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BUCS FOOTBALL

Mission Bay's first-year head coach Kenny Nears, with QB Jaiden Correa, had a tough season. But hard lessons were learned for next season.

SEE PAGE 13



BUSINESS

The Original Broken Yolk is still crackin' in Pacific Beach, and now the popular breakfast restaurant has expanded to three other states.

SEE PAGE 7



SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER GROUP

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2017

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TOP 10 INSTAGRAM SPOTS AT THE BEACH



Pacific Beach-based model Paige Fulfer at Jared Blake Lazer's mermaid mural on Mission Boulevard. PHOTO BY THOMAS MELVILLE

WHERE TO GET YOUR SELFIE MERMAIDS, PIERS AND ANGEL WINGS

By MATHILDE ROUSSEAU BJERREGAARD

Pacific Beach and Mission Beach are filled with colorful murals, scenic streets, pretty parks and a historic pier that all make perfect photo locations for a top-notch Instagram gallery. Here are the top 10 most Instagram-worthy places that you can't miss while you are visiting Pacific Beach and Mission Beach.

SEE **INSTAGRAM**, Page 11

City wins Belmont Park's lease lawsuit

Plaintiffs plan to appeal the decision

By DAVE SCHWAB

The City Attorney's Office on Nov. 2 defeated a lawsuit that sought to invalidate the City of San Diego's lease of Belmont Park in Mission Beach to a company that has invested more than \$20 million in improvements to the oceanfront amusement park, home of the historic Giant Dipper roller coaster. The lease, which took effect in 2015, will bring a

minimum of \$100 million in revenue to the city if it runs its full course. Superior Court Judge Judith F. Hayes issued a final decision that found the city correctly followed the law on all issues.

But it's not over, claim plaintiffs in the unsuccessful lawsuit.

"My client will appeal," said attorney Cory Briggs, on behalf of a nonprofit

SEE **BELMONT**, Page 12

West Mission Bay Drive bridge to be replaced

By DAVE SCHWAB

A plan nearly two decades in the making to replace the decrepit West Mission Bay Drive bridge over the San Diego River was unanimously approved Nov. 14 by the City Council.

The \$155 million project will replace the 1950-era four-lane bridge that connects the Midway area

and Mission Bay Park with two three-lane bridges. Up to \$140 million of that sum will come from federal grants. The remainder will be paid for by the city.

The West Mission Bay Drive Bridge was constructed in the early 1950s to meet the demands and standards of

SEE **BRIDGE**, Page 7

Pacific Beach woman to celebrate 100th birthday in early December

By DAVE SCHWAB

A century ago when Mildred (Millie) Stuart was born, electricity, telephones, radio and automobiles were all new, while other modern household conveniences like vacuum cleaners, hair dryers, and dishwashers didn't even exist.

Born in Hackettstown, N.J. on Dec. 6, 1917, Stuart still resides in the same home her husband, Henry (Hank) Stuart, and she built in the early '60s in Pacific Beach on Castle Hills Drive.

A party for Stuart's 100th birthday is being held Sunday, Dec. 3 at St. Brigid Parish Hall, 4735 Cass St., from

12:30 to 2:30 p.m. The spry centenarian reminisced about what it's like to turn 100.

"I still live just south of Turquoise (Street) in the house my husband and I built in 1962," said Stuart, noting the "landscape" of PB is substantially different now.

"There wasn't even a street here

where I live," she said, adding, "and no Cardeno (Drive) going up to La Jolla. That was all undeveloped. We used to take our dogs up there to walk."

On becoming a centenarian, Stuart noted, "I don't know how it happened.



SEE **100**, Page 6

Mildred (Millie) Stuart

Plenty of pink to walk through Pacific and Mission beaches during Komen's 3-Day event

Pacific and Mission beaches will be well represented, as well as being part of the route, in the annual Susan G. Komen 3-Day walk to be held Friday, Nov. 17 through Sunday, Nov. 19.

The 3-Day is a 60-mile walk for women and men who are ready to end breast cancer forever. Participants raise a minimum of \$2,300 and walk an average of 20 miles a day for three consecutive days, educating tens of thousands of people about breast health and raising funds to help support breast cancer research and outreach programs.

During the past 14 years and 156 events, the 3-Day has raised more than \$820 million, which Komen has used to save lives and make huge strides in breast cancer research. In 2016, Susan G. Komen set a Bold Goal to reduce the current number of breast cancer deaths by 50 percent in the U.S. by 2026.

Walk/route schedule

Friday, Nov. 17:

The San Diego 3-Day will begin with an inspirational opening ceremony at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. After lunch on the beach, the route will continue south through La Jolla



Participants walk by pink tents set up in Crown Point Park during last year's event. PHOTO BY THOMAS MELVILLE

and Pacific Beach, finishing in Mission Bay Park where participants will camp.

Saturday, Nov. 18:

On Saturday morning, participants will walk by SeaWorld before heading toward the ocean. The route will showcase Ocean Beach, Point Loma and the beautiful homes along the ocean in Sunset Cliffs. The second half of the route will travel along the ocean boardwalk in Mis-

sion Beach and Pacific Beach before heading east.

Sunday, Nov. 19:

The final day begins with a tour through Pacific Beach heading to the pedestrian path on the east side of Mission Bay Park. After lunch in Mission Hills, the route will tour Hillcrest, Balboa Park, and Downtown. The route will end in East Village with a celebratory closing ceremony at Petco Park.

Seventy-five percent of the net proceeds raised from the 3-Day help Susan G. Komen support the global research program and other mission objectives, while the remaining 25 percent helps affiliates support local programs including medical assistance, patient navigation and provider education — all of which support Komen's Bold Goal.

Susan G. Komen fought breast cancer unsuccessfully with her heart, body and soul. Throughout her diagnosis, treatments, and long hospitalization, Komen spent her time thinking of ways to make life better for other women battling breast cancer.

For more information, visit The3Day.org or call 800-996-3DAY. Follow on Twitter @The3Day.



