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COMMUNITY

The San Diego Community Newspaper Group has partnered with the National Multiple Sclerosis Society in San Diego in support of the San Diego County Credit Union Walk MS.

SEE PAGE 16



SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER GROUP

BUSINESS

Two Pacific Beach millennials, Daren Myers and Brian Watrous, created Rau Chocolate in their Pacific Beach apartment. It is now sold in 500 West Coast locations.

SEE PAGE 14



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THURSDAY · APRIL 6, 2017

NEW LIFEGUARD STATION MAY BE IN VIEW

Court reversal clears way for construction



Beachgoers sunbathe near the lifeguard station on South Mission Beach on Tuesday afternoon.

PHOTO BY THOMAS MELVILLE

But opponents vow to continue fight after ruling

By DAVE SCHWAB

A revised court ruling has cleared the way for construction of a long-delayed new lifeguard tower for South Mission Beach, much to the chagrin of opponents whose lawsuit contended the project was outdated and needed to start over.

In a complete reversal of the Lower Superior Court, the Fourth Appellate District Court of Appeal recently ruled that the lifeguard tower's site development permit was valid and had not expired, as project opponents had claimed. The appellate court also ruled that the plaintiff's suit was filed too late.

'This is an important victory because it means better lifeguard coverage on one of our busiest beaches.'

MARA ELLIOTT
SAN DIEGO CITY ATTORNEY

The city claims the new, three-story tower replacing a small, 40-year-old wooden structure will provide better views of the water and accommodate additional lifeguards and equipment.

"This is an important victory because it means better lifeguard coverage on one of our busiest beaches and safer swimming conditions for our

residents and visitors," City Attorney Mara Elliott said. "Just as important, it reaffirms earlier rulings that unequivocally support the city's right to move forward with public projects as financing and approvals allow."

Project opponents were less sanguine about the judicial turnabout.

"I think the appellate judge

was just totally misled by the fabricated story the city presented, that this (opposition) was just a couple of disgruntled homeowners complaining about their views," said Ken Giavara, spokesman for tower opponents, who say that's exactly the way the case went down.

Giavara said the appellate court missed the real point of the case, upheld by the lower court, which was that the lifeguard tower's site development permit was invalid because it had expired.

"The judge's decision should have been based on

SEE STATION Page 21

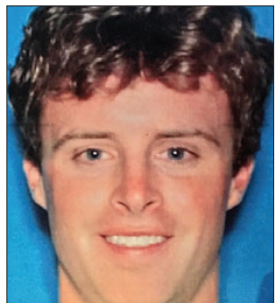
Opening statements in Burke murder trial

By NEAL PUTMAN

The lawyer for an Ocean Beach man told a jury Monday his client shot a man outside his door and was justified in killing him in self-defense because the man sent threatening text messages to him.

Attorney Gary Gibson told the jury he will ask them to return a not guilty verdict in the 2016 death of Jess Matthew Robles, 34, of Pacific Beach, by his client, Thomas Francis Burke, 33.

Burke, who is known by the nickname T.J., was



Thomas Francis Burke

a pharmacist at a San Diego hospital before the shooting. All courtroom seats were filled with family and friends of both Robles and Burke. Attorneys on both sides read

SEE TRIAL, Page 4

PB man pleads guilty to assault with firearm

By NEAL PUTMAN

Michael Anthony Davee, 52, of Pacific Beach, pleaded guilty Monday to assault with a firearm in a 2016 incident in which he pointed a gun at a La Jolla woman after he scaled a wall to reach her condominium.

Davee will be sentenced May 30 by San Diego Superior Court Judge Michael Groch who indicated the sentencing would range from either probation to up to three years in state prison.

Deputy District Attorney Samira Seidu said the maximum sentence is nine years in prison if he

violates any term of probation if that is granted.

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 on La Jolla Boulevard and he pointed a gun at her on Sept. 22, 2016.

The woman testified in the preliminary hearing that she ran out the door with her dog after Davee 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.

The guilty plea cancels the April 17 trial.

Mission Beach doesn't get MAD, plan on hold

By DAVE SCHWAB

The notion of forming a new maintenance assessment district to improve Mission Beach began with business owner John Valles asking himself while sweeping his trashed-out alley, "What can be done about it?"

A couple of years later, plans to follow through with creation of a Mission Beach MAD have been placed on indefinite hold. The reason: push back from community residents questioning its specifics, most notably its costs and purview.

But efforts to beautify the community, and resolve its problems and issues, continue unabated. As one example, Beautiful Mission Beach's monthly beach cleanup on April 1 prevented more than 1,000 pounds of trash from reaching the Pacific Ocean and Mission Bay.

A MAD is a legal mechanism allowing property owners, both businesses and residents, to vote in a special district and tax themselves to pay for public improvements such as enhanced maintenance, landscaping or lighting services. There are currently 61 MADs throughout San Diego.

"There was never an intention to do anything against the community," said Valles of the prospective MAD. "This was for the community. We're trying to create a permanent funding source to pay for addition trash pickup to mitigate the fly infestation every summer."

'There was never an intention to do anything against the community.'

JOHN VALLES
MISSION BEACH BUSINESS OWNER

tation every summer."

And the fly problem, thanks to a second trash pickup which 2nd District Councilmember Lorie Zapf helped engineer in last year's city budget on a one-time basis, made a huge difference in Valles' view.

"It was so much better," he contended. "The program was successful. All the restaurants ... everybody was really happy."

The fly infestation had become a serious issue, with restaurants hit hard in the beach community, getting cited by the health department as well as being beat up on Yelp reviews because of the nuisance.

"Flies weren't coming from the restaurants, they were coming from the alleys and the trash," pointed out Valles.

That and other issues led to formation about three years ago of the 501 (c)3 nonprofit Beautiful Mission Beach.

"We had 40 people sign on initially to pursue it (nonprofit) and started down this road dedicated to beautification and community

improvement," said Valles. "It operates in lockstep with the Mission Beach Town Council."

Concerning a new MB MAD, Mission Beach Town Council president Gary Wonacott noted, "The original MAD being promoted by Beautiful MB does not have support in the community to be approved and implemented for crucial services and projects in Mission Beach. The city is looking at the possibility of modifying an existing park and rec MAD to incorporate the funding for the second trash pickup. But again, this is a long-term process even if successful."

Adding the proposed new MAD was "intended to raise additional revenues from property taxes for a variety of services and projects in Mission Beach focusing on the second trash pickup," Wonacott added, "At the same time, the city is collecting an estimated \$2 million-plus from Mission Beach short-term rental Transient Occupancy Taxes. It is likely that most of the beach communities — La Jolla, Pacific Beach and Ocean Beach — would support TOT funds coming back into their respective communities. The MBTC has sent a letter to Zapf to explore the possibility for some of these TOT funds to be kept in a special fund, and used for Mission Beach requirements."

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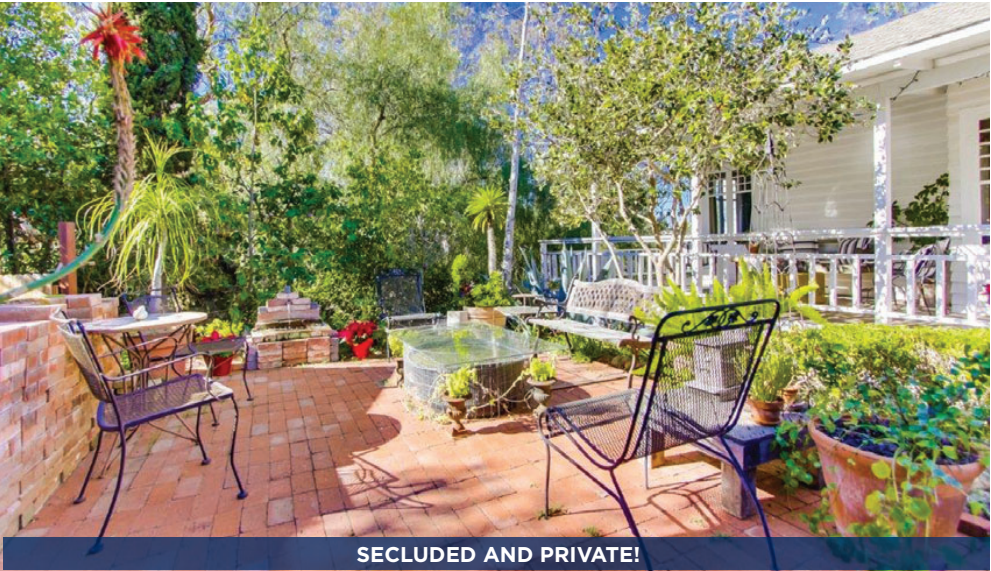
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San Diego police unveil device to test for marijuana at traffic stops

By DAVE SCHWAB

San Diego Police Chief Shelley Zimmerman on March 16 unveiled a mobile, saliva-screening device, Drager 5000, to test for illicit drugs including cocaine, marijuana, amphetamines and prescription narcotics, to be implemented immediately.

Her announcement came on the eve of the St. Patrick's Day weekend, typically a high-risk time for drug- and alcohol-impaired driving and related crime.

"We're here today to introduce a

technology to be used by our San Diego Police Department to help detect drivers who make the 'wrong' decision to drive while under the influence of not only alcohol, but also of drugs," said Zimmerman who added, "Public safety is a shared responsibility, and DUI's are a 100 percent preventable crime."

