

SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER GROUP **THURSDAY, JULY 26, 2018 BEACHANDBAYPRESS.COM** 



# THIS WEEK

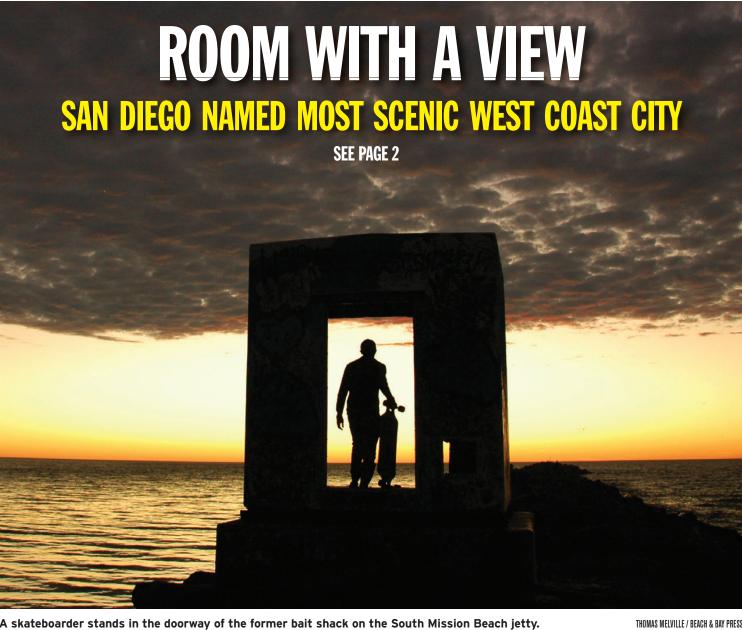


**Residents in RVs rally to** change parking regulations SEE PAGE 5



**Amplified Ale Works expands** with Amplified Backstage

SEE PAGE 8



A skateboarder stands in the doorway of the former bait shack on the South Mission Beach jetty.

# City Council approves regulations for short-term rentals

By DAVE SCHWAB | BEACH & BAY PRESS

Beach and bayfront residents were mostly delighted by the City Council's July 16 vote favoring stricter regulations allowing primary-residence-only rentals with a six-month maximum.

Not unsurprisingly, local shortterm rental industry members disapproved of the City Council's decision, insisting it will nega'The City Council listened to their constituents versus out-of- state investors.'

> **GREG DAUNORAS** PRESIDENT OF PACIFIC BEACH TOWN COUNCIL

tively impact San Diego tourism bers Barbara Bry of District 1 and

uthored by City Council mem- Dissenting votes were cast by

while hinting at a possible legal Lorie Zapf of District 2, whose The new regulations were short-term rentals in the city.

City Council members Scott Sherman, Chris Cate and David Alvarez.

Greg Daunoras, Pacific Beach Town Council president, concurred with the City Council vote.

"I was very pleased with the decision of the City Council restricting short-term rentals to coastal districts have the most only owners and residents of

SEE **RENTALS**, Page 4



## JOIN US DAILY FOR HAPPY HOUR

4 – 6 PM - BAR OR SUSHI BAR ONLY

1/2 Price Oysters \$6 for 9 / \$12 for 18 Roasted BBQ Chicken Quesadilla \$7.5 Roasted Pineapple Habanero Shrimp Tacos \$7.5 Now Open for breakfast lunch and dinner **EARLY BIRD SENIOR SPECIAL:** 15% OFF MON. – FRI. 3 – 6 PM 55 & OLDER EXCLUDES HAPPY HOUR

# San Diego named most scenic West Coast city in Expedia poll

BY CYNTHIA ROBERTSON | BEACH & BAY PRESS

San Diego is known as America's Finest City, but what exactly makes it the finest? The climate is often the answer, which does ring true. A poll by Expedia.com asked more than 1,000 Americans to name the most scenic West Coast cities. San Diego won the top spot.

Lily Rogers, writer of "21 of the Most Scenic West Coast Cities," an article for the Expedia Viewfinder blog, explained that she had pulled from two questions on the survey for her article.

First, the people were asked which region of the country they most wanted to visit. The majority chose the West Coast. Second, an openended question was included asking them which destination on the West Coast was the most beautiful.

San Diego in general was named most often, with some answers calling out particular places like Del Mar. The questions on the survey implied that the people had been to their suggested location before. Other areas such as Sunset Cliffs or La Jolla were not specifically called out by those polled, explained Rogers.

"San Diego County houses so much beautiful coastline, visitors can tailor their experience to their likes. That's one of the things that make it so special," said Rogers, her-



The Bahia Belle cruises up Mission Bay.

self a San Diego resident.

Rogers has many favorite places along the coast, including Harbor

"The view of the skyline and the sailboats bobbing in the water shows San Diego in its prettiest light. It's so quintessentially San Diego – a beautiful space reaching right down to the water," Rogers said.

Having Sunday brunch at Bali Hai restaurant on Shelter Island is a San Diego must for Rogers. "Those views

of the bay from the huge display windows are unforgettable," she said.

Rogers' other favorite San Diego coastal scenery icons include the vantage point from Centennial Park in Coronado, sunsets at the Ocean Beach Pier, and La Jolla Shores.

Edna Gutierrez, public relations manager at San Diego Tourism Beaches for Families in 2018. Authority is not at all surprised by the poll's results.

"With 70 miles of breathtaking beaches, the question is 'why not

**MOST SCENIC CITIES** 

1) San Diego

2) Seattle

3) Humboldt Redwoods

State Park, Weott

4) Cannon Beach, Ore.

5) Big Sur Coastline

6) Santa Barbara

7) The Dalles, Columbia

River Gorge, Ore.

8) Santa Monica

9) Gold Beach, Ore.

10) Monterey

and programs position San Diego as an ultimate destination," Gutierrez said.

"The San Diego brand story is now being told across multiple media plant-rooms, channels, storytellers and influencers around the world," she said.

Gutierrez explained that potential travelers need tangible reasons and iconic imagery that clearly communicate why San Diego is a must-see destination.

"For these long-haul markets, we promote San Diego as California's Beach City," said Gutierrez.

But what ultimately garners San Diego the top spot for the most scenic city on the West Coast? Gutierrez stated that it was the people who help make San Diego iconic.

"There is a symbiotic relationship between those who live and work here, and those who visit. San Diegans are the ultimate face of San Diego and maintaining that friendly vibe will ensure visitors want to come back," Gutierrez said.

For Rogers, that friendly vibe in SoCal culture is perfectly embodied at the Ocean Beach Pier.

"You'll likely see in one snapshot: hula hoopers and skateboarders in their swim suits, beach cruisers, buskers, surfers, colorful beach umbrellas, strolling beachgoers enjoybut also the San Diego Tourism ing frozen yogurt, open-air bars, and

THOMAS MELVILLE / BEACH & BAY PRESS

San Diego?'" she said. "The diversity of San Diego's offerings is what sets it apart from other destinations and this is not the first honor San Diego has garnered."

