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YEAR IN REVIEW

There was no shortage of news in Mission and Pacific beaches in 2016. From new plans for Mission Bay, to short-term rentals, orca shows ending, homeless issues, a gum pole, and mysterious jetty cats.

SEE PAGE 7



SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER GROUP

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Alina St. Julien of Pacific Beach during the sunset yoga session at Pacific BeachFest. PHOTO BY THOMAS MELVILLE

Find your inner warrior with oceanfront yoga in Pacific Beach

By LUCIA VITI

Steve Hubbard (aka NamaSteve), showcases oceanfront yoga in Pacific Beach's Palisade Park cornering Ocean Boulevard and Law Street. Hundreds, yes hundreds, flock to his weekend classes nestled on a grassy knoll sidling the ocean cliffs. The all-level, donation-based classes juxtapose Pacific Beach's sunshine, tempered winds and the roar of the waves. Hubbard combines his knowledge of all things yoga with the power and magnificence of the local scenery.

"Oceanfront yoga encourages students to discover their personal greatness," says the 40-year-old Pacific Beach resident. "Yoga helps us to

HEALTHFUL LIVING

When: Saturdays and Sundays from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Where: Pacific Beach's Palisade Park, above Law Street beach.

Cost: Donations accepted.

Info: www.namasteveyoga.com.

remember that we're powerful beyond belief. I lead physically powerful classes that are introspective and meditative. I encourage students to listen to their inner intelligence and to honor themselves."

Described as affordable and accessible to everyone, Hubbard admitted that while teaching at the oceanfront venue has its challenges, the positives

outweigh the negatives. "There are unpredictable challenges – I can't make the ocean any quieter – and there's pure joy," he says.

"Students experience an environment that aligns with their natural state of being. People show up week after week after week – my biggest class was close to 300 – because they realize that they're doing something that's super healthy to help and heal themselves."

Hubbard noted that he works with the sounds of the wind and waves by projecting his voice from his diaphragm while "not screaming." The park accommodates classes that grow "sideways" and even in light

SEE **YOGA**, Page 4

Animal traps to be set in Mission Bay

Endangered birds need protection

By DAVE SCHWAB

Endangered birds in Mission Bay have a friend looking out to protect them: the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Charged with, among other things, protecting natural resources, the USDA has announced its intention to trap predators – skunks, raccoons, opossums, rats and cats – of endangered bird species frequenting Mission Bay starting perhaps as soon as February.

"This program is to protect endangered California least terns and their nests from predation throughout Mission Bay and to protect a breeding population of light-footed Ridgeway's rails at the Northern Wildlife Preserve," said Pam Manns, public affairs specialist, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service,



A least tern with a chick.

PHOTO BY JOHN ENNIS

USDA. "Our predator management activities are meant to boost the survival rate of these endangered birds and increase their population numbers."

Word is that some, but not all, trapped predators would be exterminated offsite.

"If we were brought feral cats (we are often), we would work with the feral cat folks," said Michael Workman, director of the County Communi-

SEE **TRAPS**, Page 12

PB man accused of stalking, threatening La Jolla woman

By NEAL PUTNAM

A trial date of April 17 was set last month for a Pacific Beach man who is accused of pointing a gun at a La Jolla woman after he scaled a wall to reach her upstairs condominium.

Michael Anthony Davee, 52, appeared before San Diego Superior Court Judge David Danielsen on Dec. 23. He again entered a not guilty

plea to the charges of assault with a deadly weapon, stalking, and making a criminal threat.

A La Jolla woman testified Nov. 30 that Davee, her ex-boyfriend, crawled between two trees and scaled a wall to reach her upstairs condominium balcony and he pointed a gun at her on Sept. 22.

SEE **TRIAL**, Page 5

Planned Parenthood expands PB health center

Planned Parenthood doubled the size of its Mission Bay Health Center, which will allow them to see more patients in a health center designed to maximize efficiency and provide patients the best care possible.

The health center, which has been in the same location for more than 15 years, was completely modernized and expanded from 1,900 to 3,300 square feet. The waiting room is colorful and full of comfortable coffeehouse-style seating with plugs for electronic equipment. The exam rooms have been equipped with everything staff members need to care for a patient in one location and health care providers are able to collaborate in a central work space surrounded by six exam rooms.

"We paid attention to everything from the hook on the back of the door in exam rooms to the number of steps staff takes to complete a visit," said Lori Keim, senior director of business initiatives, who oversaw

the expansion. "This attention to detail allows our staff to spend the most time possible with patients."

This expansion will allow the clinic to provide birth control, STD testing and treatment, abortion, UTI testing and treatment, and more to the people in Mission Bay and the surrounding communities. Last year, their staff provided patients with 11,000 visits at this health center. The health center now has the capacity to handle 20,000 patient visits each year.

"We are dedicated to providing care for people in this area because we know there are a lot of young

people in this region who need no-cost and low-cost reproductive health services," Keim said. "We've been in this region for 15 years, and we plan to be here for years to come."

Bay Ho residents and longtime Planned Parenthood supporters, Pat Wilson and Greg Rose, made a generous donation that enabled the expansion to the health center. Susanna Flaster, a board member and longtime supporter, also gave a generous contribution to expand this center. The health center was renamed in honor of Flaster's mother, Mimi Brien.

PB Planning Group is looking for new board members

The Pacific Beach Planning Group (PBPG) is now accepting applications for new members. The group, which advises the city, is composed of 20 community volunteers, 15 residential and five commercial seats.

PBPG values diverse views. Its 15 residential members represent different areas of Pacific Beach, giving the group a thorough overview of impacts of any development in each neighborhood.

Many new plans for the PB beach area, including the upcoming trolley extension, the redevelopment of the De Anza area and traffic improvements for PB, are presented and voted on each month.

Recent programs, such as the city's placement of DecoBikes rental stands on the boardwalk, have generated much discussion. As an advisory group, PBPG has made its voice known to the city. If you'd like to add your views and help shape the future of PB, then consider running for election.

Candidates must be residents or own a business or property in Pacific Beach. New-member elections will take place on March 22, but all candidates must have attended at least one PBPG meeting during the period of January 2016 through January 2017. You can attend the upcoming Jan. 25 meeting to qualify for the election.

The group meets every fourth Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in the Pacific Beach Library, 4275 Cass St. For more information, call 858-488-0273.



