

Oceana Coastal Kitchen recently opened at the Catamaran Resort Hotel and Spa, offering California cuisine and ocean-inspired design to Pacific Beach

PAGE 7



Why are San Diego sunsets better in the winter?



The low tide and the high clouds combine to make an amazingly beautiful 'butterfly effect' sunset at Crystal Pier in Pacific Beach this winter.

PHOTO BY EVGENY YORUBE

What makes spectacular sunsets glow? The reason is in the season

EASY TIPS FOR SHOOTING STUNNING SUNSET PHOTOS

For smartphones

■Silhouettes – As with all photos, sunsets need a point of interest, and one of the best ways to add one is incorporating the silhouette of something that is part of the environment – like a palm tree, pier, or person – into the shot. Silhouettes add mood and context to a sunset or sunrise shot.

■Rule of thirds – Remember the rule of thirds while shooting sunrises and sunsets. It's often a good idea to place elements like the horizon, sun, and silhouettes off center.

■Filters – A filter app that uses high dynamic range (HDR) exposure may work the best for taking dramatic sunset shots.

Source: digital-photography-school.com

By THOMAS MELVILLE

As the sea swallows the sun, the golden hour begins to paint its splendid tapestry of colors across the sky, spinning reds and bouncing blues off clouds to create a saturation of hues that radiate in one's soul. Or at least in one's iPhone.

Instagram feeds and Facebook walls have been brightened by San Diego sunsets for the past six weeks as nature's color palette has been magnificent during the early evenings of winter.

But why? What makes this season a stunning sunset kaleidoscope as opposed to summer?

The simple answer? It's the clouds. "It seems January and February have the best sunsets," said Courtney Davis, a local photographer who likes to shoot around La Jolla and

'It's the cloud patterns in the winter that bring out more colors. It's a great show before May Gray and June Gloom.'

COURTNEY DAVIS
LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHER

North County and whose Instagram (@seamerias) feed is loaded with sunsets. "It's the cloud patterns in the winter that bring out more colors. It's a great show before 'May Gray' and 'June Gloom' set in."

The difference in seasons brings a difference in clouds.

"During the winter, we get more storms that move to the north; they don't bring rain, but they do leave

behind these high clouds," said Ivory Small, science and operations officer at the National Weather Service station in San Diego.

All the colors of the spectrum are in the atmosphere, and it's during sunrise and sunset that those colors are at a sharp angle and the clouds act as a prism separating them – especially the reds, pinks, and oranges. "High clouds are the canvas for the light in the red spectrum," Small said.

Another factor that gives winter sunsets that extra visual value is low tide coinciding with the early sunsets, which creates a reflection of the crimson sky and takes photos to another level of wonder.

"I love low tides and clouds," said local photographer Evgeny Yorobe

SEE **SUNSET**, Page 13

Revenge porn site operator guilty

Former PB resident may face 20 years

By NEAL PUTNAM

Following 14 hours of deliberations over three days, a jury convicted a Pacific Beach man Feb. 2 of six extortion charges and 21 identity thefts in connection with his operation of a "revenge porn" website, which displayed photos of nude women and required fees ranging from \$299 to \$350 for their deletion.

The eight-woman, four-man jury deadlocked on a conspiracy charge and another identity theft count against Kevin Bollaert, 28, but he faces 20 years in prison at his April 3 sentencing for the 27 guilty verdicts he received.

SEE **REVENGE**, Page 13

Competency trial for Behan set for March 3

A mental competency trial was ordered on Feb. 9 for a man accused of stabbing a woman near Belmont Park because her smoking bothered him.

Terrance Alphonse Behan, 71, is charged with felony assault with a deadly weapon in the stabbing near Belmont Park in Mission Beach last July 18.

An initial doctor's report said Behan was competent to stand trial, but a second evaluation cast doubt on whether the defendant can assist his attorney at trial. Judge Joseph Brannigan scheduled a competency trial set for March 3.

About 10:30 a.m. on the day of the crime, Behan allegedly stabbed a 54-year-old woman in the chest in the 3000 block of Mission Boulevard then threatened a man and his family, according to San Diego police. Behan also is charged with making a criminal threat.

Ocean Beach loses a friend; community mourns Hodad's owner Mike Hardin

By THOMAS MELVILLE

Mike (Bossman) Hardin was more than just hamburgers and Hodad's. He was a friend, father and favorite son of this eclectic beach community, nestled on the western edge of

Point Loma.

When news broke of Hardin's death on Thursday, Feb. 5, residents of Ocean Beach started a makeshift memorial in front of the restaurant on Newport Avenue by leaving flow-

ers, photos and messages. By Friday morning, news had spread, and mourners from all of San Diego were paying their respects.

"Mike's generosity and kindness had such a huge impact on Ocean Beach. It won't be the same without him," said Chanti Kalagian, a native of Ocean Beach, who taped a sign on Hodad's window that read "RIP Bossman. OB will miss you, Mike!" "I wanted to show my support," Kalagian said. "He was a friend to everybody. I can't believe it."