For those opting to drive under the influence of drugs, Zimmerman noted the Dragers "are another tool we will use to find you, arrest you, and prevent you from endangering our community."

At the press conference, Zimmer-

man introduced the Drager 5000. The oral-fluid screening device tests saliva for the presence of seven different drugs including THC, the active ingredient in marijuana. Recreational use of marijuana was passed by voters in a 2016 statewide ballot initiative.

The police chief said the two Drager mobile drug testers, which cost about \$6,000 apiece, will be used mostly at DUI checkpoints initially. But she pointed out their transportability will make them valuable in the field as well.

Zimmerman said officers are being trained to become expert in identifying the symptoms of drug-influenced drivers. Those suspected of DUID will then be asked to submit to the Drager test, which is similar to tests administered to suspected drunk drivers.

Noting SDPD will be the first police department in San Diego to utilize the oral drug-testing devices, Zimmerman pointed out the Dragers only test for measurable amounts of illicit substances present in a driver's system. Those testing positive will be asked later to take a chemical test revealing the exact level of drugs in their system.

Asked whether there were set standards, like alcohol, to measure whether a drugged person is intoxicated or not, officials replied there isn't at present.

"Impairment is impairment whether you're driving under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance," responded deputy city attorney Taylor Garrot. "If your system can't handle that (drug) level, and



San Diego Police Chief Shelley Zimmerman (center) at the announcement of the Drager 5000 in Pacific Beach. PHOTO BY DAVE SCHWAB

you're not able to operate a vehicle with the same care as a sober person – then you shouldn't be driving."

Zimmerman added SDPD's response in acquiring the new drug-testing devices was prompted, in part, by the experience of Colorado law enforcement that has witnessed an increase in drug-impaired driving following recreational marijuana's passage in that state.

During her 34-year law enforcement career, Zimmerman said she's personally witnessed "the devastation driving under the influence leaves on individuals, families and on our community."

"It's all about safety," the police chief concluded.

The Drager testing devices were funded through a private endowment managed by the San Diego Police Officers Foundation.

SDPD also announced its intention to continue working with the San Diego City Attorney's Office and their DUID Vertical Prosecution Unit. Last year, that unit prosecuted 282 drug and drug/alcohol-impaired cases (up from 150 cases the previous year), the majority of them purely drug DUI cases, with a 98 percent conviction rate. The office as a whole prosecuted more than 2,700 DUI cases during this period.

Drivers caught driving impaired can expect the impact of a DUI arrest to include jail time, fines, fees, DUI classes and other expenses that can exceed \$10,000.

To report suspected drunken drivers call 911.

The San Diego Police Department reminds everyone to call 9-1-1 to report drunk drivers.

Beware of these critical traps before listing your home

SAN DIEGO. According to industry experts, there are over 33 physical problems that will come under scrutiny during a home inspection when your home is for sale. A new report has been prepared which identifies the eleven most common of these problems, and what you should know about them before you list your home for sale.

Whether you own an older home or a brand new one, there are a number of things that can fall short of requirements during a home inspection. To help home-

sellers deal with this issue before their homes are listed, a free report entitled "11 Things You Need to Know to Pass Your Home Inspection" has been compiled which explains the issues involved. To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this report, call toll-free 1-800-276-0763 and enter 1003. You can call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Get your free special report NOW to learn how to ensure a home inspection doesn't cost you the sale of your home.

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Kelli Denton R.N., is the director and

has more than 35 years of nursing experience that includes oncology, infusion therapy, home health and home care. Denton explains that all caregivers are live-scanned fingerprinted, have extensive background checks through the Ca. DOJ (Dept. of Justice) and FBI on a national level. All employees are also bonded and covered with worker's comp. Effective 6.1.16, all home care agencies were required to be licensed with Ca.'s Dept. of Social Services, Community Care Licensing Division and are subject to un-announced state surveys, which Denton welcomes. "Licensure keeps us on top of our game and will weed out those agencies that are not compliant with regulations".

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TRIAL >> CONT. FROM PG. 1

text messages that were sent back and forth by Burke to his female roommate, Larae Clark, who was dating Robles on June 22, 2016. Burke described Robles as "a douche" in a text message, and Robles then sent Burke text messages in response using his girlfriend's phone while they were at the OB Noodle House.

Deputy District Attorney Kyle Sutterley told the eight woman, four man jury he would ask them to convict Burke of first-degree murder. He said Burke described his hatred for Robles because he was jealous and had developed feelings for his roommate.

Burke described Robles as "a party boy" whom he hated and had banned him from the Voltaire Street condominium, said Sutterley. Burke claimed Robles was too noisy and woke him up.

Clark and Burke were old friends from when they lived in New Jersey. She began dating Robles about six

The Lyft driver testified he saw Jess Robles knock on the condominium's front door and heard two shots. He then called 911.

weeks before he was killed. The prosecutor said 11 hours before the fatal shooting Burke told his roommate he loved her.

The first witness was Lyft driver Edgar Bulbuena, who gave a ride to Robles and Clark to the condominium. Bulbuena testified Clark thought she was being kicked out and Robles offered his house for where she could stay. She went inside to pack some things.

"It seems like he wants to be with my girlfriend," said Robles in the car about Burke, according to Bulbuena.

The Lyft driver testified he saw Robles knock on the condominium's front door and heard two

shots. Bulbuena said he called 911.

Sutterley said Robles was shot in the throat and chest and there was stippling residue present on the throat wound, indicating the gun was 4-6 inches away when fired.

Gibson told jurors Robles communicated threats via text messages to Burke, who used "lawful self-defense in his home," Gibson said Robles' blood/alcohol level was .16, indicating he consumed 8-9 drinks.

Gibson said Burke was "so freaked out," he changed the garage door code after receiving Robles' text messages. Gibson said Burke had suspected Robles had gone through his drawers in his bedroom earlier.

After the shooting, Burke laid the gun on his bed and jumped off the balcony. He took his cell phone with him and called an attorney five times, but never actually spoke with him. He surrendered to police downtown the next morning at 7:30 a.m.

San Diego Superior Court Judge Melinda Lasater gave lengthy instructions to the jury Monday. Burke has pleaded not guilty, and remains in jail on \$4 million bail.

Short-term rentals status still up in the air

Committee endorses proposal to regulate home-sharing

By DAVE SCHWAB

With proponents arguing they're an economic necessity and opponents countering they're an unwanted nuisance, a City Council committee failed to come to a consensus on three proposed alternatives for modifying rules pertaining to whole-home, short-term vacation rentals.

The March 24 special meeting on short-term vacation rentals was conducted by the City Council's Smart Growth and Land Use Committee chaired by District 7 Councilmember Scott Sherman. The other two committee members present were Chris Cate and Georgette Gomez.

After the March 24 meeting, Save San Diego Neighborhoods, a grassroots group opposing short-term vacation rentals in residential areas, hailed as a "victory" the Smart Growth and Land Use Committee's decision to only forward a proposal to regulate home-sharing to the full City Council for its recommendation.

Save San Diego Neighborhoods draws a sharp distinction between owner-occupied home sharing rentals, and whole-house, absentee-owner rentals.

'I feel there's a big difference between owner-occupied home-sharing and whole-home rentals where the owner is not around.'

GEORGETTE GOMEZ
DISTRICT 9 COUNCILMEMBER

District 9 Councilmember Georgette Gomez concurred with Save San Diego Neighborhoods' view.

"I feel there's a big difference between owner-occupied home-sharing and whole-home rentals where the owner is not around when issues potentially arise, especially at night and on weekends," said Gomez. "Particularly, I feel there is a difference between investor-owned whole-home rentals and those simply trying to make ends meet.

"It is primarily these properties that are not owner-occupied that seem to be contributing to negative impacts, whose effects are being felt throughout neighborhoods, primarily in single-family neighborhoods. For those reasons, I feel this issue should be addressed separately," Gomez said.

Commenting on the Smart Growth and Land Use Committee March 24 hearing, Airbnb press

secretary Jasmine Mora said: "As we heard from the public, San Diegans deserve short-term rental regulations that are clear, fair and reasonable. The hearing was a productive discussion and a solid step toward rules that will preserve neighborhood quality, while allowing folks to continue to make ends meet through using our platform to share their home. We'll continue to engage with our policymakers and community to ensure hosts, guests and our city can continue to benefit from the sharing economy."

Previously, new City Attorney Mara Elliott took a completely different tack than her predecessor, Jan Goldsmith, with her March 15 issuance of a memorandum of law advising the City Council on short-term vacation rentals.

"The city has a 'permissive zoning ordinance,'" read Elliott's mem-

SEE RENTALS, Page 8

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Clairemont man convicted of murdering PB woman

By NEAL PUTMAN

A jury has convicted a Clairemont man of second-degree murder in the beating death of a Pacific Beach woman who died from multiple blunt force injuries to her head.

David Charles Ashton, 63, was convicted of killing Regina Moore, 48, after he beat her with his fists on Jan. 23, 2016 in his home. He dropped her off at her boyfriend's home in Pacific Beach where she sometimes stayed.

Ashton faces a sentence of 15

years to life in prison when he is sentenced on April 7 by San Diego Superior Court Judge Louis Hanoian. A jury deliberated a day before acquitting him of first-degree murder and then convicted him of second-degree murder.

Moore may have underestimated her injuries and did not seek medical attention after Ashton took her to her boyfriend. Her boyfriend called an ambulance at 3 a.m. and she died six hours later in a hospital.