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Pursuit of RV begins in Pacific Beach, ends in Orange County

A pursuit began early morning on Nov. 9 in Pacific Beach when two people fled in a motor home that San Diego police were attempting to impound, and ended after a brief standoff on the side of Interstate 5 in San Clemente just north of the San Diego County line, authorities said.

The standoff ended with a woman and two dogs detained in a California Highway Patrol car and a handcuffed man being treated by paramedics, according to footage from ABC10. Before that, CHP officers had surrounded the recreational vehicle with guns drawn.

The standoff closed the I-5 in both directions for about 30 minutes starting just before 5 a.m. as morning rush-hour began to build along the busy corridor between Orange County and San Diego County, the CHP said. All southbound lanes

reopened about 5:20 a.m., while three northbound lanes reopened about 10 minutes later.

The chase began 3:40 a.m. in the 2800 block of Mission Bay Drive, San Diego police officer Tony Martinez said. Police had contacted the occupants of the motor home about 2:20 a.m. for being parked illegally and having expired registration.

A San Diego police officer told dispatchers she was holding the driver's licenses of the man and the woman when they jumped back into the recreational vehicle and sped away. She reported the driver was a man licensed out of Arkansas and the woman was licensed in California.

Officers were preparing to impound the RV when the occupants fled, Martinez said. San Diego officers chased the motor home northbound on Interstate 5.



An artist's rendering of what a re-imagined and pedestrian-friendly Garnet Avenue could look like.

Would a new vision for Garnet Avenue make the corridor more user friendly?

By DAVE SCHWAB

To cope with enhanced online competition to brick-and-mortar retail and other challenges, Discover PB is searching for alternatives to making the heart of the beach community's business district on Garnet Avenue more user friendly.

Sara Berns, executive director of Discover PB, the business improvement district, noted retail is struggling locally and nationally with online shopping and rising costs on goods, labor and rents.

"For various reasons, [success] is harder, particularly here in PB," Berns said. "People shop for experience over necessity, which is why we are focused on Garnet Avenue Vision, and making Garnet a more complete street with space for events (like the Farmers Market), place-making, public gathering and increasing foot traffic that creates an environment for browsing."

Two ideas previously vetted in PB, a Garnet Vision Plan and a Better Block Concept, are being revived and reconsidered as alternative strategies for luring customers to shop on Garnet.

The Better Block project is a demonstration tool that rebuilds an area to show the positive impact of creating a more walkable, vibrant neighborhood center. Berns said the idea would be to take one block, say Garnet between Mission Boulevard and Bayard Street, and implement concepts from the Garnet Vision to improve the shopping experience.

In 2011, about the time the ecodistrict was being formed in PB,

'... what could we do to make Garnet a more complete street.'

SARA BERNS
OF DISCOVER PB

several public meetings were also held to get community input on how the business district shopping experience might be improved.

"Part of that, was looking at opportunities with the new Mid-Coast Trolley Corridor," said Berns. "We had a bunch of community forums, town halls and charettes to come up with Garnet Vision, concepts and ideas on mobility and connectivity."

Berns said research revealed Mission Boulevard acted like a "moat" dividing beachgoers from the business district.

"One of the things we kept coming up with is that people at the beach need places to eat, buy flip-flops or a towel, but there was no direction into the business district," said Berns.

Berns said the issue then became, "How do you funnel people driving to the beach into our side streets and inside our stores to pick up on that foot traffic?"

"We looked at Garnet, that already had a very high pedestrian and bike-riding rate, and what could we do to make it a more complete street, to make sure pedestrians and bike-riders have an equal experience with cars, focusing on mobility and connectivity," Berns said. "How do we move people west-east and vice

versa, to and from the beach.

"You do that by adding bike safety infrastructure (markings, separated lanes), making Garnet one-way (street), widening the sidewalks without losing parking and making it more safe for people on the sidewalks," Berns said.

The ultimate goal, added Berns, would be to create a more complete Garnet Avenue that gives an equal experience to cyclists and pedestrians.

"If Garnet were one-way, you could have wider sidewalks, clearer crosswalks, (traffic calming) bulb outs at intersections to make it safer for pedestrians to cross the street, more green lanes and buffered areas for bikes and reversed diagonal parking (cars backing in improving visibility)," she said.

While the way in which people shop is rapidly changing, there's still a place for proven business models, noted Berns, suggesting how brick-and-mortar retail operates needs to be tweaked — not abandoned.

"Retail, which is dependent on foot traffic, is tough and hospitality and retail feed off each other," she said. "But you don't go to Garnet because you need to buy a suit. You go to Garnet because you want to experience a day out shopping."

Berns said the objective would be to readjust the shopping experience to be had on Garnet Avenue.

"We want to create an experience where people who want to go out and have lunch, can then walk around and window shop and wander into stores," she said. "People want activity. They want events to bring them out to shop."

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Community celebrates Maruta Gardner Day, mural unveiled at MBHS