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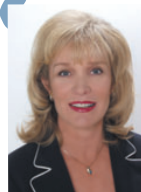


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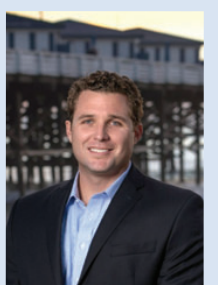
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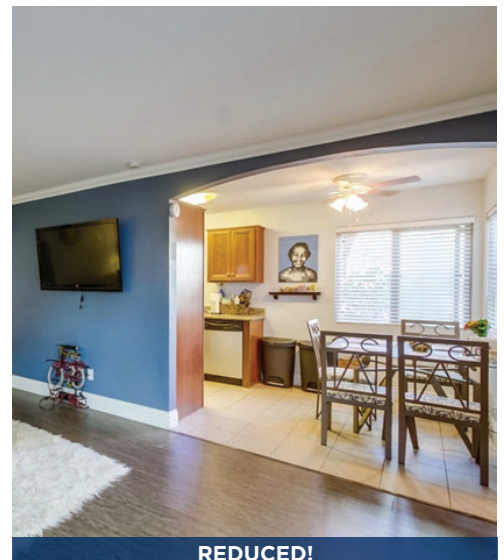
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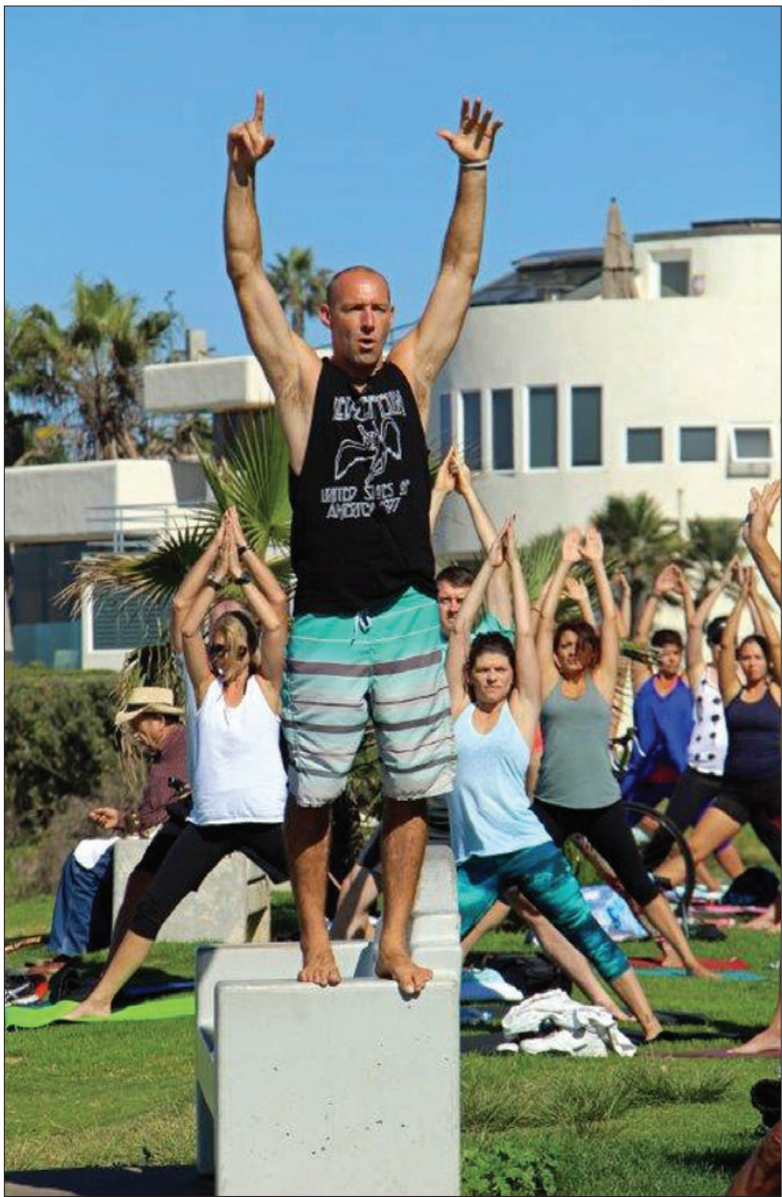
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Steve Hubbard (aka NamaSteve) leads a yoga session at the oceanfront Palisades Park in Pacific Beach.

PHOTO BY LUCIA VITI

YOGA >>

CONT. FROM PG. 1

rains they still attract 60-100 participants. Even pouring rains garner a few who miss Hubbard's cancellation notice sent by way of his social network.

The self-taught yogi teaches with "no rules" and revels in building relationships with neighbors, residents and visitors.

"I'm not bound by studio rules," he says. "I have the freedom to read the class and give students what they need. My oceanfront yoga classes have become a part of the neighborhood, even the town."

"People contact me every week from everywhere to say, 'I'm coming from here to practice oceanfront yoga with you in Pacific Beach.' And it's rare that I go anywhere in San Diego without running into someone from class."

Hubbard's love of volleyball is responsible for landing the Buffalo, N.Y. transplant in Southern California to discover the ancient practice. Yoga became an athletic technique to improve his jump serve. Hubbard soon discovered that it offered so much more.

"My very first class was like nothing I had ever experienced," he explains. "I knew that yoga could create balance in my life while enhancing physical vitality, emotional equanimity and mental clarity. Yoga is one of the greatest tools

in my personal growth journey."

Although Hubbard's nine-year odyssey stands strong and harbors no intention of slowing down, that wasn't always the case. In 2013, after teaching oceanfront yoga for more than four years, Hubbard was ticketed twice by Parks and Recreation rangers, noting that a congregation of more than 49 people violated the city's municipal code. Determined to keep his Vinyasa flowing in front of the ocean backdrop, Hubbard fought what he described as a ticket comparable to a parking fine.

"Parks and Recreation refused to offer me a permit," he said. "So I refused to move. No law states a right to remove people from a public park. Those tickets violated my right to freedom of speech and everyone else's right to peacefully assemble. I went to court. The judge ruled that the municipal code was unconstitutional and I haven't heard from the city since."

The oceanfront class takes place every Saturday and Sunday from 10 to 11:30 a.m. A donation bin stands on Hubbard's front porch. Proceeds are shared with charities including Penelope's Purpose, The American Heart Association, The Susan G. Komen Foundation, Jeans for Justice and Yoga for the Homeless.

"Yoga and meditation move me towards living at my full potential," he concludes. "And I truly believe that yoga can do the same for everyone."

Mission Bay boys basketball wins tourney, girls improving

By DAVE THOMAS

With the holidays behind them, both basketball teams at Mission Bay High are shooting for as much success as possible in league play.

On the boys side, new head coach Marshawn Cherry had the Bucs at 11-4 heading into action this week.

Mission Bay won the Under Armour Holiday Classic Governor Division championship by beating San Juan Hills 95-74.

The Bucs also made it to the semi-finals of the Hilltop Tournament, falling to Canyon Crest.

In the finals of the San Ysidro Cougars Classic, Mission Bay fell to Valhalla.

According to Cherry, the team's key players have been Rejean "Boogie" Ellis who is averaging 26 points and seven assists per game; Marcus Nickerson (who Cherry says "is a spark for the team"); Jaymare Norton and Andrea Scott ("have been steady and solid all year"); and the anchor in the middle, Ronnie Lating.

