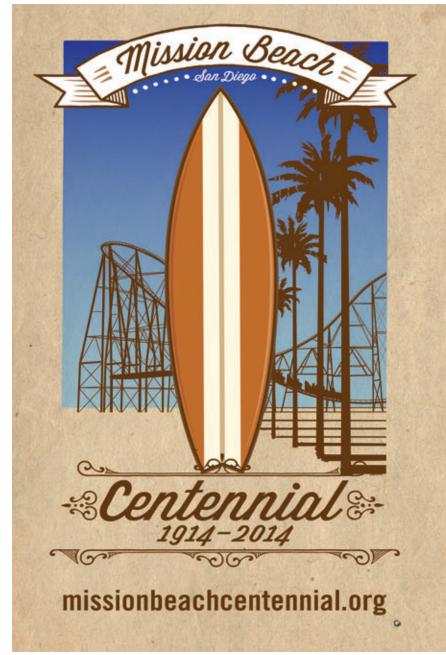
• MBHS NEW ORLEANS **FUNDRAISER:** Wednesday, March 26 at TANGO DEL REY, 3567 Del Rey St. \$10. 7 p.m. All ages. www.tangodelrey.-

MUSTHEAR>>

San Diego's elder statesman of blues, Tomcat Courtney has a new Monday-night residency at The Patio, beginning at 6 p.m. For these shows, he performs solo, but Courtney has been an inspiration to generations of the area's players. A who's who of great musicians have passed through the ranks of Courtney's bands since he first arrived in San Diego in the early 1970's. Now in his 80s, Courtney remains one of the busiest performers in town, a music icon every San Diegan should make a point to see in concert at least once.

• TOMCAT COURTNEY performs at 6 p.m. on Mondays at THE PATIO, 4445 Lamont St. www.thepatioonlamont.com.

— Bart Mendoza



Mission Beach Lentennial Lelebration kicks off with a

MONUMENT DEDICATION & RESIDENT WALK

SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2014 10AM WALK & 11AM DEDICATION

> Located at the southwest corner of Belmont Park & Oceanfront Walk

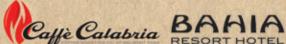
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Mission Beach residents are invited to join in a community stroll along the Boardwalk from their courts at 10 am to the Monument Dedication at Belmont Park, Centennial Hosts will be located along the Boardwalk and will lead the residents to the dedication site. The Dedication will include the unveiling of the Centennial Monument, a City Proclamation to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Mission Beach, and speakers from the community.











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EDUCATION NOTEBOOK >>

MISSION BAY HIGH SCHOOL

MBHS IB Music Program is in the middle of our March fundraising campaign. The goal this year is to take our top music ensemble, The Preservationists, on a once-in-a-lifetime trip to New Orleans — the birth place of jazz. With your help, the only traditional youth jazz band in PACIFIC BEACH ELEMENTARY Southern California can make history. For more details or to donate, visit missionbaymusic-donate.crowdtilt.com/send-the-preservationiststo-new-orleans.

PACIFIC BEACH MIDDLE SCHOOL

- "May Peace Prevail on Earth" is the theme of this year's community open house on March 27 at PBMS IB World School. Join leaders from local government, the San Diego Unified School District and Rotary International as PBMS and their Partner in Education (Mission Bay Rotary). unveil and dedicate an international peace pole in the PBMS Waves of Green student garden. The dedicais from 5:30 visit www.sandi-.net/pbmiddle.
- The Builders Club will don their pajamas to take over the Mission Bay Kiwanis meeting on March 20 at the

lor K. and board members Juan T., on Friday, March 21 from 6 to 10 Jonea T. and Sydney J. from PBMS will lead the meeting.

CROWN POINT JMA

Crown Point Junior Music Academy will host an auction on Saturday, March 22 from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Mission Bay Yacht Club, 1215 El Carmel Place. Tickets are on sale now in the school office at \$15 per person or \$25 per couple. Dinner and entertainment is included.

- Thank you to Big Kahuna's for hosting a wonderful Family Fun Night Fundraiser on Feb. 27. We enjoyed a great night out!
- Buy your tickets now for our Mardi Gras Gala & Auction on April 25. The event will be held at the Soledad Club. The Euphoria Brass Band will be performing its 2nd Line Parade, along with traditional and contemporary New Orleans-style music. Tickets can be purchased in the front office.
- The school garden has just received Garden To Cafe (G2C) certification. Our students are germinating seeds in our new greenhouse, planting starts in our beautiful raised beds and harvesting the edibles for 6 p.m. For more information, or lunch in the cafeteria. Each class has dedicated space in our nearly 5,000square-foot "outdoor classroom."

KATE SESSIONS ELEMENTARY

Please join us for the Friends of Broken Yolk. Student president Tay- Kate Sessions Auction Event

p.m. at the Soledad Club. The evening will include food, live music, a silent and a live auction. Every dollar earned supports the students and programs at Kate Sessions Elementary. Tickets are \$20. To purchase tickets online, visit www.sandi.net/sessions.

FRIENDS OF PACIFIC BEACH SECONDARY SCHOOLS (FOPBSS)

- March 26: FOPBSS meeting at 6 p.m. at Pacific Beach Middle School.
- Register for the School Yard Dash 5K Run on April 26. Our largest fundraiser is the School Yard Dash 5K Run on April 26 and now is the time to set up your teams. The event features a kids' fun run, a walk, a 5K run, a delicious brunch and a vendor village. All proceeds benefit MBHS and PBMS enrichment programs. Register now at www.schoolyarddash.org.

MBHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Thank you Cori Meara and the entire MBHS Alumni Association for all of your wonderful donations to MBHS due to your work with the Seaside Farmers Market. The market will truly be missed, as well as the camaraderie of seeing all our friends on Saturdays as we shopped.

View the complete school calendar at bbp.com.





Hubbs, MBHS team on oceanographic education

Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute's (HSWRI) research scientist and Seabass in the Classroom (SITC) program coordinator Mike Shane was expected to deliver juvenile white seabass to Mission Bay High School in San Diego on March 13 in furtherance of local education.

The SITC program incorporates a hands-on learning experience into a school science curriculum and couples it with field activities related to the release of cultured marine fish. The program teaches students about aquaculture and stock enhancement by growing, feeding, tagging and releasing the fish into local waters.

The juvenile fish have been cultured and raised at HSWRI's Carlsbad fish hatchery since December 2013 and are now ready to "go to school" as part of Mission Bay High School's brand-new Seabass in the Classroom education program. Mission Bay's program is one of five local school programs that will benefit from expansion of the Institute's SITC program because of the ongoing support of SDG&E and other private local donors and part-

In August, the SDG&E Environmental Champions program renewed its grant support toward the SITC educational school program at \$25,000.

The SDG&E Environmental



OCEANOGRAPHIC EDUCATION For the first time, students at Mission Bay High School will have a chance to partner with the Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute in the hands-on Seabass in the Classroom program. Courtesy photo

benefit students in the local community who might not otherwise have the opportunity to expand their educational horizons and explore the exciting potential of a endeavors in marine research, envi- marine fish. ronmental or related sciences.

Once released, the students' culembedded in their cheeks.

This HSWRI program is an exten-Enhancement and Hatchery Program (OREHP). OREHP is the result Champions program is designed to of an extraordinary partnership Walters at (858) 273-1313.

between California state resources and agencies, public utility companies, fishers, fishing groups and the scientific community to restore the depleted populations of recreationcareer or higher educational ally and commercially important

OREHP releases thousands of fish each year and on Aug. 21, it tured seabass are tracked by tags released its two millionth white seabass. Adult fish have been recovered up to 13 years after release and sion of the Ocean Resources more than 350 miles from their

For more information, call Steve

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CYCLING » CONT. FROM PG. 1

CicloSDias is co-sponsored by the San Diego County Bicycle Coalition and Discover PB, the beach community's business improvement district (BID).

Sections of streets in Pacific Beach will be closed to car traffic along Garnet Avenue from Ingraham Street to Mission Boulevard, including Cass Street from Garnet Avenue to Turquoise Street and from Turquoise Street to La Jolla Mesa

Street parking is affected at midnight the night before until 5 p.m. the day of the event to allow for street cleaning. Cars parked on the route after midnight will be towed, according to organizers.

In addition to the road closures for the route itself, side streets along the route will also be effected. Streets one block east (Dawes) and west (Bayard) of Cass Street will be closed to traffic and will be "No Parking" areas. Streets two blocks south of Garnet (Hornblower) will also be closed to traffic and parking.

"No Parking" zones are from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 30. Streets close officially at 9:30 a.m. and will reopen at 3 p.m.

The car-free day is an opportunity for people to experience Pacific Beach from a different perspective, said Sara Berns, Discover PB's executive director.

"CicloSDias is a chance for local people, and hopefully from neighboring communities, to really experience a portion of our business district without the constraint of cars and to really slow down and check out all of the great businesses you might miss while driving by," said Berns, who noted Pacific Beach businesses are encouraged to participate by being allowed to set up in front of their businesses for this one day only for any outdoor display or seating.

Berns said, however, that all health department, ABC and city regulations must still be followed. For example, no cooking outside is allowed by businesses, but setting up tables and chairs for people to sit and eat food ordered from inside is per-

"This is an opportunity to see some of the great movements in public space that are happening all over and show PB what could be," said Berns. "We hope everyone comes out and takes a ride or stroll along the route with their family and friends to check out PB in a new

Andy Hanshaw, executive director of San Diego County Bicycle Coalition, which spearheaded last year's first CicloSDias, said the roots of the cycling event can be traced to Bogata, Columbia, which held similar pro-cycling events as a "response to pollution and traffic congestion."

Ever since, non-motorized days have been embraced internationally, including in the United States. Hanshaw said five such events were held last year in the Los Angeles

Hanshaw said the goals of CicloS-Dias events are many.

He said the March 30 event should benefit Pacific Beach.

"It's a great opportunity in the non-tourist season to get more people into the beach community, and for local residents to really see the



THE FACES OF FUN The CicloSDias event is, of course, intended to be a fun, family-oriented event. Courtesy photo

community," he said. "We're excit- events in different neighborhoods of ed to be working with the PB community. This is a great opportunity for people of all ages to come together and move about in an entirely dif-

Moving forward, Henshaw said the idea will be to host CicloSDias

San Diego to introduce residents to the advantages of non-motorized

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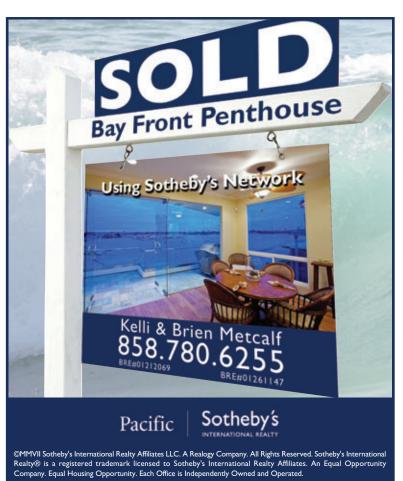


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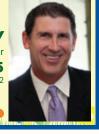




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