By DAVE SCHWAB

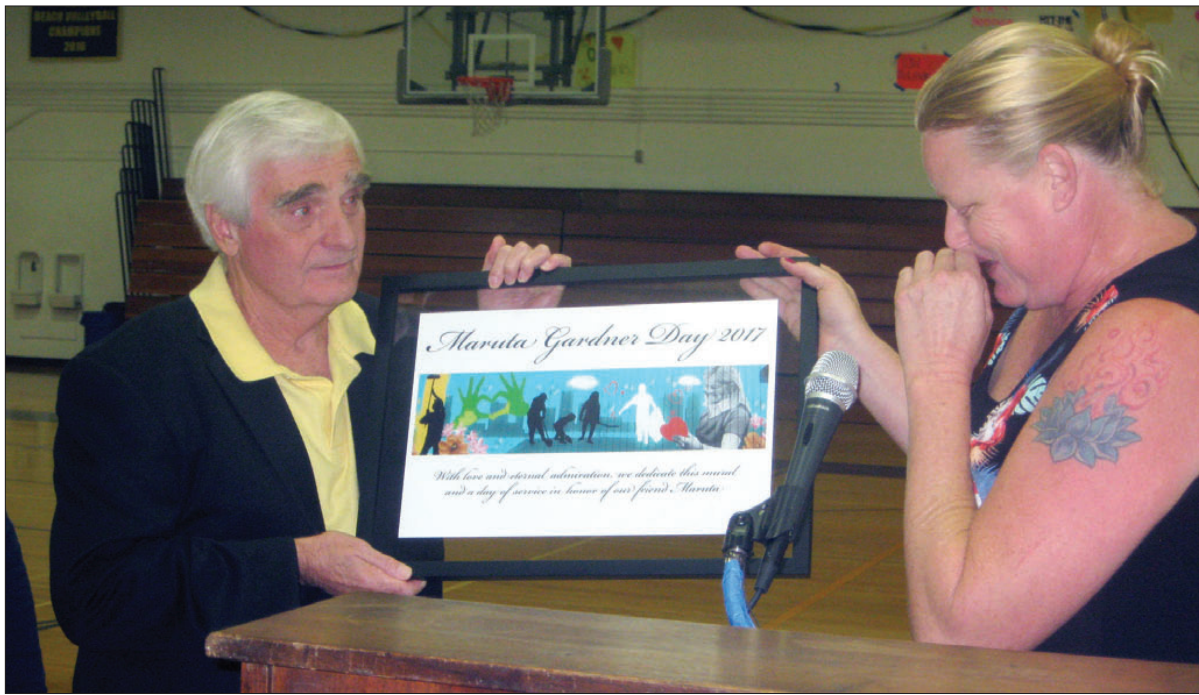
Maruta Gardner, killed by an intoxicated driver while painting out graffiti in Mission Beach two years ago, was honored for her volunteerism on Nov. 3 with a day named in her honor, which included several "Day of Service" events.

Organizations and neighbors in Mission and Pacific beaches came together to memorialize Gardner, as well as dedicate a mural designed by Israel (Ezra) Cervantes, painted by him along with the aid of the Mission Bay High Mural Club.

Participating community organizations included the Mission and Pacific Beach town councils, OMBAC, Mission Beach Women's Club, BeautifulPB, BeautifulMB, PB Street Guardians, PB Library, Friends of PB Library, Mission Bay High, Olive Cafe & Bakery and ANOC World Beach Games 2019.

There were refreshments for guests, and brief presentations by organizers, before the formal unveiling of the Maruta mural on a building wall around the corner from the MBHS gym.

"Such a beautiful mural is going to open up a conversation for future generations," noted Dawn Reilly of Beautiful MB Inc., a nonprofit dedicated to Mission Beach's improve-



Maruta's husband Willie receives a proclamation honoring his late wife from Dawn Reilly of Beautiful MB.

PHOTO BY DAVE SCHWAB

ment and enhancement.

"It's about how one person can make a difference, that what you do matters."

It was Reilly who first suggested a service day would be an appropriate tribute for a community hero and volunteer.

"Along the way, we heard wonderful stories about Maruta Gardner," Reilly said. "It's just lovely to see how one person, who was so

dedicated, could cause so many ripples, and those ripples became ripples of their own. It's just lovely to see that community can be built around that."

A tearful Sarah Mattinson from Olive Cafe, which catered the special recognition, talked about Gardner's legacy characterizing being under her spell as being "Marutaized."

"It may not be in the dictionary, but people who knew her (Gardner)

know exactly what it (Marutaized) means," Mattinson said. "She had a way of getting you excited about any kind of project, especially community service projects. Maruta wouldn't let anyone sit on the sidelines. Before you knew it, you found yourself chairing an event, wondering, how did that happen?"

Community service projects done on Gardner's memorial day included a cleanup around the Rose Creek

and Crown Point Preserve areas, weeding and cleanup along the sidewalks, streets, and alleys in the business districts around Pacific and Mission beaches, utility box painting and sealing along Mission Boulevard, anti-graffiti cleaning around the community (something very important to Gardner), and conversation and companionship at a local senior center.

Jonathan Domingo Garcia, 26, the drunken/drugged driver who killed activist Gardner in Mission Beach after she painted over graffiti, was sentenced to 11 years in prison in front of a packed courtroom. In handing down the sentence, San Diego Superior Court Judge Kathleen Lewis turned down his attorney's request for probation.

Judge Lewis said she believed Garcia was "a danger to others," and mentioned his first hit-and-run accident that occurred some three weeks before he killed Gardner. "You had a wake up call that you didn't answer," said Lewis. "I don't doubt you have remorse now."

Gardner, a retired teacher and former principal at Mission Bay High School, was struck at 5:45 p.m. by Garcia, who drove away without stopping. Garcia pleaded guilty to gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated and admitted leaving the

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Man turns stolen bamboo bicycle into Bikes for Kids campaign

By MATHILDE ROUSSEAU BJERREGAARD

On Friday, Nov. 3, former San Diego resident Rob Greenfield had his beloved bamboo bike, which he had ridden across the country, stolen in front of the Catamaran Hotel in Mission Bay. But instead of letting the loss of his bike ruin his day, he decided to turn the situation into something positive.

Greenfield wanted to turn his own misfortune into someone else's fortune, so he started the GoFundMe.com campaign "Bikes for Kids" to raise money for kids who have had their bikes stolen.

"I am in a situation where I can go and buy a new bike, but there are a lot of kids out there who live in low-income scenarios and if they get their bike stolen they can't get another one," said Greenfield.

Greenfield shared a video on Facebook of himself, asking people to help him turn the bad deed of his bike being stolen, into dozens of good deeds. He started raising money to buy bikes for kids.

"I am a strong believer in the idea that hate cannot drive out hate and darkness cannot drive out darkness. Bad deeds cannot drive out bad deeds. Only good deeds can do that," said Greenfield.

Through "Bikes for Kids," Greenfield already raised enough money to buy bikes for 10 kids. He also managed to find his bike's thief, and get his bamboo bike back. Greenfield's bike was stolen by a man named Guitar Johnny, who stole it to get his next fix.