She suffered from a subdural hematoma, which is bleeding in

the area between her brain and skull. Her blood/alcohol level at the hospital was .23, which is almost four times the legal limit, according to court records.

Deputy District Attorney Nicole Rooney said the cause of death was multiple blunt force injury to her head and body. An autopsy showed she had seven injuries to her head, a broken rib, a broken arm, and bruising on her abdomen.

"He (Ashton) had beaten her in the past," said Rooney.

Ashton's attorney, William

Nimmo, had suggested to jurors that he could at most be convicted of involuntary manslaughter. Nimmo said Ashton had been diagnosed with Asperger's disorder.

Ashton has also been accused of molesting a minor in 2004, and that case was filed after the murder case was brought against him. A status hearing on that case is also set for April 7.

Ashton, an electronic technician, remains in the South Bay Detention Facility on \$1 million bail.

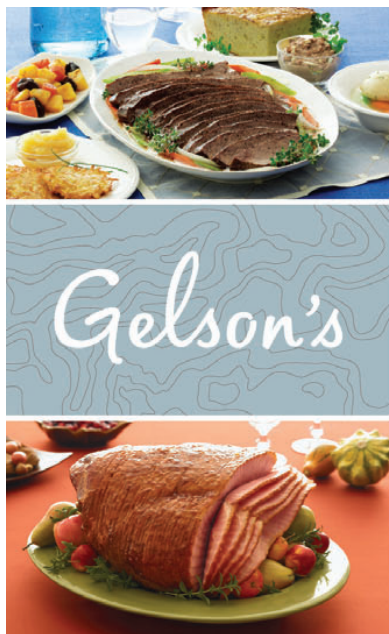
RENTALS » CONT. FROM PG. 5

orandum. "This means that any use that is not listed in the city's zoning ordinance is prohibited."

Elliott's memo subsequently pointed out, "Short-term vacation rentals are not specifically defined, expressly permitted, or listed in any of the zone use categories, including residential or commercial."

Responding to Elliott's memo, Mora of Airbnb commented: "The portion of the (municipal) code referenced was not written with the sharing economy in mind and underscores why we need thoughtful, sensible short-term rental regulations. Thousands of San Diegans rely on home sharing to make ends meet and supplement their incomes. We want to continue working with city leaders to enact clear and common-sense regulations that ensure accountability and maintain neighborhood quality."

At the March 24 short-term vacation rentals hearing, John Ambert, chair of Ocean Beach Planning Board, noted the beach community is "one of the most heavily impacted of the rental communities with about 400 short-term vacation rentals operating at any given time."



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Mission Bay boys volleyball have spring in their steps

By DAVE THOMAS

With the calendar fully focused now on spring, a number of Mission Bay High teams have been in action as of late.

In boys volleyball action, head coach Nikki Caufield's squad recently dropped a tough four-set loss on the road at Clairemont.

Alex Torres and Jesus Zarate led the Bucs with 15 kills each.

"The match ultimately came down to one or two plays each game that decided the outcome," Mission Bay High assistant coach Jeff Caufield said.

"When we are playing our game, we did very well against Clairemont's big guns. If we made any mistakes, they exploited them."

Two days later, the Bucs

rebounded for a three-set home sweep over San Diego High.

Torres led the Bucs with 15 kills, Zarate had 13 aces, Jacob Cayatano added 22 assists, and freshman Ryan Derry led the team in passing and digs.

Coach Nikki Caufield said of the boy's performance: "Last year we had two close losses to San Diego that resulted from our lack of experience, but we avenged last year's losses with a solid showing today. It is really good to see a number of our younger players start getting into the swing of the match."

"We saw some really nice plays today out of our 6-foot 5-inch tall sophomore middle Josh Leon and we see real progress with his development. Once Josh figures it out, he is going to be a force in the middle."

For the first time, Breeders' Cup to run at Del Mar racetrack

The 34th running of the Breeders' Cup will make history this fall as it debuts at the iconic Del Mar racetrack on Nov. 3 and 4.

"We are thrilled to bring Breeders' Cup to Del Mar for the first time this fall," said Craig Fravel, Breeders' Cup president and CEO. "Together with Del Mar Thoroughbred Club and the local Del Mar, Solana Beach, and San Diego communities, we have been working tirelessly to enhance every element of the fan experience and ensure that fans enjoy the best that the sport and the local area have to offer."

Breeders' Cup and Del Mar racetrack are investing approximately \$4.5 million to create more premium seating options and enhance the on-site experience for fans and participants. A total of 2,700 new, premium hospitality seating options will be added to

Del Mar, including two temporary Tracksides, Luxury Chalets and temporary box seats.

The temporary structures will be situated in a newly created "Chalet Village" at the west end of the Stretch Run and will accommodate 1,800 guests in two double-decker structures, each with its own catering, wagering, and restroom services. Additionally, 900 box seats are being added to the Clubhouse and Stretch Run sides of the facility.

"We are excited and honored to host our first Breeders' Cup this November," said Joe Harper, Del Mar Thoroughbred Club president and CEO. "By capping the attendance number and adding 2,700 premium seats, the Breeders' Cup will be an amazing experience for all guests and we can't wait to welcome fans from around the world to our venue and city."

Chick-fil-A Sports Arena Hosts "Eggstravaganza" Family Night April 11, 2017 Highlight Activity (Easter Bunny, crafts, face painting, etc...)

WHAT: The Chick-fil-A® Restaurant at 3570 Sports Arena Blvd., will host an "Eggstravaganza" Family Night for our guests on Tuesday, April 11, 2017 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. During this special evening, guests and their children are encouraged to spend some time together while they enjoy dinner, great conversation and Easter Bunny activities.

Activities include opportunity to take picture with the Easter Bunny, crafts, games, bounce house, face painting, and an obstacle course.

"We invite local families to take a break from their hectic schedules and join us for a special evening where they can spend quality time with their kids and have fun," said Matt Hughes, franchise Operator of Chick-fil-A Sports Arena. The event is free to attend, except for the cost of food.

WHEN: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

WHERE: Chick-fil-A Sports Arena 3570 Sports Arena Blvd. San Diego, CA 92110 (619) 758-1555



Jim Cervený's state meet victory almost 60 years to the date.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Tracking success at Jim Cervený Invitational Inaugural meet at Mission Bay High in honor of state champ

By DAVE THOMAS

When it comes to area track and field, one of the more exciting events of the season will take place on Saturday, April 15 at Mission Bay High track. That is when Movin' Shoes and Mission Bay High School present the inaugural Jim Cervený Invitational.

Cervený, a graduate of Mission Bay High School, won the 1957 California State 880-yard setting, a then national high school record in the event at 1:52.7. This marks the 60th year since he won the title.

For those not up to speed on Cervený, after graduating from Mission Bay, he went to Occidental College on an athletic scholarship.

Among his college highlights:

- 1960 AAU 800m champion.
- 1960 Olympic trials semifinals.

Cervený returned to San Diego as an educator and had stints as head track coach at Morse, Lincoln, and San Diego high schools.

Cervený ended up leading the

Morse Tigers to a CIF Title in 1977 for boys and 1979 for girls, respectively. He eventually moved up to the college rankings with years at Cuyamaca College, Mesa College, and was the last men's coach at SDSU when it had a men's track and field program.

The father of the Tiger relays (the first all-girls high school track meet in California, which started in 1972 and lasted until 2016), Cervený is presently on the Mission Bay High Track coaching staff, while also serving as a cross country assistant for San Diego City College.

The Jim Cervený invite will feature 25 high schools including Mission Bay, Patrick Henry, San Diego, Clairemont, La Jolla, Point Loma, and many more. Southern Section school South Pasadena will also be joining the meet as the sole out-of-town team.

Marquee event

Participants and fans on April 15 can look forward to a marquee

event, The Charles Jock Invite 800, featuring 15 of the top half-milers.

Jock, another Mission Bay alumnus, like Cervený, was a California State champion in 2008, winning the title in 1:50.82.

He went on to UC Irvine on scholarship and in 2011 qualified to represent team USA in the IAAF World Championships in Daegu, South Korea. The following year, he captured the 2012 NCAA 800m championship. Jock and his family are expected to attend the meet to award the winner of the Charles Jock 800 with a plaque.

The meet will feature many of the top prep talent in the area, as in the triple jump, Mission Bay's Xavier Brandon, currently sixth best (43 feet 5.5) in the San Diego section, will defend home turf. He will face Point Loma's Altan Mitchell (46 feet 5.25), the top triple jumper.

Admission for this event is \$5 and gates open at 8:30 a.m. for the public. Food and drink will be available for purchase.

Red Bull Air Race returns to San Diego next weekend after 8 years away

The Red Bull Air Race World Championship makes a return to San Diego April 15-16. San Diego last hosted a Red Bull Air Race in 2009. Nicolas Ivanoff won in the

skies above San Diego Bay eight years ago and he'll be looking to do it again this year. Ivanoff took the top spot on the podium by beating Paul Bonhomme by more than a

second. Ivanoff will be fighting 13 other Master Class pilots to try and win in San Diego. For more information and tickets, visit www.redbullairrace.com.

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Instacart service expands to Pacific Beach, La Jolla, and Mission Bay

By MANNY LOPEZ

Grocery store shopping could become a thing of the past as more San Diegans are choosing to fill their virtual wagons with on-demand delivery services such as Instacart.

The San Francisco-based e-commerce company recently announced that it has doubled its local coverage area to include 11 new zip codes since launching in this region.