Gutierrez explained that in March of this year, Family Vacation Critic named Coronado as one of the Best

In October 2017, San Diego ranked No. 1 for Best Beach Destination and Year Round Perfect Weather, according to the readers of Travel + Leisure magazine's "America's Favorite Cities" issue. In that same month, Conde Nast Traveler reader's choice awards ranked San Diego in the Top 10 Best Big Cities in the U.S.

Just a month earlier, Sunset.com had listed San Diego as No. 1 in its list of 20 Best California Beach Vaca-

"Word of mouth is very powerful, Authority's marketing initiatives fishers on the pier," Rogers said.

# New International Arrivals facility opens at SD Airport

The San Diego County Regional stop flights are added. Airport Authority, along with officials from U.S. Customs and Border Protection and Turner | PCL Joint Venture, recently held a ribbon-cutting to mark the completion of a new 130,000-square-foot Interna-

The new facility will allow the airport to accommodate the increase in international passengers resulting from recently added overseas flights.

SAN has experienced significant growth in international arrivals in the past quarter-century – from about 50,000 passengers a year in the early 1990s to more than 400,000 a year in 2017. That number - and the associated economic impact – will continue to grow as more international non-

"As airlines look to add to their international networks, it is vital we have adequate facilities readily available to compete and attract new air service," said Kimberly Becker, Airport Authority presitional Arrivals facility at San Diego dent/CEO. "With twice the number International Airport's Terminal 2. of international gates, the latest technologies, and an expanded baggage claim and passenger wait area, this new facility ensures we are equipped to provide a world-class experience for international passengers arriving into San Diego."

The new facility improves the processing experience for passengers with reduced wait times and a more welcoming environment. It features the newest technologies from U.S. Customs and Border Protection.





#### 1658 Los Altos Rd

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Chris Love ♥♥ DRE# 00586103 • (619) 922-4062 • chris.love@coldwellbanker.com

#### **La Jolla** | \$895,000

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**Marie Tolstad** (858) 705-1444 marie.tolstad@gmail.con DRE# 00555757







This Stunning 3 BR 2.5 BA home is full of Nostalgic English Charm, From the Storybook front entry way to the vaulted ceilings and Hardwood Flooring, you get taken away by its beauty. Views of the Bay and Ocean from the kitchen windows. The second story was added to take advantage of those breathtaking views from the upper balcony bedroom & deck. This home comes complete with a 380 square foot finished basement w/ample storage and a bath. Corner lot location w/detached 2 Garage.

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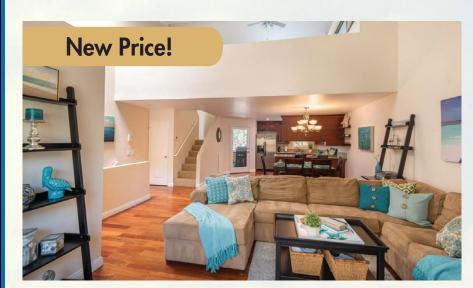
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# **ATTENTION 92109 RESIDENTS:**



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CONT. FROM PG. 1

their primary residence," Duanoras said. "The City Council listened to their constituents versus out-ofstate investors."

PB resident Marcie Beckett was appreciative of the decision.

"The new rules will protect housing supply and preserve neighborhoods and communities, while still allowing all residents to share rooms and entire homes with visitors," Beckett said. "Mission Beach will once again become a thriving community of neighbors who support each other, all local businesses, while still accommodating thousands of summertime visitors."

Beckett claimed the new rules governing short-term rentals will: increase City revenue due to more residents being able to find housing; increase property tax revenue (\$23M) as hundreds of older STVRs are sold to residents who will pay higher property taxes; hike TOT taxes from more hotels being built providing more good-paying jobs to residents; result in more residents paying sales taxes all year long patronizing all local businesses; and allow businesses to recruit more good workers because they can now find housing.

Past Pacific Beach Planning Group chair Brian Curry said the decision was long overdue.



Council members Barbara Bry and Lorie Zapf, representing Council Districts 1 and 2, both hardest hit by the preponderance of short-term vacation rentals, held a well-attended press conference in the backyard of a priate home in Crown Point on Friday, July 13. DAVE SCHWAB / BEACH & BAY PRESS

to special interests and the mayor's one-sided Airbnb proposal," Curry said. "After 11 long years, this is a victory for coastal residents. It is a reasonable compromise, provided there are safeguards against fraud, strict and significant fines for abuse, and adequate funding for enforcement."

A "carve out" of Mission Beach in the mayor's proposal was also "The City Council finally stood up defeated on July 16. Existing Mis-

sion Beach rentals will also not be grandfathered into the City's new ordinance. Mission Beach has the highest number of short-term rentals — upwards of 40 percent along the beachfront.

Following the vote, some speculated its net effect will be to end owners' renting out of all second homes or investment properties as shortterm vacation rentals.

Jonah Mechanic of Sea Breeze Vacation Rentals in La Jolla agreed, warning the decision will have negative ramifications for rental owners and residents alike.

"More than 90 percent of shortterm rental owners in Mission Beach have rentals that are not their primary residence, unlike other areas of the city where people live there for part of the year," Mechanic said.

"Nobody lives in Mission Beach six months out of the year, then travels the other six. We're talking about losing forever 95 percent of short-term rental investment in Mission Beach."

Mechanic felt that City Council opted to "appease the emotions of constituents" on short-term rentals, rather than focus on the socio-economic impact of the new ordinance being crafted.

"Restricting rentals to primary residences sounds good, but what does this mean?," he asked. "No one even asked how you define primary residences. Should creating policy be based on emotion or fact?'

Concluded Mechanic, "We will be analyzing the current situation to determine what the next steps will be now that this unconstitutional and illegal ordinance has been passed."

A cornerstone of the mayor's proposal, the so-called "plus one" provision allowing people to rent out their own residence, and one additional place, was also denied. In its place was inserted a condition allowing one more additional dwelling unit on the same parcel as the owner's primary residence.

City Council, however, left the door open for future discussion of granny flats and duplexes possibly qualifying as short-term rentals. Under the new ordinance, shortterm rentals will have to have licenses which will be non-transferable.

# Sex offender pleads guilty to molesting boy in Mission Beach

By NEAL PUTNAM | BEACH & BAY PRESS

A previous sex offender pleaded guilty June 28 to molesting two boys, including one at a Mission Beach arcade, and is expected to get a 66-year prison term.

Daniel James Tauro, who will turn 67 later this year, pleaded guilty to 11 counts involving the two victims when he appeared before San Diego Superior Court Judge Robert O'Neill.

O'Neill told him he would likely receive a sentence of 66 years in prison that included consecutive terms. Tauro said he was aware of that penalty.

Sentencing was set for Aug. 31. Tauro remains in jail without bail.

Tauro is getting such a long term because of the three strikes law and a consecutive 10 term for his prior convictions, said O'Neill.

One incident occurred at 2:50 p.m. Dec. 30 inside the Belmont Park Arcade in the 3100 block of Mission Boulevard. A 10-year-old boy said he was groped while he was in the arcade playing games.

The second boy was 9 years old and Tauro was charged with molesting him after charges were filed in the first case.



George A. Bender

April 7th, 1947 – May 6th, 2018

George A. Bender, died Sunday, May 6, 1979 where he worked as a Systems 2018 at Scripps Memorial Hospital in San Diego after a brief illness.