Greenfield decided not to report him to the police, but instead they made a deal that Guitar Johnny is going to do something good for humanity, and the former bike thief committed to helping to fix bikes for



Rob Greenfield on his bamboo bike. Greenfield and Guitar Johnny, who stole the bamboo bike (below).

WANT TO HELP?

■ You may still donate to Bikes for Kids, and all extra funds will be used to do good deeds for the rest of 2017, and to buy bicycles for people who have had their bike stolen.

■ For more information, visit gofundme.com/bamboobike.

people in need to make up for his bad deed.

"I don't think that him going to jail is going to solve the problem. There are more people in jail in the United States than any other country in the world, and I think that we have seen that putting people in jail and punishing them that way doesn't work. I think we need compassion," said Greenfield.



100 >>

CONT. FROM PG. 1

It just happened. I didn't do anything to deserve it — but here I am."

Stuart feels fortunate to be around to turn 100.

"I'm just lucky that I have all my faculties," she said.

Though the proportion of people reaching 100 is slowly increasing over time, statistics show it's still extremely rare, with roughly 1 person in every 6,000 reaching their 100th birthday today. Fifty years ago, only 1 person in every 67,000 reached the century mark. Only 0.0173 percent of Americans today live to age 100.

What's biggest difference between now and nearly 100 years ago when Stuart was growing up?

"When I was 12 years old, invariably I would walk on the highway two miles up the hill to my house, even though I was supposed to take the bus," Stuart said. "You can never leave a 12 year old to walk the highway today and not be in danger. I feel sorry for parents trying to raise children."

Asked her fondest memory of Pacific Beach? Stuart answered, "There's quite a few. That's hard to answer."

Stuart did recall, however, she once worked in the office of famous inventor Thomas Edison (1847-1931), described as "America's greatest inventor," best known for having invented the first practical light bulb, the photograph and the motion picture camera. Edison has more than 1,000 U.S. patents in his name.

Stuart worked at a New Jersey real estate agency until she met and married Hank in April of 1941. Shortly after they were married, Hank left for World War II. That's when Stuart was a secretary at the Thomas A. Edison Plant in the instruments division at East Orange, N.J.

The couple spent several years in New Mexico before finally moving to San Diego in the early '60s. Stuart earned a master's degree in psychology from San Diego State University. They lived in their beautiful Pacific Beach home together until Henry died in 2005.

There's at least one thing that hasn't changed much for Stuart in the 55 years she's been in PB.

"I (still) have a house with a nice view of the ocean and bay," she said, adding, "But all of our trees have grown until they're huge. It's a lot nicer in that regard."

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Virginia Weber Laskowitz (retired) & Shannon T. O'Neill

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Original Broken Yolk still crackin' in PB, and now expanding to three other states

By DAVE SCHWAB

Restaurateur John Gelastopolous quite literally started out on the "ground floor" in his industry.

"I came here when I was 17 years old from Greece and I started from the bottom washing dishes and working in the kitchen in big hotels," said Gelastopolous, who now owns a rapidly expanding, franchised chain of Broken Yolks numbering two dozen and rising in San Diego, Orange and Imperial counties, as well as locations in Arizona, Florida and Illinois.

"Broken Yolk started in '79 in the Sports Arena, then it moved to Pacific Beach and I bought it when it was small, 3,000 square feet, in 1993," said Gelastopolous, adding the secret to his ongoing success will always be simple.

"I focus on fresh food and service," he said. "I only say one thing to my employees when we have staff meetings every 60 days. I tell them, 'We're in the people business. Anybody can give you two eggs. It's how they give them to you. You've got to engage with the customer, embrace with the customer.'"

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Gelastopolous referred to his "guerrilla marketing" concept.

"It's a metaphor I use where, when a gorilla hugs you — you feel nice and warm," he said. "That's how you make the customer feel."

According to its website, thebrokenyolkcafe.com, after years of waiting lines out the door on weekends, Broken Yolk really took off in 2009 with a feature on The Travel Channel's "Man vs. Food." That telecast introduced the brand to millions of viewers outside Southern California. Calls came in from would-be investors causing the owners to seek help with a franchise expansion model.

Now the hometown favorite serving breakfast and lunch has grown to 24 locations with about a dozen in San Diego County and the rest now spreading across the United States, including future sites planned in Las Vegas and on San

Diego State University campus.

"We started franchising in 2007," said Gelastopolous, noting he has seven more restaurant locations under development with plans to open in the next several months.

The Gelastopolous family is still very much hands-on with the original restaurant location at 1851 Garnet Ave.

"My family, my wife and I, my two daughters and my son-in-law are still working in the restaurant," he said. "Sometimes you can come in on certain days and see my grandkids running around. We are truly a family owned business."

Gelastopolous noted there's one huge advantage to owning a restaurant that does not serve dinner.

"When you work from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m., you still have time to go home and see the kids and do stuff," he said.

Like the Energizer bunny, Gelastopolous and his family-run restaurant operation just keep on going.

"I was looking to slow down and take a break," he said. "But it looks like that's not going to happen."



The Golden State benedict on English muffins with avocado and bacon.

Publication of The Long Way Back Completes Nautical Trilogy by Author, Circumnavigator, and Adventurer Lois Joy Hofmann

Hofmann's book is the third in her In Search of Adventure and Moments of Bliss series.

San Diego, CA November 1, 2017 – Award-winning author Lois Joy Hofmann announces the release of the third book of her nautical trilogy, In Search of Adventure and Moments of Bliss: The Long Way Back. Hofmann celebrated the publication of her book with two private events, a book-signing celebration held on Mission Bay, and a presentation at the Maritime Museum of San Diego. Hofmann will kick-off her public events with a signing at Traveler's Depot on November 25th as part of its Small Business Saturday promotion. Then she will appear at an Author Talk on Saturday, December 9th at the Pacific Beach Library. The Long Way Back is the gripping conclusion to a grand adventure that took Lois and Günter Hofmann over 34,000 miles around the world on an eight-year sailing circumnavigation on board their 43-foot catamaran, Pacific Bliss. The Hofmanns embarked on their 62-country adventure after turning 60 years old.