Hodad's Burgers, with venues in Ocean Beach, downtown and seasonal at Petco Park, were closed Feb. 6 in honor of Hardin and Feb. 7 in tribute to a co-worker who died in an auto accident.

Hardin, 56, was found in a suburban Fresno hotel Feb. 5 after he went to Northern California to visit his daughter. According to the autopsy results, Hardin died of natural causes.

Hodad's, which was already a local institution, gained national attention in 2007 when the restaurant was featured on the Food Network show "Diners, Drive-ins and Dives."

That led to Hardin and other "Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives" alumni working together with The Mess-lords — a nonprofit group of chefs who travel around the world to cook for U.S. troops in spots like Japan,

Guam, Egypt, and Dubai.

Begun in 1969 by Hardin's parents, Byron and Virginia, who purchased both the business and its name, Hodad's was originally located on the beach at the end of Santa Monica Avenue. In 1991, after several moves, the restaurant opened at its present location on Newport Avenue in the heart of Ocean Beach.

"Hodad's started out as just a hamburger stand on the beach, no décor or anything," said Hardin last summer in a Peninsula Beacon story marking the restaurant's 45th year. "Part of our success is that people see how genuine it is."

The eatery features historic photos, walls covered with license plates from all over the world and surfboard-shaped seats. It also features a line out the door and down the block just about every day in the summer. A giant menu board over the customer counter proclaims, "99 Gazillion sold," and it may be right.

"Hodad's has such a positive ener-



Ocean Beach native Chanti Kalagian tapes a sign on Hodad's window that reads "RIP Bossman. OB will miss you, Mike!"

PHOTO BY THOMAS MELVILLE

gy," said Jill Varney, an Ocean Beach resident who came out to see the memorial in front of the restaurant. "Mike and his staff were always very kind to all their customers. It's such a tragedy he's gone. It's really sad."

The name Hodad's is derived from the 1950s beach term for surfer wannabes who were into cars, music and counterculture style, but it had become synonymous with describing Hardin, who was as original and unconventional as his restaurant.

- Dave Schwab and Martin Jones Westlin contributed to this story.



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Planning under way for Mission Bay Gateway project

Pacific Beach Planning Group looks to lead on De Anza Cove redevelopment

By DAVE SCHWAB

Now that the De Anza Cove lawsuit has finally been settled and mobile home owners will be moving out, the question now becomes, what's to become of that real estate?

Pacific Beach planners have distinct ideas about what they'd like to see with the process involving an evolving plan determining how the site will be redeveloped.

"Now that the lawsuit has settled, the Pacific Beach Planning Group (PBPG) is getting in front of the planning for the De Anza Cove," said planning group chair Brian Curry. "We have met with city planners and council district representatives, and the first item to address is funding."

Curry said initial planning for redevelopment of the De Anza Cove site would involve District 2 Councilwoman Lorie Zapf asking the city to fund a three-year process:

- Year 1, project start-up/public outreach;
- Year 2, public outreach/start environmental impact report (EIR);
- Year 3, submit EIR to Development Services Department (DSD)/Project Adoption.

"We intend to lead rather than fol-

'We intend to lead rather than follow the City through planning.'

BRIAN CURRY
PBPG CHAIRMAN

low the City through planning," said Curry, adding, "We are strongly encouraging the City to accelerate the process given the De Anza property is a one-of-a-kind public property. Our planning efforts will focus on 'public' use. This is 'our' property for the enjoyment of the public."

PBPG colleague Scott Chipman agreed that fast-forwarding planning as much as possible is critical for this prime piece of property.

Chipman noted the De Anza peninsula is designated as a "special study area" within the Mission Bay Master Plan, which is being updated.

"Now that special study can start," he said, adding what the planning group and community members are saying is, "Don't just look at the peninsula. Let's look at the entire corner of Mission Bay Park and plan it as



The Mission Bay Gateway project seeks to connect and enhance existing facilities while also protecting marshlands.

COURTESY GRAPHIC

all one recreational, educational and environmental component to the Bay." The Mission Bay Gateway project seeks to connect and enhance

existing facilities while also expanding and protecting the Mission Bay marshlands and bird sanctuaries. Bike paths and parks will be extended,

and new amenities like pools, sports fields and a restaurant will be added for the community and visitors to enjoy.

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New competency hearing date for driver charged with DUI

A mental competency hearing set for Feb. 9 was postponed to Feb. 20 for a woman who was allegedly on drugs when she drove into a group of cyclists on Fiesta Island, critically injuring one rider.

Theresa Owens, 49, is charged with driving under the influence of a controlled substance and possession of methamphetamine.

A report issued in December found that Owens is mentally competent to stand trial, but the defense requested a second evaluation. Defense attorney Brian Schmidt told Judge Joseph Brannigan that he has not yet received the second report.