Instacart's new delivery areas include the following zip codes: 92037, 92092, 92093, 92106, 92109, 92111, 92117, 92120,

92122, 92123 and 92124.

With just a few mouse clicks, online customers in the Clairemont, La Jolla, Mission Bay, Pacific Beach, Point Loma and Torrey Pines areas can now stock up on food and beverages from a number of specialty grocers in as little as one hour.

"People value their time as well as the gas to get to the store and back," said David Holyoak, operations manager for Instacart. "If they want to get time back, and have an expert do grocery shopping for them, I would encourage them to use the service."

He said that for only \$5.99 per delivery, or \$149 per year for unlimited deliveries over \$35, customers can order from an assortment of retailers such as Costco (no membership required), Costco Business Center (a first of its kind from any delivery service), Jimbo's Naturally, Ralph's, Smart & Final and Whole Foods Market.

"I love the convenience and that I can save a few hours of my time and reduce stress," said Michelle Nyguen, a user of the service since September, who normally makes

about two to three trips to the grocery every week. "My husband and I work all day and have young children, so not having to make a bunch of trips to the store is major for us."

According to Holyoak, from their iPhone or Android, users can download Instacart's app, select a city and store, see what's available at the retailers location, add items to a virtual cart, check out and then choose when they want the items delivered between one hour and seven days.

Holyoak said that bargain hunters can find coupons and discounted

products on Instacart's website. He added that patrons get the assurance that the everyday price is the same as would be paid in the store.

Founded in May 2012 by former Amazon engineer Apoorva Mehta, Instacart joins a number of other alternative grocery shopping services working in the San Diego region. Among them include Albertsons, Amazon Prime, Postmates, Shipt and Vons.

"Our biggest competitor is just folks going to the store on their own," Holyoak said.

Easter Worship Services

First Baptist Church of
Clairemont
3219 Clairemont Mesa Blvd.
858 273-4642



Good Friday Services
6:00-7:00

Easter Sunrise Services
7:00-8:00

Regular Worship Services
10:00-11:30

THIRTY FOURTH ANNUAL
Easter Sunrise Service
In Balboa Park
SPRECKELS ORGAN PAVILION

SUNDAY, APRIL 16, AT 6:30AM

Mt. Sinai Baptist Church
Message by Pastor Cedric Collins

Music by the
Mt. Sinai Sanctuary Choir
Directed by Julian Thomas

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Holy Week Worship
Maundy Thursday, April 13th, 7:00 pm with Communion
Good Friday, April 14th, 7:00 pm



Easter Services
April 16th

Rev. Dr. Alan W. Deuel
10am Easter Worship Service
11:30am Egg Hunt @ Kate Sessions Park
7pm "Roots" Young Adult Service

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Holy Week and Easter Schedule
Holy Thursday—April 13th—Mass 7:00 p.m.
Good Friday—April 14th—Liturgy—Noon and 7:00 p.m.
Holy Saturday—April 15th—Easter Vigil—Mass—8:00 p.m.
Easter Sunday—April 16th—7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., and 11:00 a.m.

Reconciliation
Saturday, April 8th,
9:00 a.m.—10:00 a.m.
4:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, April 12th,
8:00 a.m.—9:00 a.m.



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April 14 | 6pm

EASTER SERVICES
April 15 | 4pm & 6pm
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12pm, 6pm

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The seniors facility at 955 Grand Ave. will be a 72,266-square-foot community featuring 74 total residences.

PHOTO BY THOMAS MELVILLE

Oakmont senior living plans summer opening

By DAVE SCHWAB

Oakmont, a Pacific Beach luxury assisted living and memory care community now under construction opening in late spring/early summer, has debuted its marketing information center and is now accepting reservations.

Just three blocks from the beach, the three-floor seniors facility at 955 Grand Ave. will be a 72,266-square-foot community featuring 74 total residences including assisted-living and memory-care apartment homes. Oakmont will inhabit the corner of Cass Street and Grand Avenue where the coffeehouse Javini-can-The Purple Cafe at 4388 Cass St. stood for many years.

Floor plans at Oakmont include studio, one- and two-bedroom options ranging from 400 to 966 square feet, all with 10-foot-high ceilings and spacious bathrooms.

"Whether you enjoy sailing on Mission Bay, or fishing off Crystal Pier, Oakmont of Pacific Beach is a community that fulfills the dream of an endless summer," said Laurie Tomasello, executive director of Oakmont of Pacific Beach. "We are excited to provide seniors and their families the opportunity to experience exceptional senior living in this beautiful coastal community."

Oakmont's amenity package for all residents will include:

- Gourmet meals served in a restaurant-style dining room;
- On and off-site recreational and social activities;
- A library, movie theater with plush seating, full-size fitness center with exercise classes and activity rooms

with scheduled social events, games, arts and crafts;

- An onsite salon and day spa, private dining room, flower and vegetable garden, walking paths and a pet park;

- Secured underground parking, chauffeured transportation and concierge services.

Oakmont's marketing director, Kathleen McCarthy, said Oakmont will deliver three different levels of care: completely unassisted independent living, assisted living for the less capable and memory care, on the second floor, for residents with more acute assistance needs.

"For the majority of residents who are able, they'll be able to go out and enjoy the area," McCarthy said adding, for those who can't fend for themselves, "We'll have staff at the community 24 hours a day, and a complete security-camera system throughout the facility. We'll also have a concierge at the front-door area. We're in pretty good shape as far as security is concerned."

McCarthy discussed the new facility's amenities.

"Oakmont has some great technology," she said. "We put in some sensors in all the memory-care apartments. Any time someone's in bed and moves around, a caregiver will have their pager go off letting them know. This will make it safer, allowing them to prevent someone from possibly falling. We'll also have hydration stations set up within the community itself, making sure residents, who may not be able to communicate, stay hydrated."

READ MORE ONLINE AT sdnews.com

Easter Worship Services

Easter Day
Sunday April 16
8:00am &
10:00am

www.standrewspb.org

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6:30 Sunrise Service
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Ross joins Skinny Beach in Bay Ho

Skinny Beach, a medical spa based in Bay Ho at 3737 Moraga Ave., recently announced the addition of Tiffany Ross, MMS, PA-C, as physician assistant.



Tiffany Ross

In her new role, Ross will be responsible for day-to-day operations, completing examinations, performing aesthetic procedures including laser skin resurfacing, laser hair removal, laser tattoo

removal, photofacials, radiofrequency with ultrasound skin tightening and fat reduction, and administering injectables including Kybella, Botox, and Dermal fillers.

Ross plays a major role in providing consultations and tailoring recommendations to clients, ensuring that each is medically cleared and counseled appropriately preceding treatment.

Spring & Summer Camps



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Nike Tennis Camps At University Of San Diego

Come join the fun and get better this summer at the Nike Tennis Camps at University of San Diego. Directors Bill and Shelly Scott, and USD Head Women's Tennis Coach, Sherri Stephens, along with their experienced staff, have another amazing summer lined up with fun both on and off the court! With six weeks of junior overnight and day camps for boys & girls ages 9-18 of all ability levels, and a special High School program during the last week, there is a

camp option for everyone! Highlights include: 5-6 hours of daily on-court instruction, a Nike Tennis Camp t-shirt, and fun evening activities for overnight campers. Camps run throughout June and July, registration is currently open. See you on the courts this summer! 1-800-645-3226

www.USSportsCamps.com/tennis

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ing, dance, & singing. Musical Theatre, Acting, Performance and Advanced camps available in Balboa Park. To register or for a list of camp dates, descriptions & pricing visit juniortheatre.com. Register early as our camps fill quickly. (619) 239-1311

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The mission of Nike Rugby Camps is to provide rugby education to young athletes and engender confidence and self-esteem on and off the rugby pitch. Participants have the opportunity to experience campus life by staying at some of the most prominent athletic universities in the country and we are dedicated to providing our campers with one-on-one and group coaching from top



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UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO

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Spring & Summer Camps

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ThoughtStem

ThoughtSTEM is running week-long technology camps for kids throughout the summer at UC San Diego and other locations around the county. ThoughtSTEM teaches the most cutting edge technologies to prepare San Diego kids for the future.

This summer, students in grades 1st – 12th can choose from Minecraft Modding, Java, Engineering, 2D Game Design, Graphic Design HTML/CSS/Javascript, Wearable Technology, Electrical Engineering, Python, Android App Development, Robotics, Virtual Reality, 3D Game Design, and several Girls STEM Academy camps designed to engage girls in computer science.

ThoughtSTEM coding camps engage students in fun, project-based learning, with camp activities that promote new friendships and team-building. ThoughtSTEM runs different technology camps in the morning and afternoon so that students can learn two different topics in a single day, 9am – 4pm.

Register today at www.thoughtstem.com/ucsd-summer-camps.

Special discounts available for

multi-camp/sibling purchases. Have questions? Call 858-869-9430 or email contact@thoughtstem.com.

German Language Summer Camps

Does your child speak German? How about a German language camp at German Pacific School San Diego? GPSSD offers four weeks of very creative, imaginative camps with many of hands-on projects. This year's topics are Time Travel (Zeitreisen), Lights, Camera Action, and Trolls and Tournaments.