Born April 7, 1947 in Youngstown, Ohio, he was the son of George and Mary A. (Wultschner) Bender.

George was a 1965 graduate of Chaney High School and a 1970 graduate of Youngstown State University where he served as class president his senior year. He was also a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity. He earned a BS in Mechanical Engineering, an MBA in 1977 at Youngstown State and a Juris Doctorate at Western University College of Law in 1982.

George served in the US Air Force as a navigator and was also a member of the Air Force Reserves. He retired with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

George moved to San Diego in early to Kindred Hospice.

Engineer at Verity Technologies Incorporated, a Management Science Specialist and Research Engineer at General Dynamics, and a Logistics Support Manager at Trandes Corporation.

George was a member of the Old Mission Bay Athletic Club (OMBAC). He participated in many activities that have supported a wide range of local, national and international beneficiar-

George will be sadly missed by his sister, Aloise Wertz, and by his niece Jessica (Dale) Sullivan and nephew Timothy Wertz.

He will be buried at Miramar National Cemetery, San Diego, at 11 a.m. on Monday, August 6.

Memorials can be made in his name

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# Residents in RVs rally to change parking regulations

By DAVE SCHWAB | BEACH & BAY PRESS

RV residents rallied at South Shores Park in Mission Bay July 23 demanding an end to City policy allowing ticketing and impounding of their vehicles.

The rally featured comments from residents who live in their RVs, many disabled, who are receiving tickets under two existing City ordinances: (SD Muni. Code § 86.0139(a)), prohibiting parking an RV anywhere on City streets and lots between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m.; and (SD Muni. Code § 86.0137(f)), prohibiting vehicle habitation. Police may impound their vehicles after five unpaid tickets.

"We want everyone to know, including the police, that we've filed suit calling for them to quit ticketing RV owners, many of whom are on disability, and are far more affected than they would otherwise be and have nowhere else to go," said attorney Ann Menasche, representing RV owners, whom she pointed out are on limited finances and disproportionately impacted by the two existing RV statutes.

"Some of these people are existing on disability, which pays \$900 a month, not enough for them to afford a home," Menasche said. "If their vehicles get towed, or impounded, it could compromise their health — or even worse. In fact, I know of one person who died because of it, a guy whose father was paralyzed."

Center on Homelessness and Poverty filed a class-action lawsuit, Bloom et al. vs. City of San Diego, in U.S. District Court in November 2017.



**NEWS** 

RV residents held a rally at South Shores Park in Mission Bay on Monday, July 23.

The suit challenges the City's ticketing and impoundment policies on grounds that they are unconstitutional and discriminate against people with disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

A motion for preliminary injunction requesting a stop to the ticketing and impounding of vehicles while the lawsuit is pending was scheduled to be heard July 26 before Judge Anthony Battaglia.

"The City cannot comment on Disability Rights California, Fish pending litigation," said Katie & Richardson, and the National Law Keach, director of Communications Department for City of San Diego.

RV rally speakers said those targeted were often hard-working people who paid taxes all their lives

before becoming disabled or falling to maintain her independence. on hard times.

plaintiffs, was a licensed chiropractor with a successful career before getting into a serious car accident in 2009. Her only income now is Supplemental Security Income.

"When I saw that I got less than \$900 a month on disability, I knew that I could either pay rent or pay for other necessities I need to live, but not both," Grischy said. "The only option that made any sense was to use my back SSI money to

Prior to the rally, Grischy said, although she's not a traditional homeowner, that RV living has allowed her

"My RV has allowed me to have Valerie Grischy, one of the suit's my autonomy and my own space, my own place to live," she said. "I'm not crammed in with a lot of other people."

> Grischy, who has a large dog and a cat living with her, said she and other RV denizens are forced to constantly relocate and always live in fear of getting tickets they can't

> Concerning what she'd like the City to do, Grischy replied, "There are plenty of parking lots that aren't surrounded by residences that are mostly vacant in the evening. Why can't RVs be in parking lots, like South Shores, Fiesta Island or

'My RV has allowed me to have my autonomy and my own space, my own place to live.'

**VALERIE GRISCHY** ONE OF THE LAWSUIT'S PLANTIFFS

Mariner's Point at night?"

Fines RV owners are subjected to range from \$50 for violation of signs while parking at odd hours to \$112.50 for vehicle habitation. The cost of reclaiming a towed vehicle is substantially higher.

States the RV class-action lawsuit: "In the midst of a severe housing crisis, dramatically rising rents, a shrinking affordable housing supply, scarcity of shelter beds and a homeless population that has grown 23 percent in five years, the City is targeting its most vulnerable residents. There are at least 817 unsheltered homeless residents in San Diego, many with disabilities, who seek shelter in their RVs, campers.

"Their vehicles are their only reliable, safe shelter from the elements and only place to store their belongings. Yet, even though there are no adequate alternatives, the City has repeatedly ticketed and harassed these individuals for seeking shelter in their vehicles, or simply for owning vehicles and having nowhere else to park."

Menasche, senior attorney with DRC who is among attorneys representing plaintiffs in Bloom et al. vs. City of San Diego, concluded: "It makes no sense from a public health perspective to take people's RVs and throw them onto the streets. Rather than solve the city's homelessness crisis, it places people's health and very lives in jeopardy and makes the situation that much worse."

# PB patio furniture thief sentenced to year in jail

By NEAL PUTNAM | BEACH & BAY PRESS

A nighttime thief who stole thousands of dollars worth of patio furniture from Pacific Beach homes was sentenced July 5 to 270 days in jail.

Restitution was ordered to all 19 victims listed in the criminal complaint against Jose Ledesma Manjarrez, 44, by San Diego Superior Court Judge Timothy Walsh, but the exact amount will be determined

jarrez will be released from the he could find, according to court department recommended a higher South Bay Detention Facility on records. Sept. 23, as Walsh gave him credit for serving 112 days in jail.

Manjarrez's attorney, Victoria Barana, disputed the restitution figure of \$19,655.85, which was listed in the probation report. A probation officer told the judge she did not know how that figure was arrived at because she was adding up the figures in court and didn't come up with that same amount.

The probation officer continued to use a calculator in court to add up the figures, and Walsh waited for the computations. After a few minutes, the judge said it would be better to hold a restitution hearing on July 24. Walsh said he would suspend all the various fines and fees so victims could be paid first.

Manjarrez was seen on home surveillance cameras taking a wide variety of furniture in the middle of the night. He also took umbrellas, cactus plants, chairs, tables, sofas, a The sheriff's department deterbasketball hoop, a hammock, pil-with his office called for a 270-day nined Thursday night that Man-lows, and just about anything else sentence, though the probation

> He pleaded guilty to five counts of grand theft, and 14 counts were dismissed on May 30.

"Mr. Manjarrez did steal thousands of dollars of patio furniture in Pacific Beach during the night," said Barana. "We're not trying to excuse these furniture thefts from these homes."

Barana said he had no prior record and no history of violence. She said Manjarrez has "an immigration problem" and "his life will change significantly." She didn't go into specifics and could not be reached for comment afterwards.