Owens allegedly drove the wrong way on a one-way road about 6:30 p.m. on Aug. 12, plowing into a group of 16 to 20 cyclists, hitting 10 of the riders head-on, according to Deputy District Attorney Jessica Coto.

One of the riders, 43-year-old Juan Carlos Vinolo, suffered permanent paralysis from the waist down when struck by the vehicle.

Owens was taken to a hospital, where a baggie of meth was found in a body cavity, the prosecutor said.

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Great News keeps on cooking into its 38th year

By DAVE SCHWAB

Great News in Pacific Beach is a tool store for a cook.

That's how founder Ron Eisenberg described the cookware and cooking school at 1788 Garnet Ave.

"We're in our 38th year," said Eisenberg about his strip-mall establishment, which has been in business since 1977.

Eisenberg said Great News started out as more of a "housewaresy, functional giftware store with a greeting card department," and has morphed over the years to include a full-on cooking school in a retail store selling "high-quality cookware and gadgets, kitchen tools for the home chef."

What's really unique about Great News is the approximately 135 classes taught each quarter, nine a week and both days on the weekend, said Eisenberg. He noted that class subject matter includes everything from "how to stock your pantry to a skills class taught by a sophisticated restaurant chef to everything in between."

Cooking classes are 2 ½ hours long with an intermission and cost \$49 to \$65. Great News is also the only cooking school of its type with a legal permit to serve wine with meal preparation.

Cookware and cooking classes at Great News mirror trends happening outside in the field. Right now,

GREAT NEWS

■ There is 5,200 square feet of retail space packed with cookware, bakeware, gadgets, cutlery, electrics, scales, linens and gourmet food items.

■ Classes: 135 cooking classes taught each quarter, nine a week

■ Where: 1788 Garnet Ave.

■ Info: www.great-news.com

what's really popular is the farm-to-table trend.

"We teach a farm-to-table class where we bring a farmer's bag in of specialty produce and then show people how to cook from it," said Eisenberg. "They walk out with recipes for the unique items they got that day in their basket. Instead of having to guess what to do with it — we show them how to do it."

Eisenberg enthused about his staff, both on the cooking and cookware sides. "We have an educated staff that know what they're selling. That makes us different," he said.

Tammy Ford is one of the store employees who helps handle customer queries.

"A lot of people love to come to this store because we're pretty knowledgeable about the items," Ford said.

"Sometimes they come in because they know we have everything new," said Eisenberg. "Other times they come in for a cooking class to learn something."

"We get phone calls and people walking in who want to know how to use a particular item," said Ford. "We help them with that."

"We're above average at trying to help people select the right item for their cooking style," said Eisenberg about his business philosophy. "We try and communicate with them."

Cookware in Great News is compartmentalized. Entire sections are devoted to cooking oils and herbs, coffee and tea, cutlery, condiments, Asian cookware, roasting pans, barbecue-related items and bakeware. Nearly an entire aisle alone is devoted to cookie cutters. Even specialty items, like comfortable, customized high-end kitchen mats that cushion a cook's feet, are available. There's even a blender costing more than \$1,000 that Eisenberg refers to as a "Rolls Royce."

In honor of its 38th year in business, Great News has a promotion going offering discounted items, gift certificates and shopping sprees to customers ending on Feb. 16 with a prize drawing.

"There are 38 prizes in all and you don't have to be present to win," said Eisenberg.

"We're a destination store," concluded Eisenberg about Great News' widespread appeal.

Eisenberg said the industry is exciting because, with technology, it's constantly changing.



Great News founder Ron Eisenberg in his store located in Pacific Beach.

PHOTO BY DAVE SCHWAB

27 easy tips to get thousands more for your home

SAN DIEGO. Because your home may well be your largest asset, selling it is probably one of the most important decisions you will make in your life.

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CORRECTION ON HIGH HEELS DANCE CLASS

■The info box that ran with the story "New dance class in PB introduces high heel workout" had the wrong information. The correct information is below:

■Classes at Fitness West are held Thursday nights and do not require a gym membership. For those who plan to attend classes regularly, punch cards can be purchased for \$10 per class, or drop-ins can pay \$12 per class. Hip Hop Fusion is from 6:45 to 7:45 p.m. and Heels is held from 7:45 to 8:45 p.m.

■Fitness West is in the Pacific Plaza II shopping center at 1880 Garnet Ave. For more information, visit www.niaradance.com



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This hero may have cast you in his latest novel

By MARTIN JONES WESTLIN

"The Homeless Hero: a Novel," award-winning author Lee Silber's 22nd book, is dedicated "to all those who have faced adversity and risen above it." The nod may sound somewhat generic, but be assured that Silber, an inveterate surfer who set his book in the La Jolla area, knows of what he speaks. He spent a while off the waves in the body and soul of a homeless person as research for the story. His actual street time totaled less than a week, during which he got the flu and burned through the \$40 he allowed himself; even so, he marvels at the very special stamina of those so circumstanced.

The 263-page entry, from Deep Impact Publishing, is available on amazon.com.