GPSSD, a nonprofit school with three locations in Clairemont, Carmel Valley and Poway, also offers classes on Saturdays and on weekday afternoons. The younger students learn German by playing, singing, theater, stories and games. Later the students focus on reading and writing. During their time at GPSSD students take different exams which lead to the AP exam and the German Language Diploma (DSD I and II). The DSD II exam is proof of the language proficiency for students applying at German universities.

Registration for Summer camps is now open! Early Bird Price until 04/03.

More information: www.gpssd.org 858-461-9118 germanpacificschool@gmail.com

Have the best summer at the Y

The YMCA is again hosting a summer filled with fun day camps for kids ages 5-17 starting June 15. Whether you child loves sports, the arts, animals, science or even Legos – the Y has a camp that will help them build confidence, meet new friends and make memories that will last a lifetime! Plus, with camps available in convenient locations include Point Loma, La Jolla, Pacific Beach and University City there's

definitely a camp that will fit into your schedule and lifestyle! To ensure that everyone has the chance to go to camp, the YMCA also offers camp scholarships to those in need. Learn more at ymca.org/peninsula or ymca.org/lajolla.

The Bishop's School

On the Bishop's campus, just a short walk from the ocean, students can build a well-balanced day by combining classes for enrichment, preparation and review with athletics camp. Several sessions are offered from June 19 – July 24, for students in grades 4-12. With package pricing and financial aid available, personal attention and small classes, morning and afternoon sessions, Summer Session at Bishop's is FUN and AFFORDABLE! Take one class or make it a full day! Register today at www.bishops.com/summersession.

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play with these kind and talented artist-teachers in their beautiful school by the sea. For more information please visit www.KalabashArts.com



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Spring & Summer Camps

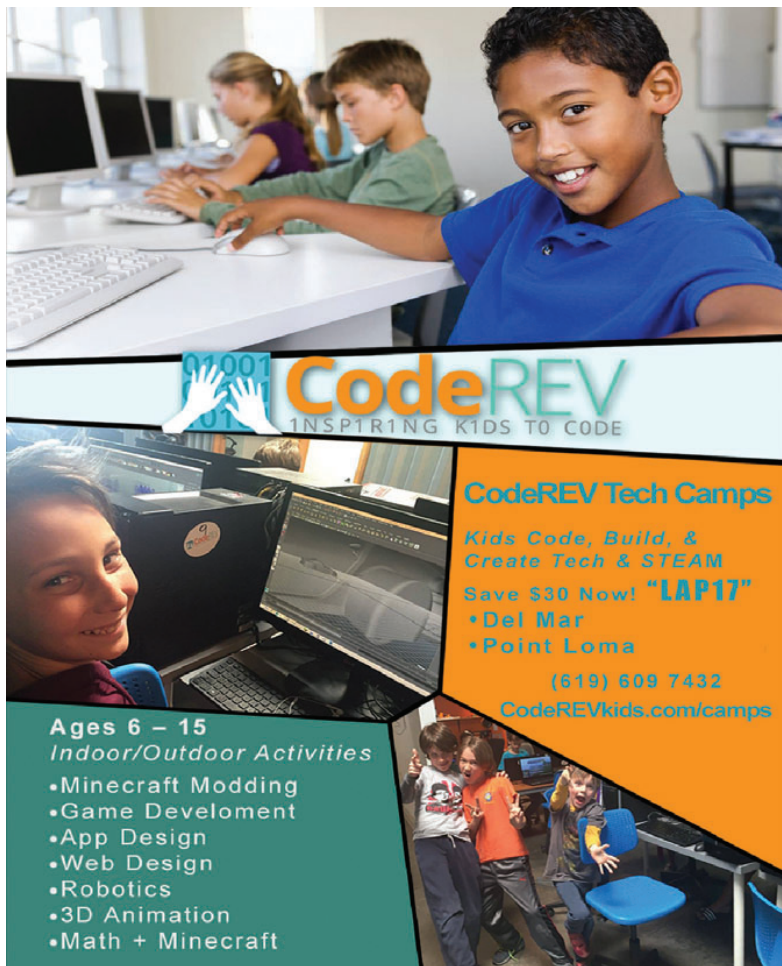
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1 DAY AGO



Daren Myers and Brian Watrous with their concoction, Rau Chocolate.

PHOTO BY MARSHA KAY SEFF

PB roommates create sweet success

Young entrepreneurs toast to healthy chocolate drink

By MARSHA KAY SEFF

Thanks to two Pacific Beach millennials, you can have your chocolate and drink it too – guilt-free.

Brian Watrous and his former college roommate and track teammate, Daren Myers, came up with the “concoction that kept us revitalized and feeling great all day long” in their own kitchen. Their organic breakfast shake proved so popular with people who tasted it that the buddies decided three years ago they had the beginning of a business.

Today, according to the partners, Rau Chocolate is sold in 500 West Coast locations, including Whole Foods, Sprouts and Ralphs, for about \$3.99. The company hopes to add another 250 outlets in the next few months.

When Watrous earned his degree in economics from the University of Connecticut and Myers finished his bachelor of science with a pre-med specialty, the two decided to head west. Back in 2009, they bought one-way tickets to San Diego and Watrous found a job in financial services, while Myers worked as a personal trainer.

The self-proclaimed health enthusiasts describe their creation as “a drinking chocolate with healthy fats, antioxidants and a few thou-

WHAT IS RAU?

Rau is the result of hand picking organic, fair trade cacao beans straight from the tree, infusing them with pure organic spices; creating a concoction inspired by the Mayans – naked of all unhealthy refined sugar, dairy, and preservatives. The chocolate drink is designed to fuel a truly clean energetic lifestyle.

Info: www.drinkrau.com.

sand plant nutrients. We looked at what is unhealthy about chocolate milk and did the opposite,” Watrous says.

Meanwhile, they scoured the market for “healthy, quick-on-the-go, taste-great chocolate drinks” and say they didn’t find anything without lots of sugar and preservatives.

Not marketed as a protein, energy drink or a meal supplement, Rau is a “vitality beverage,” according to the co-founders.

Watrous says, “It’s similar to drinking a cold-pressed, green vegetable juice.” It’s sweetened with low-glycemic, organic coconut palm sugar and includes theobromine, “which is like caffeine but without the jittery effect. The other side of the coin is what’s not in it: high amounts of refined sugar, dairy, soy, artificial colors and flavors.”

The partners say Rau is the first cold-pressed chocolate drink on the

market, meaning it maintains the nutritional value of the cacao. They’re especially proud that the ingredients are sourced from farms that “pay a healthy, living wage and don’t cut down the rain forests.”

Myers points out, “We’re a generation that realizes the planet is going in the wrong direction and we are the ones who can do something about it.”

The dark chocolate drink comes in six flavors: bold original, semi-sweet, salted caramel, coconut, cold brew mocha and mint.

The name Rau is invented “just three letters to express the simplicity and the cleanliness of the brand.”

Myers, who’s in charge of manufacturing and operations, and Watrous, who finds new markets, used their savings to get started. They launched the business with in-store demos, asking customers for feedback.

Along the way, family and friends invested and, recently, Greg Koch, founder of Stone Brewing Co., became an investor. A year and a half ago, Rau became a full-time business for the co-founders.

Although the drink currently is available only in the Western half of the U.S., the young entrepreneurs hope to expand east “so our parents can buy it.”

White Elephant resale and trade has something for everyone

By DAVE SCHWAB

Lots of people start their own small-business.

But not everyone is as passionate about it as Brandy and Dan Ronek.

The duo just opened White Elephant resale and trade at 1562 Garnet Ave. in a space that previously was a music recording studio.

That seems appropriate because Dan, a musician, has a niche in the back selling guitars and pics, and maybe someday soon, drum supplies.

White Elephant is strategically positioned on a block of Garnet near Ingraham Street featuring the retro '50s Buddy's Diner, a yoga studio and The King's Head Tattoo parlor.

"We drove by here and we saw that this place was for rent and the landlord was amazing," Brandy said.

"I was wanting to open my own place forever, but I actually never thought I would get to the point of actually doing it because it's a lot of hard work," said Brandy of the genesis of her new thrift store that just opened March 27.

Brandy, the mother of five pre-teen and teen children, credits her late mother-in-law as being the one who's encouragement convinced her to become an entrepreneur.

"My mother-in-law paid for me to go to the art institute and she told



Dan and Brandy Ronek with the elephant logo of their retail shop.

PHOTO BY DAVE SCHWAB

me, 'You're so passionate. One day, I want you to open a store,' " said Brandy. "After she passed away, I thought, 'You know what – I'm going to open a store.'"

But Brandy, who said she lives at, and draws inspiration from, Buffalo Exchange thrift, said she didn't want to just cater to women.

"We're trying to incorporate a little bit of everything into it – jeans, pants, shirts, shorts, dresses, board shorts, jackets, sweaters, summer

clothes, tank tops and shoes. We have everything except for girls bathing suits," she said.

It's a family affair at White Elephant. Everything is a group effort, even the store logo, a huge white elephant astride a scooter.

"It's unique, it's different," said Brandy of the logo.

"The logo just popped in my head," said Dan, noting he got the idea from Brandy's having ridden a pink moped (in the store's window)

WHITE ELEPHANT

What: Resale and trade

Where: 1562 Garnet Ave.

Hours: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Contact: 858-412-4451.

to art classes. With that, and her eclectic artistic taste, Dan said a white elephant riding a scooter just seemed appropriate.

The pair's daughter even participated in forming their logo.

"I have purple fingernails, and my daughter said, 'Mom, you need to have purple fingernails on that.' So we stuck that on there."

