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Fourth of July Drone Light Show in OB deemed a success

A display of aerial artistry unfolded above Ocean Beach Elementary School on Tuesday, July 4, as a fleet of 300 drones took flight at 9:05 p.m. The inaugural Ocean Beach Fourth of July Drone Light Show, with an accompanying soundtrack, captivated onlookers for 12 minutes with its patriotic designs and iconic formations, paying homage to the community.

Among the notable shapes were a VW Bus, the James Gang's OB Bird, a 25-story whale, a surfer catching a wave, a wild parrot, and a colossal 200-foot-tall dog catching a Frisbee.

The event was made possible by the dedicated efforts of Luminosity, a local organization composed entirely of volunteers. Over the past year, these individuals poured countless hours into planning and executing the show.

Mike James, the founder of Luminosity and the show's designer, expressed his elation at the success achieved in the first year. "Skyworx, our exceptional drone operator, surpassed my expectations despite altitude and space limitations," he said, "the Skyworx artist's interpretations of my ideas were way beyond what I initially imagined."

Originally intended to take off from Dog Beach, the show faced an unexpected setback in May when the committee received news of their denied request



Photos by Dan Dennison

from governmental agencies. Environmental concerns relating to nearby sensitive habitats prompted a swift relocation strategy. After careful evaluation, Ocean Beach Elementary School and Dusty Rhodes Park emerged as the only viable options that adhered to logistical constraints, including restrictions on flying over populated areas or bodies of water.

The final selection of the school was primarily driven by the desire to maximize viewership and accessibility. "With just a little over a month until the Fourth of July, the committee had to adapt swiftly, working closely with the City of San Diego and the San Diego Unified School District. We encountered several hurdles along the way, with the school district initially rejecting the proposal for any drone flights over their site," James said.

James expressed his gratitude for the invaluable assistance provided by Kohta Zaiser from Mayor Gloria's office and the coordination efforts of Luminosity co-chair Tricia Gaut.

"Their unwavering support played a pivotal role in ensuring the show could go on," James said. However, he also divulged that there were moments throughout the past year when the event nearly faced cancellation. Few are aware that the Federal Aviation Administration initially rejected Luminosity's application a mere two and a half weeks before Independence Day. Thanks to a prompt appeal by Skyworx and the intervention of Congressperson Scott Peters' staff, the FAA approved on June 23, to the relief of the committee.

Skyworx, the team responsible for orchestrating the drone maneuvers, was confronted with limited airspace and the unusual challenge to have the show viewable from all angles. "While we received some criticism from spectators who couldn't fully appreciate every design, Skyworx accomplished something truly extraordinary," James said. "Considering it was our inaugural year, what the Luminosity

committee and Skyworx achieved bodes well for the future."

The positive response from the community, evident through cheers during the show and subsequent posts on social media, delighted the organizers. However,

the Luminosity committee remains committed to continual improvement and is reviewing all feedback to make the 2024 event even more remarkable.

"Now, we rely on generous donations to ensure next year's show becomes a reality," James said.

To support Luminosity's endeavors, the organization relies entirely on community donations and sponsorships. Those interested in contributing can visit obluminosity.com/donations/, where donations are facilitated through a partnership with Peninsula Alliance, a recognized 501(c) non-profit organization. For more information, visit obluminosity.com.

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Principal positions being filled in area schools

BY SCOTT HOPKINS | The Beacon

While Peninsula-area students hit the beaches and head out on family vacations, new principals are being chosen for two area secondary schools.

Chief among them is Point Loma High School where a new principal will lead the school as it nears its 100th anniversary in 2025.

"I am leaving Point Loma High School at the end of (June)" principal Kelly Lowry wrote in a letter to community members. "I have accepted an opportunity in the Thriving Schools Department starting in July."

"I have loved being here at PLHS, my second home. I am extremely indebted to you all. Your contributions to the Point Loma community are immeasurable. I know Point Loma is in good hands with your support," Lowry wrote.

Lowry, previously a vice principal at PLHS, was named principal



Kelly Lowry



Scott Irwin

in 2021, replacing Hans Becker who moved to Poway Unified School District as principal at Ranch Bernardo High School.

San Diego Unified School District personnel interviewed staff and community members at PLHS to identify the specific qualities and skills they wished their new campus leader to possess. Interviews of candidates for this position are currently underway and the announcement of the new principal

at PLHS is expected this month. High school principals already reported to work for the upcoming school year on July 3.

Meanwhile, at Dana Middle School (grades 5 and 6) principal Scott Irwin has been selected for the position of executive director of student services. He has worked closely with the Children and Youth in Transition department in support of refugee and military families and has a deep understanding of their needs and the challenges they face.

His department will support students lacking a fixed, adequate, and/or regular nighttime residence, students in the foster care system, students with military connections, refugee status, and those transitioning to or from juvenile justice facilities.

Irwin's replacement will not be selected until after students have returned to school on Aug. 21. The closing date for applicants is Aug. 10 with interviews tentatively scheduled for Aug. 29 through Sept. 7. Many school district employment opportunities, both classified and certificated, are available. Go to sandiegounified.org and click on "Employment."

Four area schools
earn Purple Stars

BY SCOTT HOPKINS | The Beacon

Three area schools are among 59 honored throughout California for going above and beyond in supporting military-connected students and their families.

Loma Portal Elementary, Correia Middle, and Point Loma High were named California Purple Star schools for 2023, the second year the recently created honor has been bestowed.

"San Diego Unified is proud to support our military-connected students and their families, and our schools are committed to meeting their needs by providing a high-quality education," said Board of Education President Sabrina Bazzo. "The Purple Star designation is a testament to that commitment, and a reminder each day of the distinct privilege we have to serve those who serve our nation."