"I am very pleased with our growth as a team on and off the court," Cherry commented. "Guys are taking care of their business on the court, and more importantly, in the classroom."

"We want well-rounded student-athletes here at Mission Bay; the key words are student-athletes, not athletic-student. You have to be a Student first. We are right on pace for where we planned on being in our development process with the team. The future is bright if we stay the course."



Girls basketball

On the girls side of the ledger, head coach Vince Ichihara had his Bucs sitting at 3-9 heading into play this week.

According to Ichihara, key players so far have included freshman Maggie Acquaah and Noella Coiquaud; sophomore Natalie Mcdermott; senior Sammy Zambrano, and sophomores Brooklyn Grooms and Ryleigh Maple.

"Due to vacations during the tournaments over winter break to begin the season we have yet to get all of our starters and key players on the court together," Ichihara commented. "Finally entering the Sweetwater Tournament, we have had a chance to get everyone going together."

"We have put together the team's first win streak with back-to-back wins since 2013. We are a Division IV team and since getting everyone back we have beaten Division III Sweetwater by 22 points and beat Division I Granite Hills (who went to the CIF Semifinals last season in

Division I) 44-42 with a buzzer-beating three-pointer by Maggie Acquaah," Ichihara added.

Over the last three seasons, the girls' basketball team has been 3-50. This season, the Lady Bucs have already had the most wins with three since 2014.

"I am very proud of the girls and their progress in my first year taking over the program," Ichihara noted. "I look for great things in the future for Mission Bay girls basketball."

Girls water polo

With the midway point of January nearly having arrived, the Mission Bay High girls water polo team looks to make a run at league and CIF titles.

Head coach John Knight noted that the squad is excited about its chances this season due to a pair of returning seniors, Clemence Tardivel and Justine Brissot.

"They both have been leaders in and out of the pool," Knight commented.

Knight said the juniors should also make some major contributions this season, with Olivia Martinet and Ciara Gray leading the way.

"Our team is looking forward to the upcoming games in our challenging schedule," Knight added.

Mission Bay has a busy next few weeks ahead of it, with matches slated against Mira Mesa (Jan. 12 at Clairemont), at Serra (Jan. 24), at Santa Fe Christian (Jan. 26), at the Cougar Varsity Invite Tourney (Jan. 28), and at Mira Mesa (Jan. 31).

The CIF playoffs are set to begin on Feb. 14.

One Wave Challenge benefits program for at-risk teens

For the second year running, the "One Wave Challenge" will commence the charitable end of festivities for the Farmers Insurance Open starting at 8 a.m. on Jan. 21.

Although attempted at last year's event, the challenge will once again take a shot at breaking the Guinness Book of World Record's current record for most people surfing one wave. Last year, they were just a handful of surfers short from breaking the record, and aim to be suc-

cessful at this year's attempt.

Not only is the One Wave Challenge a great excuse to get out and enjoy the surf at La Jolla Shores with hundreds of other surfers, but also brings exposure to some fantastic local organizations. One in particular is the Boys to Men Mentoring Program, which focuses on at-risk teens and pre-teens, providing them mentors who truly show them how to pursue alternative paths.

"With The Century Club acting as the philanthropic organization, Boys to Men Mentoring ultimately operates as the beneficiary," said Molly Bowman-Styles of Windansea Communications.

"The One Wave Challenge is simply one of the best ways to expose the tremendous work that this organization is doing. Participants in the challenge pay a one-time cost at registration (\$200), which directly benefits Boys to Men."



Prelim hearing on Feb. 8 for accused hit-and-run in PB

By NEAL PUTNAM

A woman has been charged as being an accessory after the fact in the case against a motorist accused of running down three people in Pacific Beach that included an intern for the San Diego Chargers who suffered brain damage.

Both Omar Anthony Gutierrez, 24, and Jamillah Amirah Jones, 23, appeared in December before San Diego Superior Court Judge Charles Rogers, and they agreed to delay their preliminary hearing until Feb. 8.

Gutierrez is accused of five counts of attempted murder in the Aug. 5 incident at 900 Garnet Ave. around 1 a.m. in which J'Ron Erby and two others were injured. Two others were nearly struck, but the car missed them.

The charge against Jones is a misdemeanor. The prosecutor declined comment on what her exact role was other than it involved "aiding after the fact." Police earlier said there were camera surveillance photos of a man and a woman in the area who were "persons of interest" before any arrests were made.

Police eventually discovered the damaged Hyundai Elantra, but its ownership has not been disclosed. There was apparently some incident on the street with Erby and the others before they were struck.

Gutierrez has since posted \$350,000 bond following his Sept. 27 arrest. Jones is free on \$20,000 bond. They have both pleaded not guilty.

READ MORE ONLINE AT sdnews.com

TRIAL » CONT. FROM PG. 1

The woman testified in the preliminary hearing that she ran out the door with her dog after Davee, 52, who also pointed the gun at his own head at one point.

"He said he was going to hurt me or himself. I was shaking," said the victim.

Judge David Gill also ordered Davee to stand trial for possession of a firearm and ammunition by a felon, receiving a firearm while under a temporary restraining order, resisting an officer, and disobeying a court order.

Davee remains in jail on \$300,000 bail. The woman was not injured in the incident in the 6400 block of La Jolla Boulevard. He was later arrested at the Dana Resort in Mission Bay.

Grinch doesn't ruin Christmas spirit in Pacific Beach

By DAVE SCHWAB

Some "grinch" threw Pacific Beach's community Christmas tree off Crystal Pier on Dec. 17 right before the holidays. But a few days later, some local families pitched in to replace the tree on the pier so the community could have a merry Christmas.

"We saw that it was gone and said, 'Why don't we just replace it,'" said Janelle Sherako, who, along with husband Dave, solicited the help of neighbors on Facebook to find decorations and a suitable replacement tree.

A new replacement pine was donated by Green Gardens Nursery on Cass Street.

"We'd just gotten sick of all the vandalism and the problems with transients in the community. So we just decided we weren't going to let this ruin our community," Janelle Sherako added.

"It wasn't fair. So we decided to



The original Christmas tree on Crystal Pier.

PHOTO BY THOMAS MELVILLE

take (our community) back."

Other families contributing their time and energy to voluntarily restore the communal tree were the families of Mike Mason, Rachel Allen, Kristin Everett and Melissa and Darin Busby.

Once the tree was restored, Sherako added, "People were ecstatic

when they saw it put up suddenly. It was really nice to see how much it affected everyone around us."

Sherako added CVS Pharmacy on Mission Boulevard also pitched in for the good cause, selling decorations for the tree at a 50 percent discount.