"It's a tough life," he understated to Beach & Bay Press, persuading the listener amid the charitable spirit behind his words. "I don't think anyone appreciates it until you actually live it."

One of many federal reports says there are in fact more than 600,000 homeless Americans on a given night, a figure that might intrigue Silber amid what he calls a "factual fiction" approach to the book. None of those thousands was less likely a street prospect than former San Diego Charger Thomas "Big Mac"



MacDonald, Silber's central character. Divorce had rendered the one-time Bird Rock resident and ex-defensive lineman virtually penniless, stripped of everything but the classic VW camper he lives in. One thing leads to another, with Big Mac rebuilding his life (such as it was) – but the beach park at which he lives hides a mystery that would test the mettle of a man who stands on the doorstep of right versus wrong.

Everybody, Silber said, will recognize a little of the local flavor, and without much prompting. North Mission Bay Drive's De Anza Cove, recently reclaimed by the City of San Diego, is the makeshift Mariner Beach Park; the book's ponytail-clad Jeffrey Weiner, advocate for the homeless, is in reality Jeffrey Sitcov,

president of a Cardiff youth charity; editor Julie is based on Julie Main, dogged San Diego Community Newspaper Group publisher. There's even a Mr. Frosty, counterpart to Pacific Beach's Mr. Frostie on Garnet Avenue.

Our area's tonier enclaves color the story's core irony – that homelessness can visit just about anyone. "Some are homeless by choice," he said, "and have been for years. I don't think you could talk them into any other way." However, he countered in the book's study guide, "[N]ot everyone who needs help is willing to ask for or accept it. I can relate. I realized I am like that. . . I didn't realize that the person offering to help would get just as much out of it as I would."

Meanwhile, as it happens, MacDonald's daughter Abby saves the day. Abby, 12, has had to grow up fast, in the shadow of a generation facing a world of uncertainties. "I really liked her," Silber said, "and decided she was going to be my main character, in a way. She's an advocate for the homeless, and I think there's lots of millennials and teens making a difference in the world, and I wanted to highlight that."

The connection between Abby and Sitcov's real-life homeless teen resource, he added, is a natural.



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Oceana Coastal Kitchen opens at Catamaran Resort Hotel

The new Oceana Coastal Kitchen, at the Catamaran Resort Hotel and Spa on Mission Bay, recently opened its doors, offering California cuisine and modern, ocean-inspired design to the Pacific Beach community.

Steven Riemer has been named the restaurant's executive chef.

The 8,200-square-foot indoor and outdoor restaurant is designed to bring the outdoors in with ocean-inspired colors, textures and materials.

Ranging from casual to upscale, the airy waterfront restaurant features several distinct dining areas, including a quartz-topped cold bar imbedded with mother of pearl and sea glass.

The focal point in the main dining room is an 800-gallon aquarium, which will feature fluorescent tropical jellyfish. A large sliding window gives way to unobstructed views and breezes from Mission Bay.

The main dining room includes a combination of upholstered banquettes and loose tables featuring custom Hawaiian made Koa table-tops, as well as chairs and stools that were handcrafted in Bali.

The restaurant also features a 12-seat private dining room and a 16-seat semi-private dining area with a chandelier made from large blown glass discs suspended from the metal framework. A palette of calming blue and green hues, custom light-



The 8,200-square-foot indoor and outdoor restaurant is designed to bring the outdoors in with ocean-inspired colors, textures and materials.

PHOTO BY ZACK BENSON

ing and wall sconces designed by local artist James Stone complete the look.

The space features sleek booths and tables with waterfront views, along with an adjacent lounge equipped with tiki torches and lava rock fire pits.

Next to the bayside walk, the patio has a dog-friendly atmosphere complete with water bowls and even a food menu to feed patrons' four-legged friends.

Dempsey Construction, a San Diego-based company, provided general con-

OCEANA COASTAL KITCHEN

■Where: 3999 Mission Blvd.

■Hours: Sunday-Thursday 7 a.m.-10 p.m.; Friday-Saturday 7 a.m.-11 p.m.; complimentary valet parking

■Happy Hour: Daily 3-6 p.m.

■Info: (858) 539-8635, www.catamaranresort.com

tracting services to the project.

Chef Riemer has more than 25 years of culinary experience at two of Southern California's notable AAA Five Diamond resort hotels (The Lodge at Torrey Pines and The Ritz-Carlton, Laguna Niguel).

Riemer's dishes highlight a commitment to sustainable ingredients. Upon entering, guests will see a 25-foot-long cold bar serving oysters, sushi, seafood platters and specialty items, such as yellowtail crudo, sesame sea bass ceviche and tuna carpaccio.

The restaurant's menu features a selection of dishes from the land and sea and also offers vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free options.

Oceana has an extensive selection of California wines (more than 50 labels) as well as many of San Diego's most notable craft beers on tap, including a signature brew, Oceana Pale Ale, custom made in collaboration with Karl Strauss.