If Manjarrez is not an American citizen, he could be deported now that he has five felony convictions. Manjarrez, wearing a tan jail uniform, said nothing while listening to the discussion with a Spanish speaking interpreter.

Deputy District Attorney Zachary Wallace said the plea agreement

Wallace said the thefts were "not a one-time offense," but repeated thefts over a long time period.

Walsh called Manjarrez's conduct as "brazen," noting that he struck in the middle of the night which he described as disturbing. Manjarrez did not enter inside any homes, and took items that were in back yards or porches. He sometimes put a box over outside lighting.



### Make the Right Choice Senior Living

Brooks (UCSD Graduate) and Todd Brooks (Air Force Veteran, US Air Living has Residential Care Homes website.

Established in early 2008, Jean located in highly desireable neighborhoods close to UCSD, La Jolla, Pacific Beach, Clairemont (Mount Force Academy Graduate) had the Street Area) medical facilities and the desire to develop Assisted Living Care beach. Come see us today before Homes and Services for seniors that making your final choice. Make the are a cut above the rest at fair & com-Right Choice Today. For more info petitive rates. Right Choice Senior call (619) 246-2003 or go to the



## **NEWS BRIEFS**

#### **BAIT BIKE PROGRAM WORKING**

The Bait Bike program created to catch thieves using GPS tracking on vehicles costing enough to make their theft a felony rather than a misdemeanor, is working.

Best of all, the conviction rate for those nabbed is 100 percent, police say.

"The District Attorney has assigned us a prosecutor for all our cases," said San Diego Police officer Daniel Niefer, who has been with the bait bike program since its inception in 2014. "Since last year, we've had 22 felony arrests."

pending, that 129 of 131 total arrests since p.m. Friday, July 27 at Bay City Brewery, the start of the program have resulted in

In June 2017, District 2 Councilmember Lorie Zapf announced at a press conference she was successful in getting \$3,000 in funding for the bait-bike program from the City's budget. San Diego Police Department was on hand then to discuss the baitbike program, which uses a GPS tracking your own if you can), bait, lunch: fish tacos system to alert them within minutes of when a bait bike is taken.

Niefer said a couple of criminals convicted of running illegal bike chop shops, where stolen bikes are repurposed, have served prison time for the crime.

"The word is out that the bait-bike program is in place and doing its job," Niefer

Niefer feels good about being a part of the enforcement effort. "I originated the program," he said. "We've gotten [thieves] convicted and off the street."

#### **CRIME AND SAFETY EVENT** AT KATE SESSIONS PARK

Pacific Beach Neighborhood Watch is partnering with Pacific Beach Town Council's Concert at Kate Sessions Park on Aug. 5. The Concert on the Green will fea-Brothers.

PBNW will be hosting a Crime and Safety Event one hour prior to the concert from 3 to 4 p.m. by the bathrooms at the top of the hill. The event will feature an hour with Police Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT), a police K9, demonstrations, Fire Department Historical Vehicle available for

PB community groups will be there to let involved in the community. About 5 p.m. workmanship of a Torah Scroll.

during the concert intermission, there will be an onstage demonstration by Championship Martial Arts, who will be giving kids and young adults a demonstration on how to handle situations with strangers and bul-

There are now 82 neighborhood watch captains in PB, said coordinator Marcella

#### **FUNDRAISER FOR FIESTA ISLAND DOG PARK**

The Fiesta Island Dog Owners (FIDO) Niefer said, with two bike-theft cases group will hold a fundraiser from 5 to 8 3760 Hancock St. Ten percent of the beer sales will go to FIDO.

#### **CRYSTAL PIER FISHING DERBY**

The Crystal Pier Fishing Derby will take place 7 a.m. to noon Saturday, July 28. The kids and their families are provided loaner rods (limited amount, please bring provided by Bub's, hot dogs courtesy of Von's in PB, drinks, face-painting, prizes and gift cards from the local businesses. The derby is free for participants. Contact Dwayne at dwaynesda@juno.com for more information.

#### **MBHS 40TH REUNION**

The Mission Bay High School Class of 1978 is planning its 40th reunion to be held on Saturday, Aug. 25 at Mission Bay Yacht Club from 6 to 10 p.m. Come join your classmates while overlooking the bay at the MBYC. Enjoy dinner, drinks, a photo booth by Pixster and DJ with Drew Miller. Find more information and tickets by visiting mbhs1978.com/details.html.

#### **CELEBRATION TO CONCLUDE** A NEW TORAH SCROLL

In time for the Jewish New Year, a new ture the high-profile and well-known Siers Torah Scroll will be welcomed by Chabad of Pacific Beach on Sunday, Aug. 5. At 11 a.m. community members, leaders and Rabbis will join this event at Chabad of Pacific Beach, 4240 Gresham St. All are welcome to come join the celebration.

The Torah scroll, one of the Jewish people's most sacred objects, has roughly Station 21's truck and the San Diego Police 600,000 handwritten letters. With a feather and special mix for ink, the scribe writes the five books of Moses on roughly 54 pieces of parchment. The average process people know how they can get more takes over a year to produce the beautiful





# Some Pacific Beach residents upset as churches continue homeless meals

By DAVE SCHWAB | BEACH & BAY PRESS

Community controversy has resurfaced recently over meals served to the homeless at Pacific Beach Methodist Church, which some neighbors believe is attracting the wrong element and inviting crime such as illegal drugs and bike

A long thread on Next Door.com has featured a renewed, back-andforth debate over whether serving meals to homeless and other needy residents is a positive — or a negative — for the beach community.

"We have a new type of homeless, criminal homeless," warns PB resident Kristi N. "They know the current state of laws allow them to steal and do drugs without staying in jail."

Noting the churches "are not trying to get these people into our shelters that are only 70 percent full," Kristi N. added, "These homeless don't want rules, so they don't go. The problem with most of these churches are they are in the middle of neighborhoods with children.

"This particular church is within two blocks of an elementary school... Just go to these places here in PB and just watch... [at] Fanuel park, homeless sex, drinking, drugs



Some PB residents claim that the homeless people who frequent the free meals are doing drugs and having sex in public parks.

and stealing... same with library nomers is that churches offering when it opens back up as well as the homeless meals "makes it easy for rec center," Kristi N. said.

Pastor Bob Rhodes, of Pacific Beach Methodist Church, defended his congregation, saying: "I know some neighbors are upset and have had some difficulties (with the homeless). But for every neighbor who has called this church to complain, there are neighbors who have sent money, neighbors who have come in and volunteered, as well as neighbors who have thanked us for what we're doing."

Rhodes said one of many mis-

people to live on the streets. It is never easy to live on the streets. What churches offer, besides a meal, is treating people living on the streets like human beings. I don't think enough has been said about that."

John Knoll of Crown Point North said homeless meals are: "a classic case of mixed feelings, a battle between the heart and the head. Who would 'not' want to feed the homeless? That's what the heart says. But what the head notes is, if you feed them — they will come. Despite all the services offered by the church, we see more and more homeless in PB."

Rhodes added a local group opposing churches feeding the homeless, called Concerned Citizens of Pacific Beach, are distributing postcards around town. The postcards have a photo of a sleeping homeless person, with a question that reads, "What can you do to help our homeless neighbors?" The postcard alleges homeless meals contribute to the hepatitis A epidemic, create unsafe conditions and fail in helping homeless transition out of their lifestyle.