Hofmann will be available to sign copies of her new book on November 25th at Traveler's Depot at 1655 Garnet Avenue in Pacific Beach, San Diego. This one stop traveler's shop will be celebrating Small Business Saturday with specials for locals. On Saturday December 2 from 11am to 12pm, Hofmann will speak at the Pacific Beach Library in San Diego, located at 4275 Cass St, San Diego, CA 92109 as part of its Author Talk series featuring local authors.

The Long Way Back appeals to adventurers and armchair sailors alike. The reader sets sail along with Lois and Günter up the coast of Australia, through Indonesia, and on to Southeast Asia, across the Indian Ocean, through Pirate Alley and the Red Sea, and finally across the Med and back to France where their cir-

cumnavigation began. The oversized paperback book, ideal for a coffee table, contains 316 photos, maps, and illustrations and 456 pages.. As is the case with her other books, geography buffs will enjoy the magazine-style Did you Know sidebars to outline the geography, history, and cultures from each of the countries visited by the Hofmanns (19 Did You Know columns in total).. Hofmann's husband, Günter, also contributes to the book trilogy through his Messing with Boats column.

Embarking on an eight-year adventure at sea, this entrepreneur and former CEO discovered higher highs and lower lows than the rollercoaster world she came from. Sailing around the world propelled her out of the intense fields of human genetics and biomedical technology and into the thrills, dangers, and bliss of the cruising life. Life has been reimagined several times now for Hofmann. After sailing the world, Hofmann began to write her nautical trilogy, In Search of Adventure and Moments of Bliss. Her first two books, Maiden Voyage and Sailing the South Pacific, are available on Amazon, on her website www.LoisJoyHofmann.com, and locally in San Diego at Seabreeze Books and Traveler's Depot.

Hofmann's first two books were each recipients of San Diego Book Awards for Published Books, Nonfiction, in the Travel Category in 2011 and 2013. Hofmann has presented at many yacht clubs and for other organizations such as the Point Loma Optimist Club and MOAA (Military Officers Association of America), and is currently available for speaking engagements in Southern California.

Contact:

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(858) 926-6467

BRIDGE >> CONT. FROM PG. 1

its time. It was built with four travel lanes, 5-foot-wide sidewalks, concrete pier walls on timber piles and a concrete median barrier. Because the daily traffic volume on the bridge exceeds its current capacity, the California Department of Transportation evaluated and classified the bridge as functionally obsolete.

The existing bridge will be replaced with two three-lane parallel structures for both northbound and southbound traffic. This project is federally funded through the Federal Highway Administra-

tion Highway Bridge Program. The project is located on West Mission Bay Drive between Interstate 8 and Sea World Drive, approximately 1.25 miles west of the Interstate 5/Interstate 8 (I-5/I-8) interchange within the City of San Diego.

Once complete, the project will replace the existing four-lane bridge with two separate three-lane structures, providing an improved transportation link across the San Diego River.

The improvements include:

- Two new parallel bridge structures with three travel lanes in each direction;
- A class 1 (completely separated right of way) bike path on both bridges.

Sinkhole repaired on Mission Bay Drive

Repair crews on Nov. 8 completed patching a high-volume water line that ruptured under Mission Bay Drive, leading to a gaping sinkhole in the street and leaving several nearby businesses without water for about 24 hours.

The ruptured 30-inch-diameter pipeline began inundating Mission Bay Drive near Damon Avenue about 1 p.m. Nov. 6, city spokesman Arian Collins said. It took utility personnel roughly half an hour to get the overflow halted, he said. San Diego Gas & Electric personnel also had to fix a broken natural gas line that crosses the water main.



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Holiday blues at Pacific Beach Library with Earl Thomas

By BART MENDOZA

Bluesman Earl Thomas, appearing on Nov. 26 (2 p.m.) at the Pacific Beach Library, is one of the most dynamic performers to ever call San Diego home. Thomas is both master showman and storyteller, with a terrific band and a great repertoire that includes everything from classics such as Etta James "I'd Rather Go Blind," unexpected deep cuts such as Elton John's "Let Me Be Your Car," and original material that's every bit as good. If you are a fan of blues or R&B, this Sunday afternoon concert will be the perfect way to wrap up this year's Thanksgiving weekend.

Earl Thomas: Sunday, Nov. 26 at Pacific Beach Library, 4275 Cass St. 2 p.m. All ages. No cover. pblibraryfriends.org.

Anyone who enjoys jazz will want to hear Mission Bay High School's top band, The Preservationists. Led by MBHS music director JP Balmat, the lineup in the band has changed often in its decades-long existence, but each player is always a stand-out, with the young musicians in

the group celebrating jazz's roots. This month, they will perform three gigs; Nov. 23 at the House of Blues (9 a.m. and noon) and Nov. 24 and 25 at the annual Thanksgiving Jazz Festival held at the Town & Country Hotel. San Diego has become known worldwide as a great town for jazz. Mission Bay High school's acclaimed music program is one of the reasons.

The Preservationists: Friday, Nov. 23 at The House of Blues, 555 Fifth Ave. 9 a.m. and noon. All ages. missionbaymusic.com.

With 37 albums in his discography, it's only natural that legendary guitarist Carlos Santana has numerous tribute bands playing in his honor. Lucky for San Diego music fans, the longest-running and best such group is local. Viva Santana, who perform at Humphrey's Backstage Live on Nov. 18, was founded in 1987. The band plays the right notes, but crucially also captures just the right laid-back feel inherent in Santana's music. Viva Santana plays all the hits including "Smooth," "Black Magic Woman" and "She's Not There," but with

tunes from a 50-year career to choose from, the set-list possibilities are practically endless.

Viva Santana: Nov. 18, at Humphrey's Backstage Live, 2241 Shelter Island Drive. 9 p.m. humphreysbackstagelive.com.