Biz Briefs

Carini opening

Carini Heating and Air Conditioning held a ribbon-cutting ceremony and open house on Feb. 5 to celebrate the company's move into an expanded office and warehouse facility at 3388 Channel Way, in the Point Loma area. Jerry Sanders, former San Diego Mayor and current president of the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce and City Councilwoman Lorie Zapf led the festivities with the ribbon-cutting ceremony. Carini Heating and Air Conditioning founder and CEO Gabriel Carini also took part in the ceremony.

Eco Wash in PB

As San Diego residents face restrictions and penalties on when and how they can wash their vehicles during California's drought, Pacific Beach Toyota dealership Mossy Toyota has opened an advanced new Eco Wash with WaterSavers and LEED certifications. The hybrid-system, chain-conveyor car wash accommodates up to 85 vehicles in an hour, and each wash uses just 15 gallons of water, 95 percent of which is then recycled. Eco Wash comes in well below a 40-gallon-per-wash requirement for WaterSavers membership.



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Plenty of Valentine's Day fun in PB and MB

By DAVE SCHWAB

From the cuisine to the views, the ocean will be a romantic backdrop to those celebrating Valentine's Day in style in Mission and Pacific beaches.

There's no shortage of places to dine — or things to do — on Feb. 14 along the beachfront.

Here are a few suggestions for places in the Mission Beach area to whet your whistles and please your palates on the day devoted especially to lovers, which falls this year on a Saturday:

■ **Belmont Park**, 3146 Mission Blvd., (858) 228-9283.

You can have a ton of fun in Mission Beach's iconic Coney Island-themed Belmont Park, said Wendy Crain, general manager for the San Diego Coaster Co. and Belmont Park. Here are some of the choices:

■ **Sweetheart Salsa** on the Coaster Terrace, Friday, Feb. 13, 8 to 12 p.m. www.belmontpark.com/sweetheartsalsa, \$15 ticket includes one hour of instruction and three performances plus freestyle all night.

The Sweet Shoppe will be setting up a candy station and drinks will be available throughout.

■ **Tunes & Taps** - Valentine's Day at Draft, Feb. 14, 8 p.m. to close, www.belmontpark.com/tunesandtaps, Tunes & Taps is a casual soiree perfect for all relationship statuses. Couples and singles alike can expect live music from Aquile, Valentine's Day-inspired drafts and cocktails, a themed photo booth and decadent desserts. Live music from 8 to 11 p.m., photo booth, some special V-Day brews on tap and a special limited dessert from Chef Jeremy.

■ **The Patio** On Lamont Street: 4445 Lamont St., (858) 412-4648.

"We have a new bourbon whiskey drink, 'Can I Get A Hug,' we're offering now through Feb. 15, which qualifies guests for a raffle ticket to enter into a prize drawing," said Samantha Robinson, director of marketing with the Patio Restaurant Group.

"The winner, to be announced Monday, Feb. 16, will win a gift package, to include a one-night stay at a Mission Beach vacation rental and a \$50 gift card to Luv Surf Boutique."

Robinson said The Patio will have a special prix fixe menu for \$55 a person, with an additional \$22 for a wine pairing, on Valentine's Day.

"The menu all weekend will feature an oyster trio, a chocolate dessert and a couple of other different items," said Robinson.



■ **Table 926**, 926 Turquoise St., (858) 539-0926.

"Guests are invited to enjoy our \$50 prix fixe menu or indulge at their own pace and choose items a la carte," said Holly Hitchcock, a marketing consultant representing Table 926. "Valentine's Day dinner guests can design their ideal dinner with a set price and choose one item from each dining section, including starters, entrees and desserts, or they can carve their own path and enjoy the Valentine's Day menu a la carte."

"Chef Matt Richman will be serving seasonal farm-to-table dishes, and our staff will have the perfect wine or beer on hand to complete the meal."

Table 926's Valentine's entrée menu includes grilled top sirloin, lobster bucatini, sautéed chicken oysters and gnocchi, roasted root vegetables, pork osso buco and seared porcini dusted ahi.

■ **Pacific Beach Urgent Care**, 4490 Fanuel St. (at Garnet Avenue), (858) 274-9116. The PB health care facility reminds everyone that February is Heart Awareness Month. The facility on the corner of Fanuel and Garnet offers free blood pressure checks with no appointments, as well as providing heart-healthy tips for diet and to reduce stress on its website at www.pburgentcare.com/heart.

■ Even the **San Diego County Assessor/Recorder/County Clerk's San Diego** office is getting into the Valentine's act, remaining open on Feb. 14. County assessor Ernie Dronenburg, however, reminded couples wishing to tie the knot or renew their wedding vows downtown at Waterfront Park alongside the County Administration Center that appointments are required and are filling quickly.

"We are excited to offer Saturday services for Valentine's Day and to offer all interested couples to have their Valentine's Day wedding with my office," said Dronenburg. "Marriage services are by appointment, and there are only a few dozen left."