The huge Christmas tree on the

end of Crystal Pier was vandalized sometime early Saturday morning on Dec. 17. It was tossed off the pier into the ocean, where it washed up on the beach a couple of days later near the Pacific Beach Lifeguard Station at 700 Ocean Blvd.

"Someone pulled down one side of the fence (that guarded the tree), undid the ties that hold the tree firmly in place, stomped on the packages that were out there, and tossed the tree over the railing," said Meggan Buscho, manager of Crystal Pier Hotel and Cottages at 4500 Ocean Blvd. "The local community had been asking where the tree had gone. They were very upset. It affected a lot of people in the community. It was unfortunate."

The 15 to 20-foot pine tree is donated to Pacific Beach for the community's annual Christmas on the Pier celebration by Christmas Tree Country, a seasonal tree lot at 870 Garnet Ave.

Your Age Vs. Your Posture!

People everywhere are talking about and finding ways to fight the signs of aging and are spending millions of dollars on skin care, cosmetic and plastic surgery procedures. What makes a person look older, saggy skin, gray hair, wrinkles? If you think about it, poor posture really makes people look older, plus the pain and discomfort that is associated with it. A 55+ year old who walks stooped over vs a 70 year old who stands tall and walks with a graceful gait, can look as much as 15 years younger.

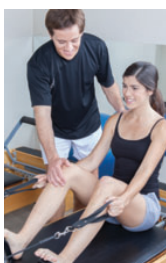
A Pilates repertoire can provide long term anti-aging benefits plus it is less expensive than surgery. Of course pilates is not for everybody, but Jeff T. from PB says "I came to Mission Beach Pilates for help in correcting long-term posture problems and to loosen up some tight joints and muscles. My six weeks of classes with Jennifer really made a difference."



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Juice Wave offers organic drinks and acai bowls

By DAVE SCHWAB

They're catching a new wave in Mission Beach, but rather than being blue and frothy it's green and healthy.

Juice Wave has been open at 3733 Mission Blvd. in Mission Beach for the past couple of years, recently expanded into Miramar, and is cresting in popularity with its all-organic menu.

Founder/owner Arleigh Rose talked about how she got involved.

"I actually started three years ago with our first organic juice truck where we prepared juice, smoothies and acai bowls at special events, schools, and all over," said Rose. "We were pretty different: unique. That's how we started, and is what got our name out there."

Noting she's "built a really great relationship with the locals here over the last couple of years," Rose said Mission Beach is perfect for her juicery because "it's very laid back, and a lot of people here are very concerned about being healthy."

Rose said Juice Wave tries to be "green" in every way. "We really pride ourselves on is using local organic produce going to all the farmers mar-



Juice Wave owner Arleigh Rose in her shop.

PHOTO BY DAVE SCHWAB

kets to take produce directly from the farmers. We try to showcase what San Diego's growing seasons are."

Rose is also busy working on getting a retail license to sell her bottled juices, which she said are good for five days after manufacture, in local

retail shops.

"We're working on getting that license right now," she said.

Discussing her MB menu, Rose said "We have smoothies primarily based with our almond milk made fresh daily. We actually go up to Carlsbad

JUICE WAVE

Where: 3733 Mission Blvd.

Hours: Off-season 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mondays to Fridays, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays to Sundays.

Info: 858-488-0800, juicewavesd.com.

and collect the alkaline water from natured springs we use to make our own elixer shots."

Juice Wave's acai bowls are also a menu mainstay.

"We really try to focus on making it a really simple bowl with really good-quality ingredients not having to go over the top," Rose said.

Acai bowls, made with a Brazilian berry loaded with antioxidants, are created with house-made granola and raw honey from Temecula.

"We're trying to be sustainable as much as possible," noted Rose adding "we give back to farmers for composting. All our paper products are compostible. We're just really trying to be part of the community here."

Rose said juice-cleansing options are also offered as well at Juice Wave.

READ MORE ONLINE AT sdnews.com

Commercial building sold in Mission Beach

The 1,360-square-foot commercial building located at 3830 Mission Blvd. in Mission Beach has been sold for \$920,000. The seller was David Parrish, owner of Cruiser Kings. The Franco Realty Group – led by Tony Franco – represented Parrish. The buyer was Donmond, LLC – led by local business owner Raymond Ahdoot of Ray's Rentals.

Ahdoot founded Ray's Rentals in 2005 and has multiple locations throughout Southern California. At Ray's Rentals you'll find: jet skis, bikes, surfboards, stand-up paddleboards, wetsuits, kayaks, in-line skates, skateboards, and other beach-going equipment.

Ahdoot credits his success using "high quality rentals, at the lowest prices, with exceptional customer service." Ahdoot was able to take advantage of SBA financing through Chase Bank. This is the Franco Realty Group's third Mission Beach commercial sale.

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A stunning sunset over Mission Bay. There were several proposals and a lot of speculation over what to do with Mission Bay Park during 2016, which will continue into 2017. PHOTO BY THOMAS MELVILLE

New Mission Bay plans, short-term rentals, a gum pole, orcas and jetty cats

By DAVE SCHWAB

There was no shortage of news in Mission and Pacific beaches in 2016. The year kicked off in January with a local principal kissing a sheep, and ended with the farmers market pushing for a move onto Garnet Avenue.

The following is a month-by-month account chronicling what happened in Pacific and Mission beaches in the Beach & Bay Press in 2016:

JANUARY

- Barnard Asian Pacific Language Academy principal Aida Hernandez and teachers agreed to kiss a sheep if students raised more than \$30,000 in the Barnyard Dash Jogathon. After students raised more than \$32,000, teachers puckered up.

- Existing for nearly 40 years at Roosevelt Avenue and Shasta Street, the Pacific Beach Community Garden was closed Jan. 1., with new owners of the small urban agriculture plot, PathfinderPartners LLC of La Jolla, taking possession. A community wide search began for replacement gardening plots, which may eventually include some space in the 120-acre De Anza Special Study Area within Mission Bay Park, which is being redeveloped.

- The second in a series of public workshops planning a "re-imagining" for the 120-acre De Anza Special Study Area was held Jan. 28. Committee members studying the

park's revitalization suggested: the need to balance park uses with available open space; consider creating an info/interpretive center; the need to do a hydrology (water) study; encourage ecologically oriented recreation; find ways to protect and enhance the natural environment; create more pedestrian and non-motorized vehicle connectivity within the park; allow coastal marshland to grow back naturally; and re-establish a connection between the park area and Rose Creek.

- A paddle-out attended by about 400 people at Tourmaline Surf Park Jan. 18 celebrated the life of San Diego surf icon Larry Gordon, co-founder of Gordon & Smith surf and clothing company, who died New Year's day of Parkinson's disease at age 76. Gordon built the internationally renowned company into a custom surfboard, skateboard and clothing conglomerate known by surfers worldwide.