Funk fans unite! On Nov. 19, Tio Leo's will host an afternoon (4 p.m.) set from Lutryal & The Minneapolis Sound Machine, sure to keep the dance floor filled. The Orange County-based group specializes in the music of Prince and his related groups, with this performance set to include a set of music by the Time. This show promises to be sing-along fun, with classics such as "Let's Go Crazy" and "Kiss" amongst the tunes to get the biggest response. This is a great way to prepare for the next day's Monday morning blues.

Lutryal & The Minneapolis Sound Machine: Sunday, Nov. 19 at Tio Leo's, 5302 Napa St. 4 to 6 p.m. 21 and up. Cover TBD. tioleos.com.

On Nov. 24, Dizzy's will host a special album release show from pianist

Joshua White. Accompanied by bassist Dean Hulett, drummer Dan Schnelle, and saxophonist Josh Johnson, White will perform music from his new album, "13 Short Stories." One of San Diego's leading musical lights, White is best known for his brilliant improvisational playing. Anywhere he puts his hands on the keys he finds magic. The album is indeed a "must have" addition to any worthy jazz collection, but make sure to take in a live set from White, where his performances are both inspiring and mesmerizing.

Joshua White: Friday, Nov. 24, at Dizzy's at Arias Hall, 1717 Morena Blvd. 8 p.m. \$20. dizzysjazz.com.

Hard rock fans won't want to miss "Riot at the Brick" taking place on Nov. 25 at Brick by Brick. Ear plugs may be in order for this night of ear-splitting, adrenaline-charged tunes. The evening kicks off at 6 p.m., with 11 up-and-coming bands taking the stage, including Smarter Than Robots, Di Vad, The Danger Field and Hand Drawn Tree. While none are house hold names just yet, this is



Earl Thomas will bring his style of blues to the Pacific Beach Library, 4275 Cass St., for a free show on Sunday, Nov. 26 at 2 p.m.

a great opportunity for fans to check out the scene's current crop of rising stars in one sitting.

Riot At The Brick: Saturday, Nov. 25, at Brick by Brick, 1130 Buenos Ave. 6 p.m. 21 and up. \$10. brickbybrick.com.

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EDUCATION NOTEBOOK>>

Pacific Beach Middle

■ The PBMS annual Toy Drive is in full swing with students bringing in new, unwrapped toys that will benefit less-fortunate children in San Diego. The classroom that collects the most toys between Nov. 13 and Dec. 1, will receive a day of fun and rides at Belmont Park.

PB Elementary

■ Next week, Missoula Children's Theatre's little red truck arrives to Pacific Beach Elementary and inside is everything they need to put on a musical... in just one week. One of the most beloved traditions at PBE, join the school as more than 50 students perform "Beauty Lou and the Country Beast." Performances are 2:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 18.

■ PBE's annual Turkey Trot fundraiser was on Monday, Nov. 6, but the school is still accepting donations until Dec. 1. Contribute to the school at fopbe.org/turkey-tr.

■ Green Gardens is hosting a fundraiser on Nov. 28 – it's a great time to pre-order your tree, and a portion of the proceeds benefit the school.

■ PBE's annual Toy Drive will be Nov. 27 to Dec. 1. Bring a new, unwrapped toy to your classroom to help less-fortunate kids in San Diego. The class that collects the most toys wins a pizza party.

Barnard Elementary

■ Barnard students learn Mandarin and experience Chinese culture in their classrooms every day, but the school also acknowledged the diversity of its students' backgrounds by celebrating Dia de los Muertos this



PBMS hockey players

Three Pacific Beach Middle students in a hockey shoot-out qualifier held by the Anaheim Ducks at San Diego Ice Arena on Oct. 28. Creighton Seiders, an eighth-grader at PBMS played well as a shooter, while sixth-graders Sophia Sidell (above, playing goalie) and Brendan Dunphy, a shooter, both qualified for the next round, respectively. The Anaheim Ducks Mini 1-on-1 is a shootout competition between shooters and goalies that participate in youth hockey in Southern California. The semi finals are scheduled for Nov. 30.

past week. A cultural display of mementos honoring deceased loved ones greeted families in the school's courtyard. This altar featured traditional elements, such as photos, candles, fruit, flowers, and sugar skulls.

"Barnard brings families together from every corner of the Earth," explained parent and Dia de Los Muertos event organizer Nora Aquino. "We are lucky to attend a school that unites us through a common language, but still encourages students to express themselves and their native culture."

For more information on Barnard

Elementary School, visit sandiegounified.org.

Kate Sessions

■ Thank you to all the generous families who participated in the con-

tribution drive. The two winning classes with the highest percentage participating and highest dollar amount, won garden parties where students planted trees in the student garden.

■ Sessions would like to thank its newest corporate sponsor, ITAN. If you are interested in becoming a Kate Sessions sponsor, contact the school at sessionspresident@gmail.com.

FOPBSS

■ The next Friends of Pacific Beach Secondary Schools meeting will be held Nov. 30 at the MBHS library. Come join in efforts to enhance the educational experience of the students from PBMS and MBHS. Find out what's happening at PBMS and how you can get involved.

Mission Bay Cluster

■ Holiday Shopping Fundraiser at Green Gardens Nursery (4910 Cass St.), 4 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 28. Get ready for the holidays while supporting PBE, PBMS, and MBHS as you shop for your Christmas tree, pick up supplies to spruce up your garden, or find unique decor and gifts in the gift shop. Twenty percent of all purchases will be donated to FOPBE and FOPBSS.

■ Save the date! The Schoolyard Dash 5K will be Jan. 28 at De Anza Cove. Benefitting Mission Bay High and Pacific Beach Middle schools, this event is a fun time for all students in the Mission Bay Cluster. Run or walk along Mission Bay and enjoy local music, food, and vendor booths afterward. Form a team or sign up individually at schoolyarddash.org.

All Souls' Episcopal Church Annual Christmas Home Tour and Marketplace

All Souls' Episcopal Church would love to welcome you to its annual Christmas Home Tour and Marketplace. Saturday, December 2, from 10-4:00, the Tour can be a whole day of fun in beautiful Point Loma! Organize groups from your neighborhoods—book clubs, church, garden groups, work or service colleagues, family and friends! For the first time, a special reserved ticket price for purchases of ten or more at \$25.00 each makes attending even easier! Of course, single presale tickets remain \$30.00 each (\$35.00 on the day of the event). For more information and tickets, visit www.allsoulspointloma.org/hometour or email dere-lynn@gmail.com.