Dronenburg's office at 1600

Pacific Highway, Suite 273, will be open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Feb. 14 for marriage licenses and ceremonies only. Reservations may be made by calling (619) 237-0502.

The cost of a non-confidential marriage license is \$70. There is an additional \$88 charge to have a county staffer perform the wedding ceremony.

Those taking advantage of the Valentine's Day holiday will be observing a Western cultural tradition dating back to early Christian times.

St. Valentine's Day began as a liturgical celebration for one or more early Christian saints named Valentinus. According to Wikipedia, several martyrdom stories were invented for the various Valentines that belonged to Feb. 14.

The day was first associated with romantic love in the circle of Geoffrey Chaucer in the High Middle Ages, when the tradition of courtly love flourished.

In 18th-century England, Valentine's Day evolved into an occasion in which lovers expressed their love for each other by presenting flowers, offering confectionery, and sending greeting cards (known as "valentines"). Valentine's Day symbols still used today include the heart-shaped outline, doves, and the figure of the winged Cupid.

Since the 19th century, hand-written valentines have given way to mass-produced greeting cards.

■ **Café-Bar Europa**, 873 Turquoise St., will have a Valentine's dinner for two with multi-course tapas, Champagne and dessert from 7 to 10 p.m. on Feb. 13 and 14. There will also be salsa dancing from 9 p.m.-1 a.m. on Feb. 14.

■ On Feb. 15 the restaurant will hold a Singles Mixer Ken and Barbie Party. All Kens and Barbies will get in for no cover. All others must pay \$10 at the door. There will be a Ken and Barbie fashion show and costume contest at 7 p.m. Kiss your Barbie wheel of fortune at 8 p.m. And a Ken amateur stripper contest at 10 p.m.

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February is NATIONAL CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH:

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If your child has a knocked-out tooth:

1. Try to find the tooth!
 2. Hold the tooth by the crown and rinse the tooth in water if the tooth is dirty. Don't scrub it or remove any attached tissue fragments.
 3. If it's possible, gently insert the tooth and hold the tooth in its socket while you head to the dentist.
 4. If that's not possible, put the tooth in a cup of milk and bring to the dentist. Time is critical, so try to get to your dentist immediately.
- Dental Express in Point Loma is always available to help with a dental emergency. They are open 6 days per week, see adults and children and welcome same-day or walk-in appointments.

MUSTHEAR >>

Smooth jazz keyboardist Keiko Matsui returns to San Diego for a performance at Humphrey's Backstage Live on Feb. 14. Matsui hasn't released an album since Soul Quest in 2013, but throughout the dozens of albums released in her four decade-long career, the music has kept its focus.

It's part new age, part lite jazz all built around her haunting, often melancholy, sense of melody. Fans of instrumentals or soundtracks will enjoy Matsui's performance, but the musicianship, arrangements and hooks on these songs are enough to keep any music fan entranced.

Keiko Matsui: Saturday Feb. 14, at Humphrey's Backstage Live, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 7:30 p.m. \$34. humphreysbackstagelive.com.

One of Valentine Day's best options this year will be the tribute to Pops and Ella show at Dizzy's.

Highlighting the music of Louis Armstrong and Ella Fitzgerald, there will be romantic tunes aplenty with a terrific line up of local all-stars, including vocalist Leonard Patton, trumpeter Teagan Taylor, pianist Ed Kornhauser, bassist Justin Grinnell and drummer Duncan Moore.

All the biggest songs will be included, such as "All of Me," "What A Wonderful World" and "St. Louis Blues." The songs in the set to be performed on this night are evergreens



Israel Maldonado will play Sunday, Feb. 22, at the Kona Kai Resort.

COURTESY PHOTO

for a reason — they really don't write them like this anymore. Making the show even more topical, 2015 marks the 100th anniversary of the beginning of Louis Armstrong's career.

Valentine Tribute to Pops and Ella: Saturday, Feb. 14, at Dizzy's, 4275 Mission Bay Drive. 8 p.m. \$15. dizzysjazz.com.

Reggae aficionados best bet for Valentine's Day is easily the Devastators performance at the 710 Beach Club on Feb. 14. The Devastators have become a powerhouse in the Southern California reggae scene, with their popularity now extending well beyond the state line. Multiple San Diego Music Awards nominees, the band took home trophies in 2010 and 2012, confirming their popularity amongst local scenesters. Reggae is often called "the sound of Pacific Beach" and this match of band and venue is a great way to spend a Saturday, just a few feet from the water.

The Devastators: Saturday, Feb. 14, at the 710 Beach Club, 710 Garnet Ave. 9 p.m. 21 and up. www.710bc.com.

Classic rock fans won't want to miss the Tom Petty tribute band, Full Moon Fever, appearing at Tio Leo's on Feb. 20. This not a costumed group, just a really good rock band using their musical skills on a catalog of crowd pleasers now running three decades long. Full Moon Fever does them justice. Indeed, there is no shortage of songs to fill the dance floor, with Petty's tunes, such as "Running Down A Dream" and "Breakdown," featuring enough variety and hooks to keep the dance floor jumping.