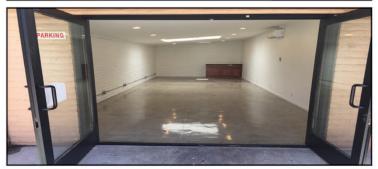
Deacon Chris Hulbert of St. Brigid, a Catholic parish at 4735 Cass St., concurred with Rhodes. He noted church leaders get that "members of the community are frustrated by crime and vandalism that goes on at night." But Hulbert disagreed that serving meals to the homeless is responsible.

"We do not accept that serving meals at church is the cause of these problems," Hulbert said. "That was frustrating for people [to hear] who are really focused on what they believed was the solution, which was to stop the meals. We did not see that as a solution. What we want to do is find a common understanding, acknowledging the reality (of problematic homelessness)."

### SPACE FOR R







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# Poke & Bulgi offers Hawaiian flavors with Korean spice

By DAVE SCHWAB | BEACH & BAY PRESS

If you like your Hawaiian food with a Korean twist, then Poke & Bulgi in Pacific Beach is for you.

Recently opened at 1420 Garnet Ave., Poke & Bulgi proprietor Sookhee Kim is bringing some of her family's home recipes from her native Korea and working culinary wonders blending them with trendy poke.

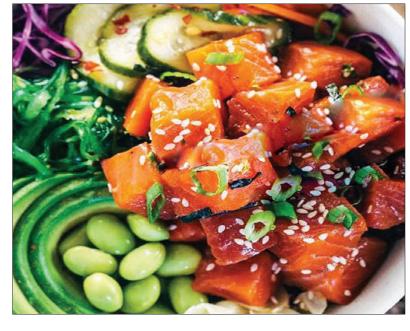
A former high school teacher in Korea who taught English, Kim couldn't find work after coming to San Diego. So she opted to switch careers instead.

"Poke is very popular," Kim realized after a website search, adding she was also drawn to the cuisine because, "it's very healthy."

It was also nice that Kim could mix in some Korean cuisine to make her culinary offerings stand out from others along the beachfront.

There are three main dishes at Poke & Bulgi. Those are poke, a raw fish or seafood salad typically made with yellowfin tuna, salmon or various shellfish. Then comes bulgi, Kim's creative culinary dish and name, which is a marinated beef rice bowl. Thirdly there is bulgogi, "fire meat," which is stir-fried Kore-

rant patrons to be able to customize the size: small, medium or large



their culinary choices.

"A lot of people are not real big fans of raw fish," she said. "I like to offer them a choice. Also, parents coming in here, many of their kids can't eat poke. So

they can come here and have bulgi or bulgogi."

The Korean and Hawaiian tastes blend well and complement each

Eating at Poke & Bulgi is a four-Kim said she wanted her restau- step process. Step one is selecting

**POKE & BULGI** 

Where 1420 Garnet Ave. Hours: 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Mondays to Saturdays. Info: 858-291-8549.

based on fish portions. Step two involves selecting a white or brown rice bowl with either raw fish and seafood or beef. The third step is to select a sauce. The final step is choosing among

available ingredients to top off the entree.

Items patrons choose from include salmon, scallops, shrimp,

"The fish taste is very flat and there is no salt added, so you have to take-out is available.



Poke & Bulgi proprietor Sookhee Kim brought some of her family's home recipes from her native Korea and is blending them with trendy poke (left). Bulgi is a marinated beef rice bowl (above).

mix the ingredients with sauce which makes it taste better," said Kim noting other items available to add to dishes include jalapeno peppers, edamame, seaweed salad, wasabi and cilantro.

There is both indoor and outdoor seating at Kim's establishment. The decor is simple and tasteful, employing lots of wood and tile.

So far, Kim said she's getting lots of loyal local PB customers as well as the seasonal tourist trade.

"I've got regular customers who spicy or seared tuna and albacore are PB residents who are eating here more and more," she said.

The eatery does not deliver but

### Karl Strauss hosts Arts & Amps at its PB tasting room

Now in its fourth season, Arts & Amps has blossomed into a festival-like experience incorporating a diverse array of artists, multiple live performances, and an expanded list of beer offerings. Cohort Collective brings their unique element of live performance art, and Creative Souls on the West Coast will showcase rotating gallery displays of the latest work from their crew of artists.

The next Arts & Amps will be held this Saturday, June 28 featuring Little Hurricane and Well Well Well.

Each event takes place from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. at their Tasting Room & Beer Garden at 5985 Santa Fe St. Admission is free so bring friends and come thirsty.

"Arts & Amps represents summer here at Karl Strauss. There's nothing like drinking a great beer outside on a summer afternoon jamming out to live tunes and seeing incredible artists performing and displaying their creative talents," said Paul Segura, brewmaster, Karl Strauss Brewing Co.

# Surf Rider Pizza Co. opens in Mission Beach and Crown Point

Surf Rider Pizza Co. has opened their new locations in Mission Beach and Crown Point. Surf Rider Pizza specializes in East Coast-style pizza available whole or by the slice as well as salads, stromboli, and fresh homemade desserts.

"Coming from the East Coast, I really wanted to bring authentic East Coast pizza to the sunny West Coast," says Surf Rider founder and The Patio Group's senior VP of food and beverage, Hilary Rossi. "We're excited that Surf Rider is able to spread the goodness of great food to San Diego."

Designed in conjunction with T-7 Architects, the 1,890-square-foot location at 3770 Mission Blvd. features custom pieces by Helvey Beach location at 2163 Abbott St., with a similar menu including whole pizzas and pizza by the slice such as the popular Signature Surf Rider Pizza.

Restaurant goers in Mission Beach may also enjoy a full bar featuring beach classic cocktails, beer, and wine. The bar exclusively pours the original smooth citrus Himmel Brew, brewed by Mission Brewery, alongside the newly opened The



Signature Surf Rider Pizza made with roasted garlic, white sauce, fresh basil, olive oil, gorgonzola, and roma tomatoes.

Patio on 101, also owned and operated by The Patio Group.

Himmel Brew, named after Joey Himmelberg, the late friend of The Design Studio as well as an indoor Patio Group's CEO, Gina Champibar, outdoor upper deck and a pet- on-Cain, pays tribute to an old friendly patio. Its quick-service friend while welcoming new ones model mirrors the original Ocean to create new memories in honor

> The Crown Point outpost at 3453 Ingraham St. offers a slightly edited menu. Whole pizzas, pizza by the slice, strombolis, and fresh desserts will be available for takeout and delivery only.

> The Surf Rider Pizza Co. Mission Beach location is open Sundays through Thursdays from 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays until 10 p.m.



# Amplified Backstage: maturing beer knowledge with some 'Teen Spirit'

By VICTORIA DAVIS | BEACH & BAY PRESS

Most music enthusiasts can remember, at some point during those awkward teenage years, owning an abnormally large poster of their favorite band, whether it be a David Bowie red-and-blue lightning bolt, a psychedelic graphic of Jimi Hendrix or the dripping tongue of The Rolling Stones. At Alex Pierson's brewery, Amplified Backstage (4150 Mission Blvd., Suite 105), their poster shrine of choice is a 12by-30-foot mural of Nirvana, located on the interior wall of the tast-

"We didn't exactly want to copy the teenage bedroom aesthetic, but I guess in a way we did because it's more of an early 90s feel while paying homage to growing up," said Pierson. "That was sort of the inspiration for lining the bar with tapes and having all the blacklight posters."