The All Souls' Christmas Home Tour is a surprisingly fun, robust and welcoming experience! On church grounds, an expanded Marketplace offers delightful opportunities to turn towards festive planning and holiday readiness, with gift or decoration choices that include handmade treasures and home-cooked treats to fill Christmas stockings or the feast table! Gourmet food trucks, a coffee cart and local artisans join the event this year, rounding out an already

sumptuous tea! Touring the very special James Hubbell stained-glass adorned church, and the newly acquired contemporary abstract pieces from the recent Icons in Transformation exhibit, as well as five uniquely appealing Point Loma homes are highlights of this community celebration. Distinctive residences shine with unique histories, captivating views and festive decor to pique all our imaginations! Which home will tantalize us with St. Nicolas Cookies' fresh-baking delectable aroma? Which one will showcase a creative contemporary designer's comprehensive remodel of a 1913 treasure? Which will treat you to expansive Pacific panoramas or spectacular San Diego Harbor and skyline views? Each home, around each corner, enchants visitors with imaginative design, spectacular vistas or peeks into the many ways a family makes a house a home, and a home becomes a Christmas showcase!

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Veronica Parker (left) poses with the angel wings on Cass Street in Pacific Beach. Paige Fulfer (above) takes a selfie at the former bait shack on the South Mission Beach jetty.
ABOVE PHOTO BY THOMAS MELVILLE

INSTAGRAM » CONT. FROM PG. 1

Mermaid mural

One of the most popular places in Pacific Beach for Instagram photos is the bright mermaid mural on Mis-

sion Boulevard just north of Dirty Birds. The beautiful mural was painted by Jared Blake Lazer (aka Jared Black Lazer), who is a Southern California-based visual artist, muralist and graphic designer. Lazer painted the mural in 2015 for the shop Daffodil Dresses, which was

located there at that time. You can't say that you have been in Pacific Beach without posting a photo of yourself in front of the mural.

Bait shack

The former bait shack about halfway out on the South Mission

Beach jetty is like a doorway to the Pacific Ocean. The exterior has been painted over various times with colorful graffiti, which makes it an interesting backdrop for a cool photo. But be careful walking out on the slick jetty rocks; the shack is not as close as it seems.

lars, together with the foaming waves and the bright sand, makes it a fun location for a group photo.

Belmont Park

The old wooden roller coaster at Belmont Park with the white, red and turquoise colors, the palm trees in the background, with the beach right next to it, screams for an Instagram shot. The historic amusement ride in Mission Beach, named the Giant Dipper, was built in 1925.

Wings at Cass Street

Pacific Beach has been described as heavenly and it does have a pair of white angel wings to show for it. The mural, originally painted for a photo shoot, is located on a wall on the west side of Cass Street near the PB library. Having a photo taken "wearing" the angel wings is a rite of passage for visitors and residents.

La Jolla Mesa Drive

Head north on Mission Boulevard and then take La Jolla Mesa Drive toward Mt. Soledad. The road gets steep, but on the way up make sure to look in your rearview mirror as the Pacific Beach coastline starts to come into view. Pull over and take a selfie—on a clear day you can see all the way to the Ocean Beach Pier.

Tourmaline Street

What is more Instagram-worthy than a street filled with palm trees on both sides and the ocean in the background? The street severely slopes down to the beach, so stand at the top for a selfie and feed your Instagram account some "California Love." As an added bonus, find a spot in the parking lot at the bottom of the street, check out the mural on the side of the bathhouse, and then watch the surfers in action.

Lifeguard towers

Another popular prop for a good photo are the lifeguard towers along Pacific Mission beaches. The white and yellow towers, combined with the blue sky and the light sand, make a perfect California beach photo. There are more than 20 towers all the way from South Mission Beach to Pacific Beach, so there is no excuse for not posting a photo.

Beach Bungalow Hostel

At the end of Reed Avenue, just by the beach, is the yellow, blue, orange, green and turquoise Beach Bungalow Hostel. The hostel is filled with murals, patterns and more colors. Next to the hostel, on the boardwalk, is an ice cream shop that has a mural of a big shark on its north side, which is another popular Instagram spot. The hostel has a very authentic and memorable vibe that gives you the perfect California feels.

Beach sunsets

There are plenty of places deemed Instagram-worthy to watch the sunset in San Diego, and Mission Beach and Pacific Beach are no exception. Just pick a spot along the Ocean Front Walk to get a stunning view of the latest Southern California miracle.

Crystal Pier

Another popular location for photos is underneath the 90-year-old Crystal Pier in Pacific Beach (on the pier works as well). The wooden pil-

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BELMONT >>
CONT. FROM PG. 1

group called San Diegans for Open Government. “The ruling violates the will of the voters, who enacted Proposition G to prevent the site from remaining an amusement park in perpetuity, and restore it to a public park. But the judge said it need not ever revert to a public park, and could remain an amusement park forever.”

Briggs, who has sued the city often, including a successful suit that blocked the San Diego Convention Center's expansion by challenging its financing, filed the lawsuit against the lease seeking to invalidate its extension in Superior Court in 2015. The suit had the potential to shutter the high-profile seven-acre park with its numerous restaurants and bars, amusement rides and extensive beach-oriented retail.

Briggs' suit alleged the City Council's approval was illegal on grounds that it violated Proposition G, a 1987 voter-approved initiative restricting non-recreational uses at city-owned Belmont Park; the California Coastal Act; the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the San Diego City Charter.

City attorney Mara W. Elliott defended the court's decision in quashing the suit.

“Many of us remember when Belmont Park was a sketchy and run-down venue. Under the new lease, an upgraded Plunge will reopen, safety is improved, and Belmont

‘Under the new lease...
Belmont Park is again a
place for families...’

MARA W. ELLIOTT
CITY ATTORNEY

Park is again a place for families and tourists alike to create memories,” Elliott said.