Full Moon Fever: Friday, Feb. 20. Tio Leo's, 5302 Napa Street. 9 p.m. 21 and up. Cover TBD. tioleos.com.

The Kona Kai's acoustic music series continues to offer up musical treasures each week. On Feb. 22, the free event will feature a strong line-up of Rhythm Turner, Ves Frank, Veronica Quin, Ezekial Jay and Israel Maldonado. All have their strengths, but Maldonado's closing set promises to be the day's highlight. Recently featured in the Old Globe Theatre's Tribute to Jeff Buckley production, Maldonado is a wonderfully lyrical guitar player. Originally from Tijuana, his music has a strong Latin feel. Performances at this show are only in the 20-minute range meaning artists play their best tunes.

Israel Maldonado: Sunday, Feb. 22, at the Kona Kai Resort, 1551 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. 6 p.m. resortkonakai.com.

-Bart Mendoza

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EDUCATION NOTEBOOK >>

School closures

All schools and offices are closed Feb. 13 and 16 in observance of the birthdays of Presidents Abraham Lincoln and George Washington, respectively.

Mission Bay High

■The deadline to sign up to attend MBHS through the Enrollment Options office is Feb. 15.

■Mark your calendar for the MBHS annual talent show "Get Your Act Together," 6:30 p.m. Friday, March 6. It will be a fun night showcasing the talent of MBHS students.

■The MBHS music program offers one of the most unique musical opportunities in the country as students perform at outside events, record CDs with our in-house recording studio and travel to jazz festivals around the U.S. The programs are for beginners through challenging college-level theory and performance techniques. Additional information can be found at www.missionbaymusic.org.

Pacific Beach Middle

■PBMS Math and Science Family Night. Join students and their families for the annual Math and Science Night at PBMS 6-7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 18.



Fourth grade teacher Lou Grande recently received the "Teachers Are Heroes" award. Nominated by one of his students, "Mr. Lou" is recognized for his dedication, professionalism and sense of fun while teaching. In addition to his prizes, his class received a trip to Legoland.

COURTESY PHOTO

Kate Sessions Elementary

■FOKS annual auction is starting on March 2. Donations in all shapes, sizes and forms are being accepted now. Drop off your donation in the front office or email sessionsfundraising@gmail.com.

■Last Dec. 16, Sessions had its first official Lunch with Dads. Fathers, uncles, and grandfathers came from as far away as Arizona to have lunch with children. The staff at Sessions would like to thank all of the relatives who came out to school to support the students. On Feb. 12, Sessions will host Lunch with Moms.

CPJMA

■The CPJMA Annual Jogathon is on Wednesday, Feb. 25. If the goal of \$18,000 is reached, the entire school will go to Legoland for the day.

Pacific Beach Elementary

■Thursday, Feb. 19: Family Fun Night will take place at Bayside Landing, 3780 Ingraham St. Bayside Landing will donate a portion of all receipts back to PBE.

■Friday, Feb. 20: Jump Rope for Heart at PBE. Students will be jumping rope to raise money for the American Heart Association and to raise awareness about heart health.

FOPBSS

■FOPBSS invites any parent, teacher, administrator and community member to attend the monthly meetings. Join in the efforts to enhance the educational experience of the students from PBMS and MBHS. Their next meeting is 6 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 25, at MBHS library.

Point Loma High

■The second annual Wheelchair Challenge, will take place 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 18 at Point Loma High School, 2335 Chatsworth Blvd. Students will take the challenge to use a wheelchair for the entire school day. There will be a special lunchtime assembly, and at the end of the day, participants will convene to discuss their experiences and insights. Not open to the public.

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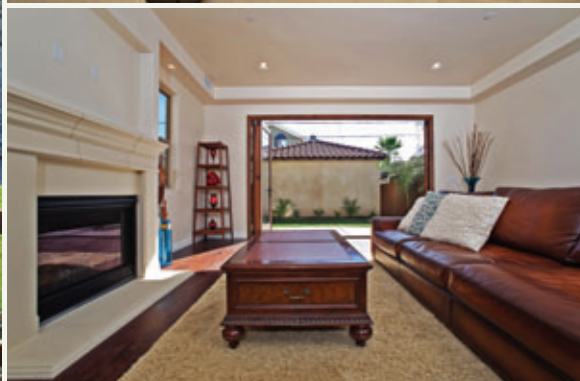
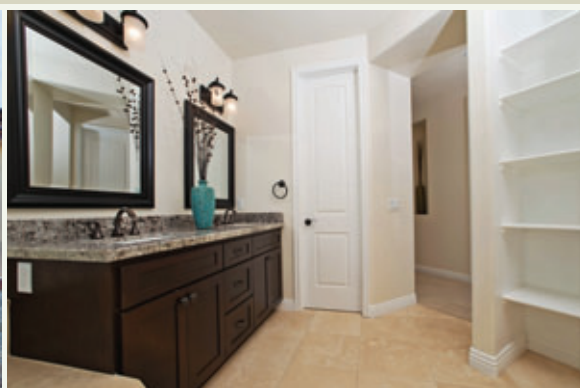
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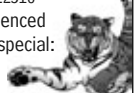
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OBITUARY