- A proposal by developers McKellar McGowan to convert the former Mission Beach Elementary School site into condominiums was denied by the Mission Beach Precise Planning Board.

- Superior Court Judge Katherine Bacal sided with Ken Giavara and a group of neighbors in Mission Beach known as Citizens For Beach Rights. That group challenged a new, bigger lifeguard tower on south Mission Beach first proposed in 2002.

FEBRUARY

- A Pacific Beach inventor and a church rector went on record promoting one conceivable solution to the intractable problem of homelessness: IKEA-like tiny, build-it-yourself homes. The Rev. Dr. Simon Mainwaring, rector of St. Andrews by-the-Sea Episcopal Church in Pacific Beach, and Christopher Scott, who's designed and built his own version of a "tiny" home, teamed to popularize the concept, calling it "the start of a real solution to San Diego's homelessness problem."

- The tragic loss of community activist Maruta Gardner, struck and killed by a suspected drunken driver Feb. 12, touched a nerve with beach residents, prompting a call for action. At Pacific Beach Town Council's Feb. 17 meeting, a moment of silence was observed in honor of Gardner, killed a few days before her 69th birthday in a road rage incident while painting out graffiti in the 600 block of San Diego Place in Mission Beach. A memorial with flowers and cards was created at the jetty wall where Gardner lost her life.

- Pacific Beach Town Council was updated on plans to resurrect Mission Bay wetlands and fight alcohol-related and other crimes along the beachfront. Rebecca Schwartz of San Diego Audubon Society, clued the council in on ReWild Mission Bay, a three-year project to enhance and restore up to 170 acres of wet-

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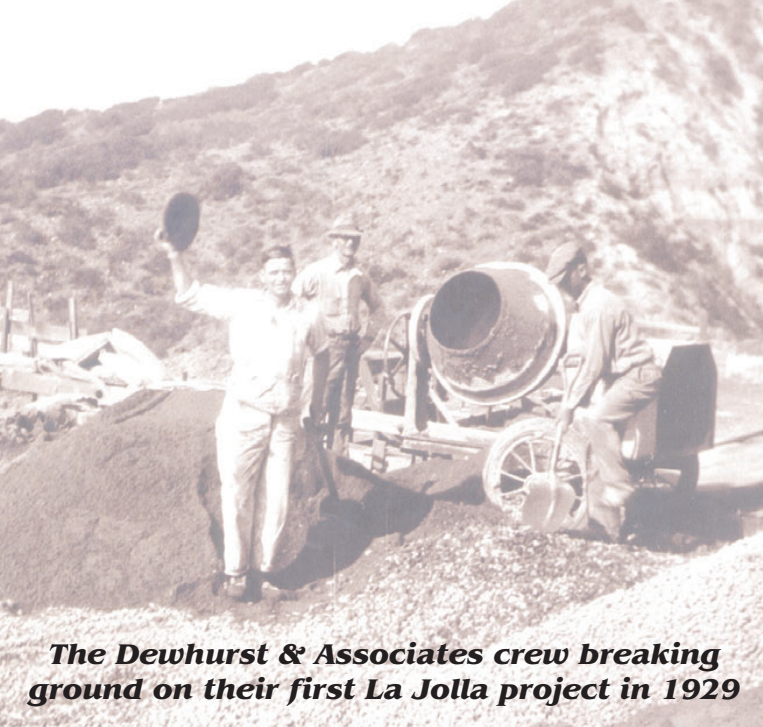
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SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER GROUP

The Freemonts' swamp blues fills Tio Leo's

By BART MENDOZA

Blues fans won't want to miss The Freemonts, performing at Tio Leo's on Jan. 12. The title of their latest album, "Alligator," gives a clear indication of their swamp blues sound, perfect for dancing or just as a soundtrack to a nice dinner.

There is great musicianship in The Freemont's, but particularly found in frontman Mighty Joe Mil-sap, who is blessed with a soulful voice that sells the song's story, backed by the sort of sounds that wouldn't be out of place at a juke joint on a bayou.

The Freemonts: Thursday, Jan. 12 at Tio Leo's, 5302 Napa St. 9 p.m. 21 and up. Cover TBD. www.tioleos.com.

For those of a certain age, it's hard to believe that the '90s were more than two decades ago. Anyone feeling nostalgic for the era will want to head to the 710 Beach Club on Jan. 13 for a set from dance band, Saved by the '90s.

The quartet is a veritable jukebox, playing nothing but sing-a-long crowd pleasers, such as The Black Crowes "Hard to Handle" and Alanis Morissette's "You Ought To Know."

Saved by the '90s: Friday, Jan. 13, at the 710 Beach Club, 710 Gar-

net Ave. 9 p.m. 21 and up. www.710bc.com.

Friday the 13th may be unlucky for some, but jazz fans are fortunate to be able to hear trumpeter Jason Hanna and his Jazz Trio, who performs Fridays, including Jan. 13, in the Tangiers Bar at The Bahia Resort Hotel. This is a cool little getaway spot, perfect for Hanna's cool jazz sounds, which include songs by Duke Ellington, Bacharach and David or Herb Alpert. Over the past two years, Hanna has emerged as one of the city's top talents. He can be heard in different combos, all worth checking out, but it's at gigs such as this, with his trio, that he truly takes flight, filling in the space with bursts of energy and melody.

The Jason Hanna Jazz Trio: Fridays at the Bahia Resort, 998 West Mission Bay Drive. 8 p.m. 21 and up. www.bahiabelle.com.

The latest edition of the "Songwriters Showcase" takes place on Jan. 15 at the Holy Trinity Anglican Church. The series features four performers playing round-robin style, with the talent roster this time set to include Nina Francis, Veronica May, Nathan Welden and Ian McCartor. All are well worth hearing, but Francis has most recently emerged as an artist to watch. She is

hosting a residency at the legendary venue Java Joes, scoring airplay for her most recent single "Boomerang," and even appearing on the cover of the San Diego Troubadour newspaper. She is working on her debut album for release later this year in the meantime, this will be a great opportunity to hear her music in a unique setting with wonderful acoustics.

Songwriters Showcase: Sunday, Jan. 15 at Holy Trinity Anglican Church, 2051 Sunset Cliffs Blvd. 7:30 p.m. All ages. www.Mfpresents.com.

The Duck Dive is continuing its series, Girls With Guitars, spotlighting local female musicians, on Wednesdays. A great way to hear some of San Diego's best in an intimate, casual setting, the free performances are not limited to the singer-songwriter genre, with upcoming performances set to include blues vocalist Whitney Shay (Jan. 18), singer Marcela Mendez (Jan. 25) and folk rocker duo Sister Speak (Feb. 1). Shay in particular is a vocal powerhouse well worth hearing, but any of these shows is a terrific way to get over the mid-week blues.

Girls With Guitars: Wednesdays at The Duck Dive, 4650 Mission Blvd. 7 p.m. All ages. www.the-duckdive.com.