White elephant refers to an extravagant but burdensome gift that cannot be easily disposed of. It derives from a legend that the king of Siam used to gift a rare albino elephant to courtiers who displeased him, that they might be ruined by the animals' upkeep costs.

On Friday afternoon a woman named Katie wandered in from the nearby yoga studio.

"I like buying second-hand clothes," she said when asked why she came in. "I like going through this place. I've been in here before."

A sign on the wall proclaims the store's unstated motto, "Life is too short to wear boring clothes."

READ MORE ONLINE AT sdnews.com

New beach gear rental delivery service for PB

K-Dub's Beach Rentals, a beach gear rental delivery service, delivers to Ocean Beach, Mission and Pacific beaches.

K-Dub's delivers all your beach gear needs directly to your doorstep or to your favorite beach spot. Customers can order by calling, texting, emailing, or online at www.kdubs-beachrentals.com.

Their inventory includes stand up paddle boards, surfboards of various sizes and shapes, men's and women's wetsuits, bicycles, volleyball nets, canopies, coolers and more. The delivery service is open daily from 8 a.m. to sunset. Reserve your beach gear days ahead of time or contact them the same day and K-Dub's can typically be there in minutes.

The business concept was created by owners Nancy and Eric Jayson when they were complaining about having to carry all the beach gear to enjoy a day at the beach. "We said to Nancy's brother, Kevin White (K-Dub) 'Wouldn't it be great if there was a service who would carry all our gear and come back to pick it up when we are done?'"

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National MS Society officials expect about 4,500 people will walk and help raise about \$462,000 for MS.

San Diego Community Newspaper Group teams up with National Multiple Sclerosis Society for Walk MS

The San Diego Community Newspaper Group, publishers of the Beach & Bay Press, Peninsula Beacon, La Jolla Village News and sdnews.com, have partnered with the National Multiple Sclerosis Society in San Diego in support of the San Diego County Credit Union Walk MS, a fundraising walk, starting at 8 a.m. Saturday, April 8 at NTC Park at Liberty Station, 2455 Cushing Road, in Point Loma.

National MS Society officials expect about 4,500 people will walk and help raise about \$462,000 for MS research and program and services for people with MS, an unpredictable, often disabling disease of the central nervous system that interrupts the flow of information within the brain and between the brain and body.

The three-mile walk along San Diego Bay is scheduled to begin at 8 a.m. Check-in begins at 7 a.m.

Admission is free to attend Walk MS. There is no cost to be a walker. On-site registration is available. Event information is available at www.walkMS.org.

San Diego County Credit Union (SDCCU) is returning as title sponsor of Walk MS at NTC Park. SDCCU has supported the National MS Society's Walk MS for the past 19 years, and has served as title sponsor since 2002. Over the years, SDCCU's sponsorship support for Walk MS has exceeded \$1 million, according to the National MS Society.

Presenting sponsors of the 2017

WALK MS

Where: NTC Park at Liberty Station, 2455 Cushing Road.

When: 8 a.m. Saturday, April 8.

Info: Admission is free to attend Walk MS. There is no cost to be a walker. On-site registration is available. Event information is available at www.walkMS.org.

San Diego County Credit Union Walk MS include NBC 7 San Diego, KyXy 96.5, Energy 103.7 and Sycuan Casino. Other sponsors include StemGenex, Biogen, Sanofi Genzyme, Ability Magazine, San Diego Business Journal, KPBS and Langers Juice. The National MS Society's national Walk MS sponsor is Genentech.

Now in its 27th year in San Diego, Walk MS is known for drawing a large number of teams representing businesses, neighborhoods, clubs, community groups, churches and family members and friends of a person with MS. Many teams come up with a team name and outfit their members with costumes, including T-shirts, hats or balloons. All it takes is four or more people to form a team.

Free snacks and beverages will be provided to walkers, plus live music and a festive finish line celebration. Walkers will have the opportunity to earn prizes, including T-shirts, movie tickets and gift cards, based on the amount of donations they collect.

Last year, the San Diego County

Credit Union Walk MS at NTC Park drew about 4,500 walkers and volunteers and raised nearly \$400,000 in donations.

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society's San Diego-based Pacific South Coast Chapter serves more than 51,500 people affected by MS living in San Diego, Orange and Imperial counties, as well as the Hawaiian islands.

MS, the most common neurological disease leading to disability in young adults, is typically diagnosed between the ages of 20 and 50, although an estimated 8,000-to-10,000 children under the age of 18 also live with MS. Two to three times more women than men have been diagnosed with MS. An estimated 2.3 million people live with MS worldwide.

MS symptoms can range from numbness and tingling to blindness and paralysis, as well as blurred vision, loss of balance, poor coordination, slurred speech, tremors, numbness, extreme fatigue and cognitive deficits. Symptoms might be permanent, or they might come and go.

By eating away at the coating that allows nerve cells to transmit messages, MS can lead to restrictive or awkward movements and mental gaps, among other problems. Studies indicate that genetic factors may make certain individuals more susceptible to the disease, but there is no evidence that MS is directly inherited.

San Diego Unified joins school districts challenging Trump's executive order

As President Trump threatens to retaliate against certain jurisdictions that refuse to coordinate with federal law enforcement to identify, surveil, detain and deport undocumented immigrants, education leaders across California have come together to send a strong message: "Leave our students and their families alone."

On Wednesday, March 22, representatives from the San Diego Unified School District, Sweetwater Union High School District, Southwestern Community College District and The San Diego Community College District held a press conference to announce their signing of an amicus brief on behalf of schools and educators supporting Santa Clara County's challenge to President Trump's executive order targeting sanctuary jurisdictions. The school districts will also assert their commitment to protect their student's civil rights, regardless of immigration status.

On Jan. 25, the president issued an executive order that, among other things, allows the administration to cut federal funding to cities and perhaps other entities determined to be "sanctuary jurisdictions." The order is so vaguely worded that any jurisdiction, including school districts, can be found ineligible to receive federal funds for any number of ambiguous reasons.

"No child in California should fear going to school because they or their families may be deported," said Richard Barrera, president of the San Diego Unified School Board of Trustees. "Neither should school

administrators be forced to choose between critical funding and violating students' rights.

"We believe that access to education is a fundamental, non-negotiable right of every student in every San Diego school. Federal funding is not a fee for immigration enforcement services, but rather an investment in the potential of each child, an educated workforce, and strong future economy."

After the executive order was issued, the County of Santa Clara and the City of San Francisco filed lawsuits to block its implementation. When the ACLU filed a motion to intervene in the Santa Clara suit on behalf of the YMCA of Silicon Valley, the presiding judge invited others to file "friend of the court" briefs.

To date, 25 school districts and other educational institutions have signed onto the amicus brief filed on March 22.

Regarding the executive order, school officials say the law is on their side, as equal education is a right guaranteed by both the U.S. Constitution and the California Constitution. Long-standing federal and state civil rights laws affirm that every student must be provided an educational environment that is safe and welcoming, without regard for race, ethnicity, color, national origin, immigration status, religion, age, gender, gender identity or disability.

"Education is the civil rights issue of our day," said Sylvia Torres-Guillen, statewide director of Education Equity for ACLU of California.

City begins testing water for lead in San Diego schools

The City of San Diego began testing water for lead this week at schools in San Diego Unified School District. It is anticipated that the water testing at schools, and charter schools operating on district property, will be completed by June.

The effort will take several months to complete due to the relevant regulatory requirements.

The safety and health of students and staff across San Diego Unified is the highest priority for the district. Therefore, the district will be using a geographic approach that provides the most efficient testing.

Five schools will be tested daily, beginning in the southeast corner of the district where some of the oldest district schools are located.

City staff will proceed north and west until all testing is complete.

Testing will occur before school begins to avoid any disruptions to learning. Up to five samples will be taken at each site.

The sampling locations may include drinking fountains, cafeterias and food preparation areas. The city will analyze the water samples and notify the school district of the results. All results will be posted online as they are received.

If results indicate there is lead above allowable levels, district staff will determine the source of contamination and take appropriate action on a case-by-case basis (e.g., turn off water, replace fixtures and/or make plumbing repairs).

EDUCATION NOTEBOOK>>

Mission Bay High

■ Get your act together! The MBHS annual talent show takes place 6:30 p.m. Friday, April 7 in the auditorium. With celebrity judges, delicious refreshments, and a few surprises in store, you'll enjoy this exciting night of fantastic singers, dancers, bands, and unique acts. Enjoy an evening, showcasing the amazing talent of MBHS students. Tickets are \$5 at the door.