More than 2,000 music cassette tapes are nestled under the bar, with a hand-crafted amp behind the counter. Guests can peruse the tapes, pick their favorite and have it played on request. This is designer Aubree Miller's favorite Backstage feature. Before doing PR, marketing



and branding for Amplified, Miller worked in music marketing and spent a lot of time backstage while touring with various bands. That experience is what inspired her design for Amplified Backstage.

"It's meant to feel like a hangout and capture that 'calm before the storm' feel right before a band goes onstage," said Miller. "The back of the stage is where you gather yourself

and collect all your emotions before in 2012 by Pearson and his business you go out and perform. That was my inspiration. This is a place to relax, cool down, hangout with your close friends and have a beer before you go and tackle the rest of your day."

Backstage, which opened just this past April, is an extension of Amplified Ale Works Kitchen & Beer Garden, located just upstairs of the tasting room. The brewery was founded partner, JC Hill, while they were searching for a new location for their previously owned restaurant, California Kebab. For a year, Pierson and Hill brewed beer in their garage while their employees—who had formed a band—provided musical entertainment. When a space finally opened up, the group decided to turn their kebab business into a

Amplified Backstage, at 4150 Mission Blvd., is underneath the popular Amplified Ale Works Kitchen & Beer Garden.

brewery that honored their love of the music.

"JC and I became friends by going to concerts together in college too, so the name Amplified just naturally fit," said Pierson. "We figured, 'Hey we've been doing this for over a year in the garage, let's take a stab at it."

Though they saturated the space with punk band paraphernalia, from Red Hot Chili Peppers posters to electric guitar cup holders, it wasn't until Amplified opened up Backstage downstairs, and the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control removed the live music restriction, that the brewery was able to host their beloved punk rock concerts.

"Our end goal was always to have bands come in and play live shows," said Miller. "The venue holds up to 50 people so, when we have a show, it's very intimate and you're right there with the band. Plus, we have a lot of rock history embedded in Amplified that people aren't always aware of."

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# BUSINESS

# Crossfit PB growing at new location on Garnet Avenue

By ASHLYN LIPORI-RUSSIE | BEACH & BAY PRESS

Eight years of Crossfit PB history is getting a fresh start, opening up a new studio along Garnet Avenue in area," said De Veaux. early July.

Crossfit PB has been in the neighstrength training and skill development to anyone looking for a good workout. Now, they've moved into a bigger space, hoping to engage even more members of the Pacific Beach community.

Co-owner and coach Jenny De Every day, you have the opportunity

Veaux has been doing Crossfit for to try traditional Crossfit and modern exercise machines, updat-(and probably continue to be) the most competitive gym in the PB

Behind that title is the desire to help everyone become the best posborhood since 2010, providing sible version of themselves. With that goal in mind, this gym's founders have created a welcoming community for all kinds of fitness enthusiasts.

> The gym offers a wide variety of classes aimed at teaching all levels.

more than 10 years. "We have been strength programs, yoga, mommy and me classes, and even fitness classes for kids. Unlike other Crossfit gyms, this one has enough space for three classes to be running at the same time.

> the only place in PB with an outdoor gym area for people who want to get fit in the sunshine. There's also the opportunity for free gym time if you want to create your own sets rather than taking a class.

Gym-goers are also treated to their own surf club and activities

ed restrooms, and a clean place to shower after class. Another plus, this gym shares a spacious parking lot with the Broken Yolk next door.

With all the new space, there's a lot of opportunity to become even According to De Veaux, it's also more accessible to the community. "We have so much room to grow and can bring so many types of people in to unite under one roof," said De Veaux.

> The gym already hosts community events nearly every month, with

#### **CROSSFIT PB**

Where: 1827 Garnet Ave. Info: 858-412-6012.

clubs run out of the gym. Parties for every holiday, seasonal pub crawls, beach workouts, barbecues, even their own Crossfit competition.

This isn't an isolating, headphones-in kind of gym. Everyone that walks in is greeted with friendly conversation. "You see people hanging out here after class, it's like healthy happy hour," said De Veaux.

**READ MORE ONLINE AT sdnews.com** 













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# Global sensation Susie Grafte opens Ooh La La Dance Academy in Pacific Beach

By PAIGE FULFER | BEACH & BAY PRESS

World-renowned dancer Susie Grafte has traveled to more than 65 countries because of dance. As a first-generation Vietnamese American, Grafte appreciates the diversity in cultures reflected through different dances.

"One of our goals is to share more different cultures from all over the world and bring them to PB," said Grafte, founder, director, and producer of Ooh La La Dance Academy and Ooh La La Revue (her adult latin cabaret performance troupe).

Grafte quit her six-figure Xerox corporate sales job at 29 when she competed at the ESPN world salsa championship and placed 15th in the cabaret salsa division.

"One of my biggest accomplishments has been being a first-generation dreamer and achieving my dream as a dancer, despite starting training," Grafte said.

After diving into the professional dance world, she combined her dance experience and international business degree from SDSU to open Ooh La La's first location in La Jolla



Ooh La La Revue has been featured on 'America's Got Talent,' and is similar to Moulin Rouge where the performers dance, sing, and entertain guests through cabaret comedy burlesque shows at Tango Del Rey.

in 2011.

For the last six years, the studio has won "Best Dance Studio" in La Jolla. She is thrilled to open a second location on Garnet Avenue.

"I found a perfect spot next to later in life and not having technical Pacific Beach Middle School where the kids can walk to dance class after school. Trader Joe's is also next door so parents can drop off and easily run errands," Grafte said.

> Students at the academy can expect to compete in local competi-

tions and participate in annual win- is similar to Moulin Rouge, where the ter productions.

However, she is hoping to reach the adult population of PB as well. "We just celebrated our 10-year anniversary of Ooh La La Revue and I'd like to continue the legacy even after I'm gone. There's a lot of young people who we can teach and train to perform and tour," Grafte said.

Ooh La La Revue has been featured on "America's Got Talent," and

Info: ollda.com.

Where: 1562 Garnet Ave.

**OOH LA LA DANCE ACADEMY** 

day of each month. Grafte is excited to share her pas-

sion for performing arts with PB.

"It allowed me to live my best life possible... It turned me from a shy timid wallflower to now a social butterfly. I'd like to share the blessings with others which I had the

Ooh La La's grand opening will take place 6 to 8 p.m. Aug. 3. Attendees may enjoy the traditional ribbon cutting ceremony and complimentary champagne, cider and cake.

opportunity to enjoy," Grafte said.

The new studio will offer classes for all levels and ages 2-plus. Ooh La La PB is offering a week of free classes for kids and adults to enjoy from Aug. 6-11. Walk-ins are accepted, or locals can register at ollda.com.