The suit contended Prop. G was violated because it provides for public park and recreation uses but specifically prohibits “retail and commercial uses, except within the historically rehabilitated Plunge pool and related buildings.”

“The lease agreement authorizes a long list of ‘improvements’ that were not included in the development plan, such as catering facilities, amusement rides, games of skill, etc.,” states Briggs' lawsuit, which insists violation of Prop. G “deprives the benefit of public access to Mission Beach Park for recreational uses.”

Another Belmont Park Lease extension opponent, San Diego Life-guard Union head Ed Harris commented: “I objected to the lease while on City Council due to the terms. When the city fails to get fair market value for their leases the taxpayer suffers. We see this with numerous properties. Every dollar the city gives away in bad deals must be covered with increased taxes. The Belmont Park lease gave away millions of dollars that could have been used for city projects.”

The City Council approved Belmont Park's lease extension in 2015

by a 7-2 vote, with council president Sherri Lightner of District 1 and Councilman David Alvarez of District 8 dissenting.

Briggs' suit also argued that the City Council's approval of the 40-year lease extension “failed to comply with the San Diego City Charter rendering the approval null and void.”

Lease terms include \$18 million in capital improvements and upgrades, \$2.5 million to refurbish the Giant Dipper, and \$5.9 million in renovations to The Plunge, the park's iconic indoor swimming pool which had been closed for years.

San Diegans for Open Government sued to halt the lease, arguing that the lease terms should have gone to a public vote and that it violated the City Charter, the Coastal Act and the California Environmental Quality Act.

The City was represented by Chief Deputy City Attorney M. Travis Phelps who was assisted by Deputy City Attorney Hilda R. Mendoza and Senior Chief Deputy City Attorney Leslie FitzGerald of the City Attorney's Civil Advisory Division.

In November 2012, Pacifica Enterprises LLC acquired the Belmont Park leasehold in a bankruptcy trustee sale. Pacifica Enterprises, along with Eat.Drink.Sleep, assumed operations of the park and started restoring and revitalizing it by opening new restaurants including Cannonball, Draft, Belmonty's Burgers, and Hot Dog on a Stick, as well as completing a remodel of WaveHouse Beach Club.



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Mission Bay's first-year head coach Kenny Nears directs players on the field.

PHOTO BY THOMAS MELVILLE

Mission Bay football looks to learn from disappointing winless season

By DAVE THOMAS

This fall, the Mission Bay football program found out just how difficult it is transitioning from one head coach to another with not a lot of time to prepare for the season.

Despite some strong efforts from a number of players, Mission Bay found itself in the winless column this season under first-year head coach Kenny Nears.

Early in the season, Nears noted, "We have to get better... Every game we are looking better... but we must continue to work."

While the team never quit, the wins were not to be found.

Mission Bay started its season with a pair of back-to-back shutout losses to Escondido (27-0) and West Hills (28-0), respectively.

From there, the Bucs did manage to have a competitive game, dropping a 34-20 decision to Rancho Buena Vista. But September concluded with defeats to Patrick Henry (28-7) and The Bishop's School (60-0), respectively.

Looking for a better October, Mission Bay got off on a bad start with a 68-12 defeat to Christian. From there, the Bucs fell to Lincoln (42-6), Saints (56-15), and Morse (36-0) to close out the month.

In search of its first win as November rolled around, Mission Bay was handily defeated by Scripps Ranch 62-21.

In Eastern League action, Mission Bay went 0-4 on the season. Overall, Mission Bay was outscored 441-81 in its 10 defeats.

While this has proven to be a tough season, good things can come from such a campaign.

Knowing they do not want to go through another such experience next year, those underclassmen back in 2018 will want to take the lessons of this season and grow from them.

With a lot of off-season work and going into next August ready to change things around starting with the season opener, Mission Bay may very well find its first victory in two years.

New pro lacrosse team named Seals

In late-August, the National Lacrosse League awarded an expansion team to the city of San Diego. In October, the team announced its much-awaited identity at the La Jolla Cove Hotel and Suites.

The professional team, which will begin play at Valley View Casino Center in November 2018, will be named the San Diego Seals.

"We wanted a name that was inherent to San Diego," said team president Steve Govett. "The Seals name acknowledges the marine mammals that live along our coastline, and it pays tribute to the brave men and women who help keep us safe and protect our freedom."

The team's primary logo depicts a tenacious, yet welcoming seal face. The crown has three spikes, a representation of the trident of Poseidon, the Greek God of the Sea. The shield background provokes thoughts of the head of a lacrosse stick.

Four colors brilliantly define the mark: gold, purple, gray and black. The Seals will be the lone National Lacrosse League team with gold

and purple included in their colors.

Poseidon's crown – presumably made of one of the world's most-precious metals – matches the color of the spectacular array of sunshine that graces America's Finest City on a daily basis.

Purple, a color of royalty, is cast on the horizon of the Pacific Ocean at dusk. Lacrosse is a game invented by Native Americans. The Iroquois flag is a purple tone, and thus the Seals mark pays respect to those who call lacrosse "The Creator's Game."

"Team ownership and management came to Adrenalin with a clear vision that their new identity would be imaginative, confident and aggressive," said Dan Price, principal and president of Adrenalin. "Throughout our extensive process of analysis and build, their input and energy led to a family of logos that will represent their team, the city of San Diego and the National Lacrosse League for years to come."

For more information, visit SealsLax.com.

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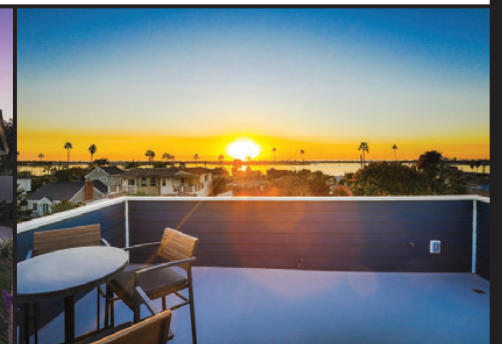


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