Pacific Beach Middle

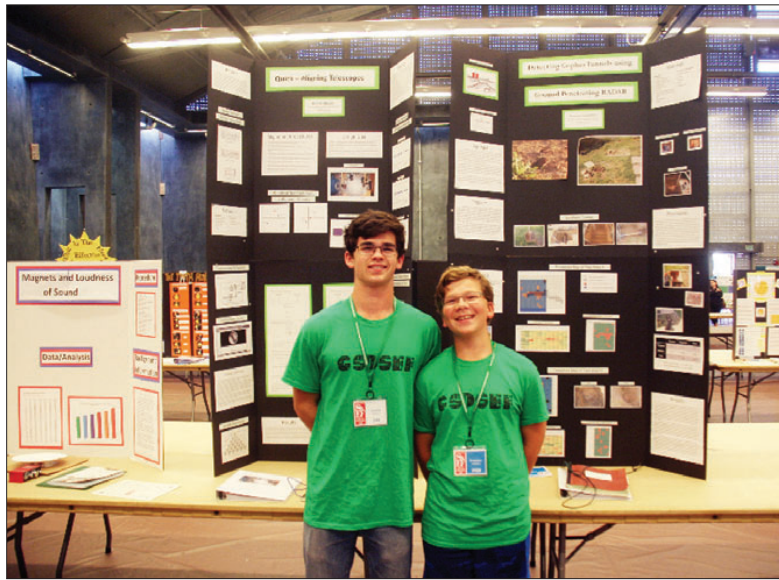
■ Pacific Beach Middle School music director John O'Donnell was awarded the David Paul Schuchman Award for Outstanding Middle School Instrumental Teacher of the year by the Schuman-Orent Fund and the San Diego Unified School District Visual and Performing Arts Department. With a master's of music from Kent State University, O'Donnell has taught music for 34 years, including 12 years in Japan and the last eight years at PBMS.

He has led his Concert Band and String Orchestra ensembles to many wins in regional competitions including Music in the Parks. All PBMS students are welcome to participate in his music classes with no experience required. O'Donnell said: "Everyone can play music, they just need to be taught. Talent is an illusion, it is really all about hard work and desire."

■ PBMS eighth-grader Francisco and his brother Dominic each won a first place prize in physics and astronomy at the 63rd Annual Greater San Diego Science and Engineering Fair (GSDSEF) held in Balboa Park on March 15 (above). The GSDSEF is the science competition for seventh through 12th graders in San Diego and Imperial counties where the students get hands-on experience with the scientific method by designing a science project and science presentation.

Francisco won a first place prize in physics and astronomy, and awards from IEEE, AFCEA, and the Society for Non-Destructive Engineering for his project explored how his home built RADAR, designed by MIT, could be used to detect gopher tunnels underground. He has also been invited to compete in the Broadcom National Science Fair as well as moving on to compete in the California State Science Fair.

His brother Dominic, an alumnus of PBMS, won first place prize in physics and astronomy, with awards from the Office of Naval Research, the San Diego Astronomy Associa-



PBMS eighth-grader Francisco and his brother Dominic each won a first place prize in physics and astronomy at the 63rd Annual Greater San Diego Science and Engineering Fair.

tion, and the Skeptics Society. Dominic was invited to compete in the Intel International Science Fair as well as moving on to compete in the California State Science Fair. Dominic was also awarded one of six Senior Sweepstakes awards, the highest award offered for the Science Fair, for his project in exploring methods to simplify aligning optical telescopes. They will compete in California State Science Fair on April 24-25 at the California Science Center in Los Angeles.

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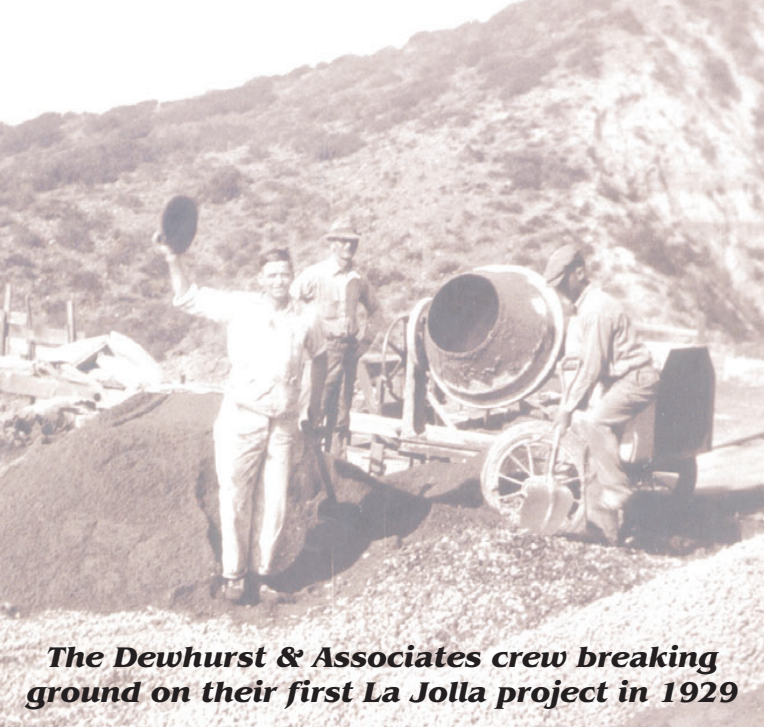
■ Friends of Pacific Beach Secondary Schools' Boards and Brew Auction is Friday, April 14, at the

Soledad Club from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Enjoy tastings from three local breweries, a roving tiki table, photo booth, and fabulous auction items. Tickets are \$30 per person and can be purchased at PBMS and MBHS front offices or online at www.fopbss.org. Everyone is invited to join in on the fun while raising money for PBMS and MBHS.

PB Elementary

■ PBE is ready for the annual school auction fundraiser, Island Nights, on April 7, at the Soledad Club. Thank you to the many generous businesses and community members who sponsored or donated to this event.

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Euphoria Brass Band brings New Orleans to PB

By BART MENDOZA

Anyone looking for a little bit of New Orleans flavor this week will want to head to the Pacific Beach Library on April 12 for a performance from the Euphoria Brass Band. The group is an all-star combo dedicated to performing music from and inspired by the Crescent City, featuring saxophonists Dave Jackson and JP Balmat, who is also music director at Mission Bay High, trombonist April West and drummer Ron Bocian. Euphoria Brass Band's shows are hugely entertaining, keeping a musical tradition alive, but also a heck of a lot of fun, with the band members enthusiasm a contagious part of the show.

Euphoria Brass Band: Wednesday, April 12 at Pacific Beach Library, 4275 Cass St. 7 p.m. All ages. www.pblibraryfriends.org.

Now 87 years old, Tomcat Courtney continues to be one of the hardest working musicians in town, playing regularly across the city and continuing to hold a Wednesday night residency at The Turquoise. Blues fans will love his take on blues. As one of the last surviving original performers in the genre, he has had an immense impact on San Diego's music community, while also building a loyal following around the world. Courtney is one of the jewels in San Diego's arts community, so make sure to take in an appearance while you still can and say "thanks" for all he's given our city over the decades.

Tomcat Courtney: Wednesdays at Café-Bar Europa, 873 Turquoise St. 7 p.m. 21 and up. www.theturquoise.com.

It's been 60 years since Elvis Presley first began recording and his popularity shows little sign of diminishing. As such, it's no surprise that there are a numerous performers paying tribute to the king of rock 'n' roll, but few quite on the level of Graceland, with singer Marlon Von Ratibor. Appearing at Tio Leo's on April 7, this is a full Las Vegas revue type show, complete with backing singers, horn section and larger than life jumpsuits. While Von Ratibor does indeed have a more than passing similarity in the looks department, where he really excels is in his vocal delivery, with performances as close to the real thing as you are likely to hear.

Graceland with Marlon Von Ratibor: Friday April 7 at Tio Leo's, 5302 Napa St. 8 p.m. 21 and up. Cover TBD. www.tioleos.com



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VILLAGE NEWS

Local man to present honor to French artist at Normandy

An avowed Francophile, Daniel (Danny) Smiechowski recently told Pacific Beach Town Council of his intent to present a famous French artist a plaque thanking him for donating some of his paintings to benefit wounded and disabled American military veterans.

A former French resident and student at the Sorbonne University in Paris, a triathlete and a journalist in France, Smiechowski's family lived under German occupation in Vichy France from 1940-1944.

The artist to be honored is 77-year-old Jean-Pierre Rousseau.

During his long career, Rousseau's stylistic paintings have been described as original, unique, virile, romantic, sensual, luminous and impressionist. Rousseau's paintings tell their stories through dynamic brush strokes and a freedom of movement. Some have a vertigo-inducing weightlessness due to the white spaces surrounded by light and movement. Others combine collages of poetic or philosophical texts with portraits bathed in tones evocative of Renaissance paintings.

Smiechowski will be traveling to France soon to personally present an award and plaque to Rousseau, at a small planned ceremony at the American cemetery in Normandy.

Rousseau's plaque reads:
"Heartfelt gratitude towards Jean-Pierre Rousseau and his generous



Daniel Smiechowski at the American cemetery in Normandy.

donation of more than 100 of his exquisite paintings to benefit wounded and disabled military veterans. From a very grateful U.S. Military and dedicated volunteers of Warrior Foundation – Freedom Station and Navy Nurses of Southern California. For his magnanimous contributions, we bestow upon this artist the title of Honored Supporter for the Rehabilitation of Wounded U.S. Military Veterans and embodiment of the friendship between France and the United States."

"I was asked to bring a plaque for the PB Town Council to the French

artist," said Smiechowski, noting Rousseau's paintings were exhibited in La Jolla art galleries for many years. "Rousseau has donated much of his artwork to the cause of wounded warriors in Southern California."

A Bay Ho resident, Smiechowski recently announced his candidacy for the upcoming 2nd District City Council seat presently held by Lori Zapf. City Council District 2 includes the communities of Point Loma, Pacific Beach, Ocean Beach, Mission Beach, Midway/North Bay, Bay Ho, Bay Park and Morena.