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2016 >>
CONT. FROM PG. 7

lands in the northeast corner of Mission Bay.

"The vision is to enhance and restore wetlands at the mouth of Rose Creek," said Schwartz, noting the remaining marsh, known by various names including the Kendall Frost Reserve, has shrunk to about 40 acres, which she said is "non-sustainable."

MARCH

- Limited metered parking was among alternatives being considered by a reconstituted Pacific Beach Community Parking District March 10. The proposal met with staunch opposition, especially from local surfers. The PB parking committee is considering, along with paid parking, starting a residential permit system in the area surrounding a potential parking district. There is also a draft plan being considered to institute paid parking in a several-block area between Mission Boulevard and Cass Street on the west and east, and Emerald and Thomas streets on the north and south (surrounded by potential residential permitting).

- Gambling – especially on horses – traveling and being with friends were among retired schoolteacher and administrator Maruta Gardner's favorite things, friends and family noted during a celebration of her life

in the park near the Mission Beach jetty on March 4, where she was killed by an intoxicated driver in a road rage incident in February. Gardner's passion was community service.

- The city reported in March it was more than halfway through an approximately \$5.5 million restoration of Mission Beach's boardwalk, which will return the well-trod thoroughfare to its 1920s condition. Since Labor Day of 2015, the city was busy replacing the walkway, splash wall and seawall along Mission Beach's Belmont Park. The plan was to restore the coastal landmark to mimic how it looked when it was first constructed in the 1920s.

- SeaWorld CEO Joel Manby announced March 17 that the company will halt killer whale breeding, end its theatrical orca shows and double down on conservation and rescue efforts.

APRIL

- Mission Beach residents wearing white T-shirts with the message "Save the tree, make a park" and carrying protest signs turned out April 4 to march against the current plans to redevelop the former Mission Beach Elementary School site at 818 Santa Barbara Place turning it into condominiums.

- Pacific Beach mobilized to get word out to authorities that it has serious issues with homelessness and other problems in the community

that need to be immediately addressed. So much so that a new Facebook site, facebook.com/cleanuppb/, was established.

- Beach & Bay Press profiled bike theft, which has become rampant – almost epidemic – in Pacific Beach, with residents – and police – ramping up efforts to nab thieves. Almost daily, bikes gets stolen somewhere along the beachfront.

- Overriding concerns about traffic, parking and alteration of Mission Beach's character, San Diego City Council voted 6-2 on April 11 to approve two separate parcels of a proposed 63-unit condo project on the former Mission Beach Elementary School site.

- At the April 27 community workshop on the De Anza Revitalization Plan, attendees learned prospective upgrades could include water-quality improvements, RV and tent lodging, enhanced pedestrian and bicycling access and possible marshland relocation.

- A judge April 21 ordered an alleged drunk driver to stand trial for gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated in the Feb. 12 death of retired educator Maruta Gardner, who died while painting over graffiti in Mission Beach. Two dozen witnesses, including Gardner's husband William, testified in the two-day preliminary hearing of Jonathan Domingo Garcia, 23. Garcia was also



The community suffered a tragic loss when activist Maruta Gardner was struck and killed by a suspected drunken driver Feb. 12.

allegedly under the influence of marijuana and a tranquilizer at the time, according to testimony.

MAY

- Beach & Bay Press highlighted the growing fly infestation in Mission Beach, which during summertime, causes severe problems, especially at local restaurants. MB restaurants chalked up more than 250 negative Yelp! restaurant reviews and a multitude of health department citations, largely attributable to the insect infestation. "The fly and filth problem, especially in the alleys, is horrible," said Dawn Reilly, project administrator for Beautiful MB Inc., a nonprofit dedicated to Mission Beach's improvement and enhancement.

- Mayor Kevin Faulconer officially reopened Mission Beach seawall and boardwalk May 26 continuing his pledge to invest nearly half a billion dollars into rebuilding and improving neighborhoods. The newly constructed walkway, splash wall and seawall took eight months and \$4.9 million to complete. According to Faulconer, this was only the first step in a long-term project to rebuild Mission Beach.

- Reigning world champion and UCI's topranked rider Peter Sagan (Tinkoff) won Stage 1 of the Amgen Tour of California with a come-from-behind sprint down Quivira Way in Mission Bay to nip second-place fin-

SEE 2016, Page 10

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■ PBE celebrates a new addition to campus, the Maker's Space, outfitted with state-of-the-art furniture purchased by FOPBE to create a dynamic learning environment. Several programs will be using this space during the school year, including the San Diego Youth Science program and Project Lead the Way. San Diego Youth Science, which is funded 100 percent by FOPBE, brings hands-on science lessons to all grade levels aligning to the new NGSS standards. Starting in February, Project Lead the Way is a new STEM program starting at PBE, teaching modules of engineering, coding, biomedical science, and robotics to students. For more information about the science opportunities at PBE, please email PBElem@sandi.net.

■ PBE is currently looking for

donations from local businesses for its annual spring auction in April. If you or your business is able to donate, please email pacificbeachelementary@gmail.com.

FOPBSS

■ Join friends and neighbors for a delicious Friends of Pacific Beach Secondary Schools Family Dine Out on Wednesday, Jan. 18, noon to 9 p.m., at Momma Mia's located at 1932 Balboa Ave.

■ FOPBSS meeting, Wednesday, Jan. 25 Mission Bay High School Library. FOPBSS invites any parent, parent, teacher, administrator and community member to attend the monthly meetings.

St. Paul's Lutheran

■ St. Paul's Lutheran School will be having a 70th Academic Year Celebration on Sunday, Jan. 22 at from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. to celebrate 70 years in the Pacific Beach community. A barbecue will follow church services with special activities for all ages.

2016 >> CONT. FROM PG. 9

isher Wouter Wippert (Cannonale Pro Cycling Team) on May 15. Stage 1 of the statewide race started in Mission Bay, went south through Imperial Beach, headed east and then eventually went back west through Pacific Beach.

• The line for opening day at the new Gelson's in Pacific Beach on May 26 snaked around the block as scores turned out early in the morning to be among the first 200 to collect a reusable shopping bag full of gifts. Walking through the doors, customers were personally greeted by employees lining the registers and aisles of the store at 730 Turquoise St., which previously was a Haggen's, and before that, an Albertsons.