The Pacific Beach location will offer unique classes such as a Monday night salsa social with a live DJ, and a late-night Milonga Tango

performers dance, sing, and enter-

tain guests through cabaret comedy

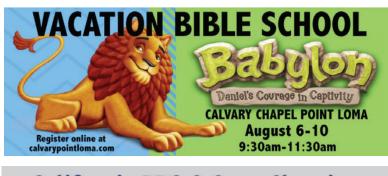
party every third and fifth Wednes-

burlesque shows at Tango Del Rey.

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# Pacific Beach Summer Concerts series in full swing with Bayou Brothers

By BART MENDOZA | BEACH & BAY PRESS

The Pacific Beach Summer Concerts series is in full swing, with New Orleans inspired combo, the Bayou Brothers performing on July 29. Taking place at Kate Sessions Park, in addition to the free music concert, the audience will be treated to one of the best views in San Diego, overlooking the city and the bay. Meanwhile, the Bayou Brothers will entertain with an infectious mix of zydeco, blues, R&B and other sounds of Mardi Gras, as heard on their most recent album, "Music For Feet." The band is an instant party. You'll want to dance from the first note.

The Bayou Brothers: Sunday, July 29 at Pacific Beach Concerts 4 p.m. All ages. pbtowncouncil.org.

Hard rock fans won't want to miss a three tribute band bill at Brick by Brick on July 28. The night will be dedicated to 1970s and early 1980s British hard rock with performances from Motorbabe (Motorhead), Madman (Ozzy Osbourne) and OFU (UFO). The concert's highlight will be the latter, offering rock solid versions of UFO's best known songs, including "Only You Can Rock Me," and "Too Hot To Handle." While



The Bayou Brothers will play at Pacific Beach Concerts On The Green in Kate Sessions Park Sunday, July 29.

On The Green, Kate Sessions Park. remain hugely influential, with a new album, Live, Hensley turns in Diego.

> OFU: Saturday, July 28, at Brick by Brick, 1130 Buenos Ave. 8:30 p.m. 21 and up. brickbybrick.com.

Few local performers in recent years have taken the music community by storm like singer Casey Hensley. Appearing at Humphrey's Backstage Live on July 31, Hensley's powerhouse vocals are at home on torch songs or barroom blues, with a dynamic stage presence to top UFO never scored a U.S. hit, they things off. Currently promoting her

particularly devoted fan base in San terrific versions of songs ranging from Elvis's rocker "Hard Headed Woman" to Irma Thomas's "You Can Have My Husband," but her originals also hold up well against the classics. Hensley has recently been having major success in Europe, so it likely won't be long before she outgrows intimate gigs such as these.

> Casey Hensley: Tuesday, July 31, at Humphrey's Backstage Live, 2241 Shelter Island Drive. 7 p.m. humphreysbackstagelive.com.

1960s hitmakers Jerry & Debbie Burgan of We Five perform at Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Ocean Beach on Aug. 3. Best known for their No. 3 1965 hit, "You Were On My Mind," and the No. 31 follow up, "Get Together," the pair will be joined by their son Jeremy on keyboards and bassist Tholow Chan of the New Christy Minstrels, for a show that will mix story telling with song. Anyone who enjoys hearing about the heyday of folk and acoustic music, from the viewpoint of two of the eras prime players, will appreciate this show.

Burgan & Chan: Friday, Aug. 3 at Holy Trinity Anglican Church, 2051 Sunset Cliffs Blvd. 7:30 p.m. All ages. comedyuc.com.

Formed in the late 1970s, blues band The Hurricanes will stage a reunion concert and memorial at Tio Leo's on Aug. 5, honoring harmonica player Aristotle Georgio, who passed away last year. Taking place from 1 to 5 p.m., the event will also see the release of The Hurricanes' new album, the aptly titled, Vintage, recorded live in 1983 at City College, with bonus tracks from a 1987 show in Cincinatti. Adding spice to a special night, the band will be joined by keyboardist Sue Palmer and sax player Jonny Viau.

The Hurricanes: Sunday, Aug. 5 at Tio Leo's, 5302 Napa St. 1 p.m. 21 and up. tioleos.com.

The Bahia Belle is adding more entertainment to its daily schedule, with DJs on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays, live bands on Mondays and Fridays, plus karaoke on Wednesdays. On July 27, the cruise around Mission Bay will be soundtracked by Emergency Exit.

Emergency Exit: Friday, July 27 at the Bahia Resort, 998 West Mission Bay Drive. 9:30 p.m. 21 and up. bahiabelle.com.









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#### MISSING MAN LAST SEEN IN PB

A mother shared a heartbreaking plea with the public recently after her son apparently vanished.

"He's never done this and it's now like he's dropped off the face of the earth. And we're searching for him. I don't know where he is but I need to know where my son is," said Christel Billingsly.

Billingsly's son Wesley, 24, was last seen by friends in Pacific Beach on June 12. Around that time he was "couch surfing" at three friends' homes. One on Haines Street, another apartment on Diamond Street; and the other, on Grand Avenue.

"Something in my gut told me something is wrong, so we just started reaching out and calling people," explained Christel.

No calls, texts, or social media posts have come from Wesley, something that Christel and his friends said is far from the norm. His black Ford Expedition with California license plate 6HIN781 is also gone without a trace.

So far, Wesley's mom has posted flyers in PB and near San Diego State University. The San Diego Police Department is investigating. Officers are asking anyone with information to contact the department at 619-531-2277.

#### **NEW FIRE-RESCUE CHIEF**

After a three-month national search, Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer announced on July 2 the appointment of Heartland Fire and Rescue Chief Colin Stowell as the next chief of the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department (SDFD). The City Council confirmed the appointment on July 23.

# **NEWS BRIEFS**

Stowell began his firefighting career at SDFD in 1988 and served in every rank in the department, including assistant chief, before leaving in 2016 to lead Heartland Fire. Stowell, who was strongly recommended by both the community and professional interview panels, brings a wide-range of experience that will benefit the department and its more than 1,200 firefighters, lifeguards and support staff.

"Chief Stowell was born and raised here in San Diego and spent the majority of his firefighting career protecting our neighborhoods and our residents." Faulconer said. "He has the right experience at the right time to continue the major investments we're making in public safety and lead this department into the future. It's great to bring Chief Stowell back to SDFD where it all started."

Stowell will take over the department following recent significant investments made by Faulconer and the City Council, including new firefighting helicopters and the construction or renovation of nine fire stations over the last three years.

#### CITY TO INSTALL BIKE RACKS

In its continuing effort to promote alternative transportation and improve bicycle infrastructure, the City of San Diego has announced plans to install hundreds of bicycle racks in neighborhoods citywide. The City, which has already designated more than 50 bicycle racks for the downtown area as part of its comprehensive Downtown Mobility Plan, is also seeking input via local business improvement districts (BIDs) to provide recommendations for additional bike rack installation locations in the community.

The proposed 50 downtown bike rack locations correspond with developing cycle tracks - also known as protected bike lanes - being installed to improve ease and safety of bicycle ridership down-

The bicycle rack initiative, dubbed "BIDs to Bike Racks," is a collaborative effort between the Mayor's Office and the City's Transportation and Storm Water and Economic Development departments, and impacts every business improvement district across the city. Collaborating directly with BIDs will help achieve the goal to place bike racks in strategic locations within each community that best serve cyclists.