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While women tend to dominate Pilates classes, Pilates holds plenty of benefits for men who rise to the challenge. Whether you're a powerlifter, or you've never tried Pilates, a Pilates class can help fine-tune your performance. How? The Pilates method is a system of physical and mental conditioning formerly known as contrology. A big part of Pilates is focusing on those muscles that don't typically get a lot of attention. In my 20 years of experience working with men, their muscles are a little tighter than women's, especially in the hips and ham-

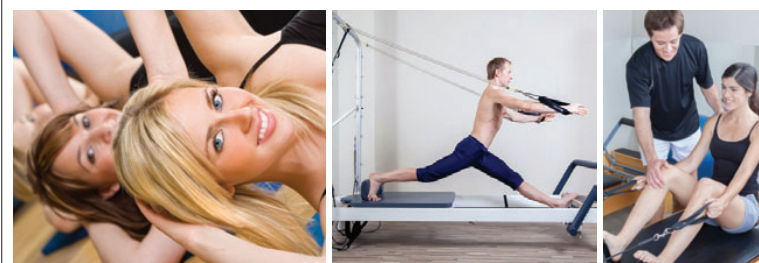
strings, but exercises can be easily modified to allow those areas to stretch out gradually. Men that add Pilates to their routine can show improvements in a just a few sessions, including muscle strength, control, balance and posture. While I'll never know what makes one guy pursue Pilates and another try it only once, one thing is true: Pilates does benefit men just as it does women.

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The egg hunts on the beach will start at 9 a.m. and will cost \$5 per child. Children must be registered prior to the hunt at www.belmontpark.com.easter. Because of the popularity of this hunt last year, the park will be breaking up the kids by age group to allow more available spots, maximum 50 kids in each timeslot.

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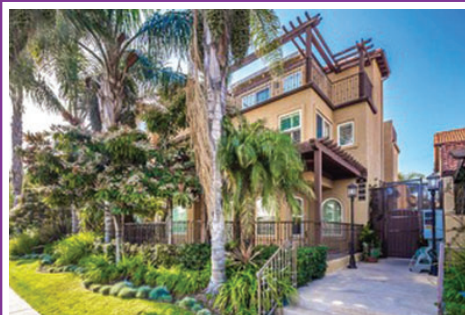
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CONT. FROM PG. 1

whether the permit was void – or good,” Giavara said. “The appellate judge never even addressed that issue. This wasn't about the views. This was about an illegal procedure and permitting. We (citizens) were not given our legal right to have an input.”

Superior Court Judge Katherine Bacal previously sided with Giavara and a neighborhood group in Mission Beach known as Citizens For Beach Rights (CFBR). That group had challenged a new, bigger lifeguard tower on South Mission Beach first proposed in 2002. Bacal's decision in December 2015 kept the lifeguard tower from being constructed in 2016.

Following a Nov. 18, 2015 bench trial, Bacal sided with CFBR agreeing that a site development permit for the South Mission Beach Lifeguard Station “is void and, thus, no construction can occur under its SDP.”

CFBR has contended the new proposed life-guard tower is the wrong size, in the wrong place because of potential flooding, and has been propelled through the city's project-approval process without proper permitting.

As currently proposed, a three-story, 3,800-square-foot tower with a first-aid station, vehicle bay, administrative offices and two observation decks would replace a 900-square-foot wooden structure built in the 1970s.

When originally proposed in 2002, the life-guard tower project was budgeted to cost \$1.1 million. That price tag has mushroomed in 15 years to about \$5 million due to delays and issues such as erosion control.

Giavara noted the Mission Beach lifeguard tower case has changed city policy.

“City permits used to be valid for a 36-month period,” he said. “Now they're valid for a 10-year period.”

The only vote the lifeguard tower was ever put to was in 2005 when the project was denied by the Mission Beach Town Council, said Giavara, who claims the city was also remiss in not properly noticing homeowners near the project about developments with it, as required by law.

“I think the city should be held to the same standards private citizens are held to,” said Giavara predicting, with added legal costs, that the cost of the project “will be \$9 million by the time we're done with this.”

Giavara said the opponents' only recourse now would be to appeal the case to the state Supreme Court.

“We were never against the lifeguards,” Giavara said. “Our group wants the lifeguards to get the best structure for that beach.”

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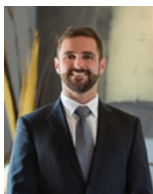
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LA JOLLA

Sun 1:30-4:30pm 7315 Remely Pl. 5BR/6BA \$4,975,000 Vonnie Mellon • 858-395-0153
 Sun 1-4pm 5780 Rutgers Road ... 4BR/4.5BA \$2,095,000 Linda Daniels • 858-351-5561
 Sun 1-4pm 5528 Via Callado 5BR/3BA \$2,250,000 Linda Daniels • 858-351-5561
 Sat 1-4pm 7811 Eads Ave. #408 .. 2BR/2BA \$729,000 Andrew Jabro • 858-525-5498

SAN DIEGO

Sat & Sun 1-4pm 911 27th St. 3BR/3.5BA \$725,000 Tommy Crudo • 858-583-2018

RANCHO SANTA FE

Sat 12-3pm 16902 Via De Santa Fe .. 2BR/3BA \$1,100,000 Scott Appleby • 858-775-2014



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POCKET LISTING!!! Not on the MLS!

Asking \$900K, Worth \$1.15M+Remodeled!
 3 Brm/2 Bath Mid Century Modern Home
 North PB Fixer w/ Views! 10,500 SqFt Lot!
 Principles Only Please

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Excellent Local References • Get More for your Home

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5051 La Jolla Blvd 209

\$425,000

One Bedroom | One Bath
 Steps to Tourmaline Surf Park
 La Jolla School District
 One Car Parking Garage
 Lowest Priced In North Pacific Beach

1430 Chalcedony

\$1,049,000 - \$1,089,000

3BR/ 2BA Single Level House
 North PB. Tree lined,
 Ocean View Street
 Full Sized 6300 SF Lot
 2 Car Garage, Alley Access

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Just Listed by Team Cairncross



2761 Ocean Front Walk

OCEANFRONT CORNER LOT

Incredible oceanfront opportunity. This home makes a great beach house, can be converted back to duplex, or replaced by your dream property with over 4,700 square feet of buildable living space. Common to see 3 condos built on sites like these. Owner has plans submitted to coastal for an extraordinary 2-unit development.
\$4,895,000 • Not Yet On MLS • Buyers & Agents Welcome



707 Diamond

Less than one block away from the beach! Lovely 4 BR, 3.5 BA tri-level townhome in North PB with LARGE front patio and attached 2 car garage. OCEAN VIEWS from master bedroom and second bedroom! Newer 2007 construction. Newer kitchen & bathroom designs featuring granite and travertine. Living room w/ fireplace and balcony. Deck off dining area/kitchen. Kitchen has large pantry, stainless steel appliances, and breakfast bar. This unit is light and bright with tons of windows and natural sunlight! Plenty of storage space throughout. Central A/C & washer/dryer. Walking distance to shopping, restaurants, etc. Steps to the boardwalk and sand!
\$1,400,000



816 Pacific Beach Dr

Move right into or vacation rent this turn-key 3 BR, 1BA house in a fun Pacific Beach location just 1 block to the ocean & bay! Well maintained home features nicely updated kitchen & bathroom, original hardwood floors, forced air gas heating & AC, newer windows, laundry hookups & more. Enjoy a 5,600 sqft lot boasting gorgeous front & back yards with low-maintenance landscape, street & alley access & 2-car garage for excellent parking. This home is located in the coveted Braemar district of Pacific Beach.
Listed at \$1,100,000



Steve Cairncross

CA BRE #00859218

TeamCairncross.com | 858-859-3370



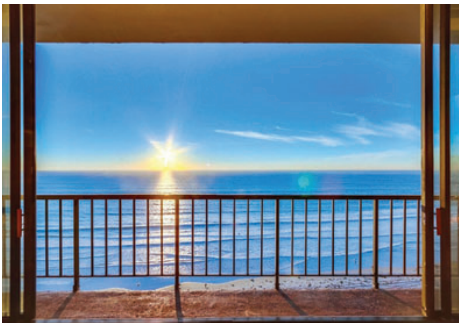
10485 Pine Grove Street

Beautiful Single Family Home in well kept community of Crestwood 3 Bedrooms + Den, 2 Baths, 2 Car attached garage Located across the street from lovely Del Parque County Park Just minutes east of Downtown San Diego
\$469,000
Call for details!



Dane Scharetg

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



Not On The Market!

North Pacific Beach Luxury Beach
Luxury Beach Remodel Almost Complete!
10th Floor Ocean Front White Water View Condo
Oversized 802 sqft 1 bed 1 bath
\$895,000



Kara Watkins Norgart

CA BRE #01389633
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Historic Ocean View La Jolla Real Estate!

A rare opportunity to own a unique piece of La Jolla Real Estate in the heart of La Jolla Village, one block to the Pacific Ocean! The Bed & Breakfast Inn at La Jolla, one of the finest Historic Inns in San Diego, sits on a prime 7,009 square foot lot with over 6,100 square feet of living space. The options are endless! Make this your dream La Jolla home, convert to a Boutique Hotel or continue the Bed & Breakfast business.
7753 Draper Avenue – \$5,950,000



Greg Flaherty

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



Bay Front Investment Opportunity

Don't miss out on this unique, bay front investment opportunity. The current property has over 2,500 square feet of living space, divided into three profitable income units that include water views and patios. With a lot size of 2,772 square feet and Multi Family zoning, there are several desirable options for this property.
3525 Bayside Walk – \$2,450,000