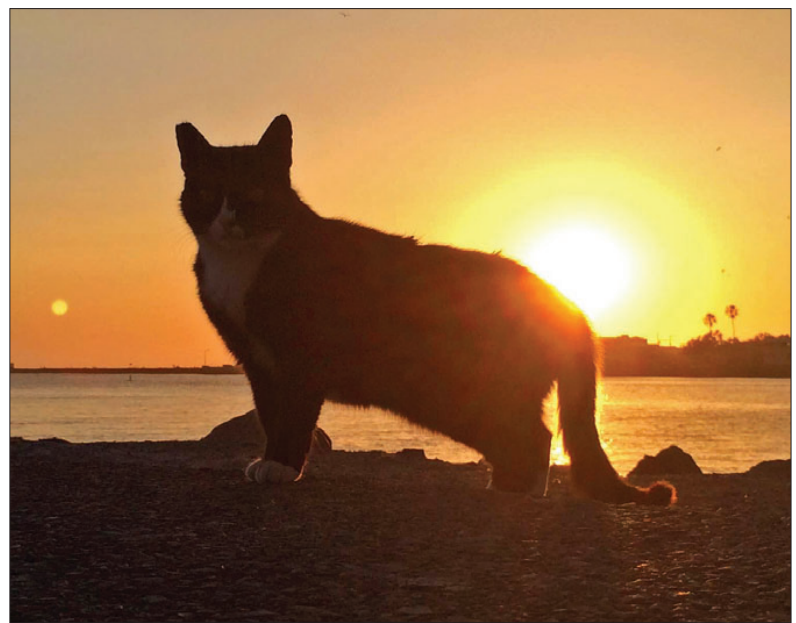
JUNE

• The City Council on June 13 approved the San Diego budget, which included money for a second weekly trash pickup in Mission Beach to help prevent summer fly infestation. "We have small businesses and restaurants who count on visitors and tourists to dine, however, there is such a large concentration of flies in Mission Beach these restaurants are getting cited for excessive flies by County Health officials," noted District 2 Councilwoman Lorie Zapf.

• MBHS students collected plastic waste for 97 days from high school trash cans, gathering more than 100 pounds of bottles, bowls, and forks; 90 percent of which could have been recycled. MBHS then installed a reverse-osmosis water purifier and Yelp donated 250 reusable water bottles for students.

• In a continuation of its April meeting with the San Diego Police Department on PB crime trends, the conversation June 15 turned to the direct link between the saturation of alcohol licenses in the beach community and the high incidence of violent crimes: PB has the city's second-highest rate in the city.

• Café 976, one of Pacific Beach's more prominent and iconic businesses, closed June 20 after more



The jetty at the end of Quivira Way in Mission Beach has been home to a mysterious and popular colony of feral cats for many years.

than 20 years of service, but reopened under new management a couple of months later after being restored. After renovations, which included repainting and upgrades such as new fixtures and appliances, Café 976 Felspar reopened with much the same menu, and most of the same staff.

JULY

• A June 8 Mission Beach fly summit also yielded some positive results, including the City Council re-instituting a second weekly city summertime trash pickup. Another suggestion to combat flies involves creating a Community Benefit District to pay for more trash pickup.

• With the goal of enhancing and preserving San Diego's regional parks for generations to come, the City Council on July 12 unanimously approved Mayor Faulconer's plan for a grand restoration of the city's major parks that would make available hundreds of millions of more dollars for Mission Bay Park and regional parks. The ballot measure, which ultimately passed in November, directs a portion of Mission Bay lease revenue toward capital investment in Mission Bay Park and regional parks for an additional 30 years.

• The jetty at the end of Quivira Way in Mission Beach houses a popular colony of feral cats. The East

County Animal Rescue and the Feline Cat Coalition groups humanely trap, neuter and release the cats back to the jetty. The best times to visit and bring food to the friendly felines are in the early morning and just before sunset.

• The owners of Tony Roma's in Pacific Beach ended their affiliation with the Tony Roma's chain becoming Beachtown BBQ and Grill, a change which ultimately led to a lawsuit with their landlord, culminating in their leaving at the end of the year and taking their ABC alcohol license with them. Their departure rekindled the public debate over whether there are too many establishments in the beach community serving alcohol, and what can be done about it.

• The battle to remove two existing DecoBike stations on Pacific Beach's boardwalk continued, despite city opposition and amid reports that the bike-sharing company may be further expanding its coastal network. On July 20, community activists Alan Harris and Jennifer Tandy addressed Pacific Beach Town Council about an ongoing petition drive opposing PB boardwalk's commercialization. Harris noted about 3,000 signatures were gathered in just three or four weeks.

AUGUST

• The San Diego Metropolitan

SEE Page 11

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2016 »

CONT. FROM PG. 10

Transit System (MTS) continued to upgrade the region's transit system with the installation of 600 new bus shelters, including eight in Pacific Beach, and more than 1,800 benches in communities countywide.

- Critical injuries of pedestrians occurred, including a San Diego Chargers intern who was struck while walking in a hit-and-run crash on the 900 block of Garnet Avenue. This collision was a reminder of how important it is for the region's leaders to commit to Vision Zero, a campaign to make streets safe from serious injuries and deaths. Garnet Avenue is one of the eight most dangerous corridors in the City of San Diego, as identified by research from Circulate San Diego in www.circulatesd.org-visionzero.

- Thanks to enterprising Pacific Beach couple Dennis and Joylyn Darnell, a better household flytrap wound up on local store shelves. The Darnells spent two years developing and marketing a new product named the Garbage Can Fly Trap, which ended up on the shelves at Hammer & Nails Ace Hardware at 890 Turquoise St.

- Bike rental shops in Pacific and Mission beaches said their business has unquestionably been hurt by competition from Florida-based DecoBike, which operates bike share stations citywide, including two controversial ones on Pacific Beach's boardwalk.

SEPTEMBER

- Pacific Beach residents were asked if the gum pole – at the corner of Bayard and Garnet – is art or ick? The sticky pole has been there for years and no one is quite sure why. Most people we spoke to chose to describe it as “ick.”

- A push was on to make both the small and large dog sections of Capehart, at 4747 Soledad Mountain Road, green once again. An ad hoc group, Friends of Capehart Off-Leash Small Dog Park, spearheaded by beach-area residents Ron McChesney and Chris Cott, banded together to start a GoFundMe fundraiser to resod Capehart.

- The drunk driver who killed Mission Beach activist Maruta Gardner while she was painting over graffiti, Jonathan Domingo Garcia, 24, was sentenced to 11 years in prison by San Diego Superior Court Judge Kathleen Lewis, who turned down his attorney's request for probation. Lewis said she believed Garcia was “a danger to others,” mentioning his first hit-and-run accident just three weeks prior to Gardner's death.

- Many who came to Pacific Beach Town Council's Sept. 21 meeting on Proposition J expected to hear it praised, not panned. What they got was a full-blown debate, with the proposition being questioned – if not outright objected to – by several critics, including two former District 2 city council members, Donna Frye

and Ed Harris. Proposition J, which passed Nov. 8, changes the current allocation of lease revenue derived from city-owned property in Mission Bay Park.