- The addition of hundreds of new bike racks throughout the city will complement the improved and developing bicycle infrastructure and offer more places to safely secure bicycles.
- Cyclists interested in locating existing bike racks are encouraged to use the City's interactive map, which allows for convenient ride planning. Increasing bicycle ridership is a key strategy of the City's Climate Action Plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- The City of San Diego was recently named a "Bike Friendly Community" by The League of American Bicyclists.

"We're building a more bike-friendly city every day and these new bicycle racks will encourage more folks to get around on two wheels instead of four," said Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer. "As we continue to improve transportation options citywide, it's important to provide an orderly place for cyclists and casual riders to store their bikes so the public spaces in our neighborhoods are free from clutter."



LA JOLLA VILLAGE NEWS





#### **PHOTOGRAPHERS** DON BALCH,

SHARON HINCKLEY,

# Rep. Peters co-sponsors 'Keeping Families Together Act'

BY DAVE SCHWAB | BEACH & BAY PRESS

U.S. Rep. Scott Peters (CA-52) defended his co-sponsorship of the Keeping Families Together Act, which would immediately halt separating families at the U.S.-Mexico border, as the right thing to do.

Noting border issues are "complicated," Peters said asylum seekers "have a right to a hearing and we want to give them that."

Concerning asylum seekers, Peters said, "There's no reason not to treat them humanely. I can't think of anything more inhumane than taking a child from his or her parents."

The bill would prohibit Department of Homeland Security (DHS) officials from separating children from their parents, except in extraordinary circumstances, like trafficking indicators or other concerns of risk to the child. It also requires DHS to develop policies and procedures allowing parents and children to locate each other and reunite if they have been separated.

Recently, Peters spoke out on the House floor, demanding an immediate change to the separation policy. In early June, he joined Democratic colleagues to ask that the Appropriations Committee limit the Department of Homeland Security's ability to use funds allocated to separate children and parents.

The Obama Administration had been continuing a "catch and release" policy under the previous cies had allowed to remain in the



A group of Mexican citizens look across the border fence at Playas de Tijuana.

THOMAS MELVILLE / BEACH & BAY PRESS

Bush Administration, which is a community pending immigrant the Trump Administration has practice of releasing an immigrant to the community while he/she awaits hearings in immigration court, as an alternative to holding them in immigration detention. Under that policy, migrants whom U.S. immigration enforcement agen-

hearings were deemed low-risk, such as children, families and those seeking asylum.

"Under catch and release, if people didn't come back for their hearing — they were expelled," said Peters. "Most people did come back."

rescinded its policy of separating families, "We're still putting them in cages on concrete floors. That's very un-American. I think it's racially driven, and not consistent with American values."

Peters is a proponent of protecting Peters pointed out that, though Dreamers, undocumented minors in 'I can't think of anything more inhumane than taking a child from his or her parents.'

SCOTT PETERS CONGRESSMAN (CA-52)

the United States, with legislation that would first grant them conditional residency, while they work toward permanent residency.

"That's most obviously the leastthreatening issue," the Congressman said. "Many of these Dreamers don't even know the language of their home country, and they're some of the finest people you'd ever want to know."

Peters said upwards of 80 percent of Americans "want to let Dreamers be citizens."

Concerning the Trump border wall, Peters said, "The wall (in so many ways) is such a bad idea. Not just the fact that it would cost \$20 billion, enough for one and one-half aircraft carriers. But just think what we could do with that money with homelessness or education.

"Our trade with Mexico is an important part of our economy, and the border is the busiest land port in the world. The notion that we would insult Mexico with this wall is just antithetical to the very character of all the communities along the border from San Diego."

# YMCA in Pacific Beach adds two padel tennis courts

By DAVE SCHWAB | BEACH & BAY PRESS

Pacific Beach YMCA's long-term buildout just keeps getting better as a pair of new world-class padel tennis courts have just been added to

In April, the PB YMCA celebrated the first phase of a shared venture with San Diego Unified School District, hosting a "ribbon tying" to debut its new joint-occupancy turf field surrounded by a track. The new field is striped for multiple sports including soccer, field hockey and girls and boys lacrosse.

Enter now two brilliant-blue, state-of-the-art, wall-enclosed padel tennis courts, about a third the size of a standard tennis court, located immediately behind the YMCA's out- else allows us to do that." door fitness facility.

"It's the fastest-growing sport in Europe and Latin America and we're bringing it to Pacific Beach," said PB YMCA executive director Michael Roberts.

Noting these are presently the "only" padel courts in Southern California south of Los Angeles, Roberts added, "Our plan is to double our impact in the next five years, and to bring a sport like this to the



YMCA now has two brilliant-blue, state-of-the-art, wall-enclosed padel tennis courts, about a third the size of a standard tennis court, located immediately behind the outdoor fitness facility.

Invented in Acapulco, Mexico by Enrique Corcuera in 1969, padel tennis combines action, fun and social interaction for players of all ages and skills that's easy to learn. Adapted from tennis, the padel court is two-thirds smaller, the net is lower and is played by doubles-only enclosed within glass walls.

"It's a mixture really of racquetball and tennis," said padel instructor Armando Rodiel. "With two peo-

YMCA that doesn't exist anywhere ple you can cover the surface pretty well, and it's less fast than racquetball or squash when you play. And, there's long rallies because the ball doesn't go out so much, as you can play off the walls."

Added Rodiel, "The important thing about padel is that it's a very social sport."

Rodiel said padel tennis is even adaptable for those with disabilities, who can play the sport in

Padel player Mario Scade noted

'It's the fastest-growing sport in Europe and Latin America and we're bringing it to PB.'

> **MICHAEL ROBERTS** PB YMCA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

the sport's tennis ball is less pressurized, and that the courts have sand on them to help make the balls bounce better. He pointed to the padel racquet, which is thick fiberglass but still lightweight, with holes in it to divert stress away from the wrist and elbow.

Roberts said both padel courts are open daily and operated on a feebased system. He noted lessons for beginners are also available.

Future phases of the YMCA-SDUSD partnership will include: construction of a new two-story, 26classroom building; improvements to existing buildings; relocation of school administration offices, renovation of the food service area, and three new classroom/innovation spaces in the library media center; campuswide upgrades to security, fire alarm, data and communications.

### Top women surfers ready to compete at Supergirl Pro

ASA Entertainment recently announced that the World Surf League 6-Star Paul Mitchell Supergirl Pro will celebrate its 12th year at the Oceanside Pier in Oceanside, July 27-29. The event is the largest female surf contest in the world, with more than 100 of the planet's top pros expected to compete.

The event will run daily from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Access to the surfing, concerts, esports, classes and all event elements is free to

Some of the world-class surfers resgistered to compete include world champion six-time Stephanie Gilmore (Australia), three-time world champion Carissa Moore (Oahu), No. 1 ranked Lakey Peterson (Santa Barbara), Sage Erickson (Ojai), rookie sensation Caroline Marks (Melbourne Beach, Fla.), threetime Supergirl Pro champion Coco Ho (Oahu) and defending champion Courtney Conlogue (Santa Ana).

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