James Mallon

James Mallon, DDS, age 84, Alpine, Calif., passed away at home Monday, Jan. 27, after a long, courageous battle against mesothelioma. Jim is survived by his wife, Pat, and children Susan, Jeffrey, Patrick (Beth) and Stephen; grandchildren Patrick, Thomas, Jeffrey, and Adrienne Mallon; and stepchildren Jane Koppa, Chriss Hart (John), Julie Bautista (Wayne), and step-grandchildren

Ashley Hart Snyder, Daniel, Nicholas, Elizabeth and Christopher Bautista. Known as a caring gentleman, he also leaves many loving cousins and friends.

Jim was born in Fargo, N.D., to Edmund and Ethel and was raised in Little Falls, Mont. He graduated from the University of Minnesota Dental School and then served proudly in the Navy. Jim practiced dentistry in Pacific Beach for 35 years and was active in professional organizations and community activities, primarily Lions Club. He was an avid golfer and enjoyed many other outdoor sports.

Funeral Mass was held on Feb. 10 at St. Bridgid Parish, 4735 Cass St., San Diego. Interment ceremonies will be held at an undetermined date at Miramar National Cemetery, 5795 Nobel Drive, San Diego. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the National Mesothelioma Foundation or the American Heart Association. Mourners may visit www.dignitymemorial.com/pacific-beach-chapel and sign a virtual condolences guest book.

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A standup paddleboarder and fishing boat on Mission Bay in Pacific Beach during another gorgeous San Diego sunset.

PHOTO THOMAS MELVILLE

SUNSET >>
CONT. FROM PG. 1

(on Instagram @evgenyy-orobephography), who uses a tide app on his phone to make sure he doesn't miss an opportunity to shoot something spectacular.

"Being out in nature and being able to capture that perfect moment is something that I love," said Yorobe, who has photos hanging in three area galleries, including Turquoise Cellars in Pacific Beach. "I love seeing the reactions my photos receive."

While most people can pull out their phone and take pretty good sunset photos, there is one aspect that amateur photographers often ignore, and it can transform an

ordinary photograph into an extraordinary piece of art.

"Interesting foregrounds and different perspectives," said Eric Rubens, a Pacific Beach native who has more than 49,500 followers on Instagram (@erubes1). "I like to find different angles, use tide pools for reflections, or use caves to frame a shot."

Rubens started out using the area's most recognizable spots – the piers, Sunset Cliffs, Children's Pool – as his foregrounds, but he now seeks out less trafficked and more interesting locations. "I look for beaches with more character and try to do something different," he said. "That's how I started growing as a photographer."

All three photographers agreed

TIPS FOR SUNSET PHOTOS

For DSLR cameras

Exposure and focus mode: Manual
Shutter speed: 1/30sec or longer
Aperture: f/16
ISO: 100 or lower
Lens: 18-24mm
Drive mode: Single-shot
White balance: Daylight

■Pro tip – Setting the exposure for the sky will capture the best colors, but the foreground will end up dark. Use a natural density grad filter to balance the exposure. If you don't have a ND grad filter, shoot twice – once exposed for the sky and another for the land. Combine them in Photoshop.

Source: digitalcameraworld.com

Best local spots for sunsets

Sunset Cliffs in Point Loma
Dog Beach in Ocean Beach
Jetty in Mission Beach
Crystal Pier in Pacific Beach
Tourmaline in North Pacific Beach
Bird Rock
Windansea in La Jolla
Hospitals Reef in La Jolla
Scripps Pier in La Jolla
Gliderport in Torrey Pines

that aspiring shutterbugs should "chase the light" and "just keep shooting and learning" to be able to improve their photos and maybe impress their friends on social media.

"Make it a challenge to do something original," Rubens said.

"Just get out there, because you never know, it could always be an amazing sunset," Davis said.

"And remember that the sky is the star," Yorobe added.

REVENGE >>

CONT. FROM PG. 1

Testimony began Jan. 16.

San Diego Superior Court Judge David Gill initially said he had leaned toward letting Bollaert remain free on \$50,000 bond until Deputy Attorney General Tawnia Austin asked that he be remanded to jail because of "potential harm to the community, (as) he is a master to using the Internet.

"His specialty is harm on the Internet," said Austin. "This is an individual who has no moral compass."

Twenty-six women and two men testified they learned their nude photos somehow got on the website and were told they had to pay \$299 to \$350 to get them taken down. Most of the victims said they did not know how or who got their pictures.

Austin told Gill that Bollaert was convicted in federal court of giving a wrong address on applications to buy 20 firearms, seized by authorities. Bollaert is currently on federal probation and served 15 days in federal prison in 2014, his attorney, Emily Rose-Weber, confirmed to Gill.

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