OCTOBER

- The Mid-Coast Trolley groundbreaking took place Oct. 22 at Manchester Field at The Preuss School UCSD. With one of its nine new trolley stops serving Pacific Beach/Clairemont at Balboa Avenue, the Mid-Coast project will extend the trolley from Old Town to UCSD, with service expected to begin in 2021.

- SeaWorld San Diego broke ground on a multimillion-dollar attraction, Ocean Explorer exhibit, to take visitors on an exploration of Earth's seven seas. Ocean Explorer is scheduled to open in late spring 2017 on the southeast end of the theme park.

NOVEMBER

- Fiesta Island, the manmade island at 1590 Mission Bay Drive that offers off-leash areas for dogs to run and play, was nominated by the pet-friendly travel website BringFido.com becoming the top dog park in the nation. Fiesta Island also enjoys the support of a grass roots group, FIDO, which is a community-based nonprofit with more than 14,000 members dedicated to preserving Fiesta Island's Leash-Free Recreation area.

- A motion by City Council President Sherri Lightner, which some feel would have largely banned short-term vacation rentals in single-family neighborhoods, was defeated by a 7-2 vote on Nov. 1. An alternative motion brought by Council member Todd Gloria was then passed by the same 7-2 margin. Gloria's counter motion requested city staff do a fiscal analysis to determine the cost of greater short-term vacation rentals enforcement citywide, asked staff to draft and return with a comprehensive ordinance better defining and regulating STVRs.

- Mission Beach residents were glad – or mad – about a new proposed maintenance assessment district (MAD) now in its early formative stages. The MAD is being organized and lobbied for by Beautiful Mission Beach, a community-based organization including some high-profile business owners in the area. MB MAD opponents said they favored continuing a second summer trash pickup, but felt taxing locals and establishing a new special district to do it was unnecessary as well as overly expensive.

DECEMBER

- In a crime befitting a grinch, the huge Christmas tree on the end of Crystal Pier was vandalized early Saturday morning Dec. 17. The tree was tossed off the pier into the ocean, where it washed up on the beach a couple of days later near the Pacific Beach Lifeguard Station at 700 Ocean Blvd.



Peter Sagan won Stage 1 of the Amgen Tour of California with a come-from-behind sprint down Quivira Way in Mission Bay in May.



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CONT. FROM PG. 1

cations Office. "We spay or neuter them and place them. They make very good 'barn cats' or stable cats."

Manns noted that California state fish and wildlife laws "do not allow for relocation because doing so could upset the balance of nature in new areas."

Manns said the federal agency is working in collaboration with City Parks and Recreation personnel, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and UCSD Reserve System to carry out its mission.

"We are doing this to protect these endangered species for future generations," Manns said. "When conducting lethal management activities, Wildlife Services evaluates all potential tools for humaneness, effectiveness, ability to target specific individual animals and/or

species, and potential impact on human safety. We comply with all applicable state and federal laws and are committed to wildlife damage management efforts that are safe, effective and environmentally responsible."

"The predator mitigation program has been used for more than two decades in San Diego, and has helped to protect federally designated endangered species including terns and clapper rails," said city spokesperson Tim Graham.

"The City is mandated by federal law to comply with efforts to protect endangered species, and will continue to cooperate to protect sensitive animal species that live in the area," he said.

"The most important thing is for residents to be responsible with their pets and be careful about not leaving pet food and trash out that attracts wildlife into urban environments," said Rebecca Schwartz Lesberg, director of conservation for San Diego Audubon.

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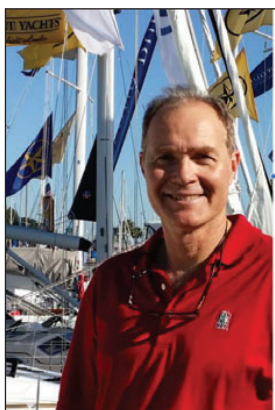
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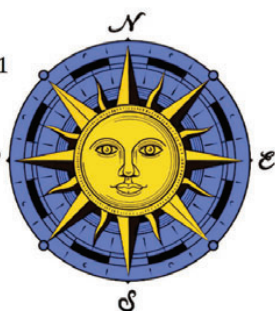
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Rare La Jolla early 1900's 6 bedroom home on approx. 10,000 square foot lot only 1 block from the beach! Zoned multi-family but currently configured as a single-family residence. Grand proportions & old world details are married with fun outdoor spaces including a pool & spa, outdoor cooking amenities & enchanting, brick-paved patio off the kitchen. 2 detached single-car garages & a large motor court provide a rare advantage at the beach! Fantastic walkability to beaches, The Village & local schools!
\$2,965,000



Steve Cairncross

CA BRE #00859218

TeamCairncross.com | 858-859-3370



4130 Haines Street #2A

1 Bedroom, 1 Bath Condo in Great Location just 3 Blocks to Sail Bay and 7 Blocks to The Beach! Light and Bright with Nice Private Balcony, Parking and Large Storage Closet

Call Dane Today for More Info or to Schedule a Showing!



Dane Scharetz
CA BRE #01345168
858-504-3263
sdcoastalhomesales.com



Mission Beach Homes for sale!

3 Off Market!

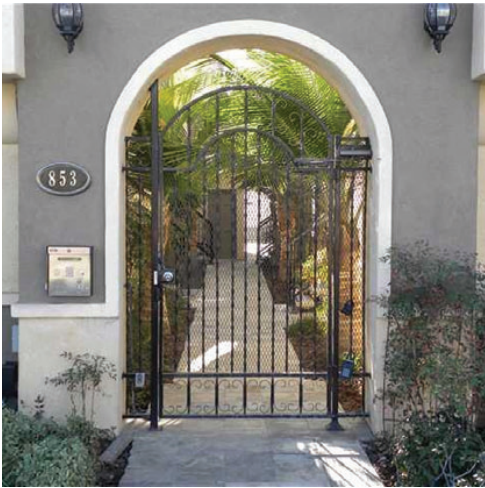
- ~817 San Jose Place: North Mission Beach Charming Cape Cod with private ocean and bay view rooftop patio. 3BR/2BA 1350 sqft \$1.395m
- ~North Mission Bayside Detached 2 bed plus office 2.5 bath with 2 car garage
- ~North Mission Oceanside Detached 3BR/3BA with 2 car garage
- ~North Mission Duplex with a 2/1 and 3/2

Pacific Beach Off Market!

Northwest PB Townhome
3BR/2.5BA, 1575 sqft \$749,000



Kara Watkins Norgart
CA BRE #01389633
619-708-8276
www.KaraWatkins.com



853 Thomas Avenue #1

Outstanding 1BR/1BA Pacific Beach Condo, centrally located and just one block to the Beach. Condo has been upgraded with granite counter tops, laminate wood flooring, in unit Washer/Dryer and private patio area. Live the good life at the Beach! **\$425,000**



Greg Flaherty
Broker/Owner
CABRE #00935682
www.CoastalPro.com | 858-692-0185