Read more online at sdnews.com

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Help needed for Stand Down event at Veterans Village of San Diego



Backed by sponsors and volunteers, the San Diego community comes together for the three day Stand Down event in support of homeless veterans. COURTESY PHOTO

WANT TO HELP?
San Diegans are encouraged to partake in Stand Down in any way possible. To volunteer, sponsor, or register as a veteran seeking aid, go to vvsd.net to fill out an online form.

to employment information, and more to send homeless veterans back on their feet.

“We can do anything and everything for them, and it’s going to happen very fast,” said Monday. “For example, if someone needs an extraction, we are going to put them in our transportation and escort them over to the Veterans Village of San Diego campus where we have a dental clinic on-site to do the extraction.”

This year, Pacific Beach Town Council, Pacific Beach Woman’s Club, and Pacific Beach American Legion Auxiliary Unit 552 are among the nonprofits working with Veterans Village of San Diego to provide the veterans with the services they need.

The PB Woman’s Club, which has been donating to this cause for over 10 years, has been working alongside PBTC and the American Legion Auxiliary to gather clothing, socks, and underwear in the months leading up to the event.

“In 1992, I saw World War II veterans and Vietnam veterans needing our help. Now, I have seen the Desert Storm, post 9/11, Iraq war and the Afghanistan war [veterans] coming through the gates for Stand Down.”

Read more online at sdnews.com

By KYLIE CAPUANO | The Beacon

Veterans Village of San Diego will hold its annual Stand Down event – a three-day encampment put together to help homeless veterans and those at risk of homelessness – from July 20-22 at Pechanga Arena.

Started in 1988, Veterans Village of San Diego was the first organization to hold a Stand Down to assist San Diego’s struggling veterans. Since then, it has expanded outside the city and across the nation.

“We have too many homeless veterans – homeless and veteran

should never be in the same sentence,” said Kimberley Monday, Veterans Village of San Diego vice president of development and communications. “For us to create this awareness and bring this community together is so vital to ending veteran homelessness. It’s a hand-up, not a handout.”

The event is aimed at providing services that help veterans seek medical, legal, mental health, and substance-abuse assistance. Veterans Village of San Diego partners with sponsors and nonprofits to gather daily meals, clothing, shoes, hygiene products, access



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Point Loma woman found guilty of threatening couple with gun

A San Diego Superior Court jury returned a guilty verdict in the case of a woman who brandished a gun at a couple following a road rage incident.

Raquel Medina Hall, 55, of Point Loma, was convicted of two

misdemeanor counts of exhibiting a firearm in a threatening manner and one count of carrying a concealed weapon.

The case revolved around an incident that took place outside a boating and fishing supply store in

Point Loma on June 5, 2021. After observing an apparent roadway dispute between two vehicles, Hall inserted herself into the situation even though she was not a party to the dispute and did not know anyone involved.

According to court testimony that was validated in store surveillance video, once all involved were out of their cars and arguing in the parking lot, Hall called over the couple whose car had cut off the other driver. Hall then pulled a pistol from her waistband and pointed it at them.

The couple called 911. No one was injured in the incident. Hall left the scene before the police arrived.

"Threatening others with a firearm is irresponsible and dangerous. This situation could have had a tragic ending," City Attorney Mara W. Elliott said. "Altercations like this should be handled by law enforcement, and not armed

vigilantes."

Police officers tracked Hall to her home, where she voluntarily relinquished her gun, which was still tucked in her waistband. She had told the couple she threatened that she was law enforcement. However, according to police, she was not currently employed in that line of work. Hall had a permit to carry a weapon, but not to carry it concealed.

This case was prosecuted by Deputy City Attorney Daniel Korchnoy of the Special Prosecutions Unit, under the supervision of Chief Deputy City Attorney Taylor Hearnberger and Assistant City Attorney Paige E. Folkman.



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NINE GALLON SCOOP
BY SHANEY WATTERS

Man admits to second-degree murder in train shoving incident

By NEAL PUTNAM | The Beacon

A man who pushed a stranger into a train causing his death at the Old Town Trolley Station has pleaded guilty to second-degree murder in the death of Martin Andara, 68.

Ryan Michael Rukstelis, 27, entered his guilty plea June 30 before San Diego Superior Court Judge Rachel Cano, who set sentencing for Sept. 14.

"The sentence will be 15 years to life in prison," said Deputy District Attorney Scott Pirrello.

Andara and Rukstelis did not know each other and security cameras showed they had no contact before Rukstelis suddenly shoved Andara into a train as it was slowing down to stop on Jan. 1 around 6:15 a.m. Andara suffered a severe head wound, and died almost instantly.

Read more online at sdnews.com

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

Navy Region Southwest Eelgrass Habitat Expansion
San Diego Bay, San Diego, California

The United States Department of the Navy (Navy) announces the availability of, and invites public comments on, the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) prepared for the proposed expansion of eelgrass habitat at one or more of four potential eelgrass habitat expansion sites in San Diego Bay, San Diego, California.

Since its celebrated establishment in 2008, the Navy has used credits in the Navy Region Southwest San Diego Bay Eelgrass Mitigation Bank (the Bank) to offset unavoidable impacts from infrastructure projects and testing and training activities in San Diego Bay. The Navy anticipates that future projects and activities in support of Navy mission requirements could have unavoidable negative impacts on eelgrass habitat in the bay. The proposed expansion of eelgrass by the Navy would allow these missioncritical projects to be implemented using credits in the Bank to offset potential unavoidable negative impacts to eelgrass habitat.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to support Navy mission requirements while ensuring the continued commitment to conservation of the San Diego Bay ecosystem. Expanding eelgrass habitat would provide substantial ecological benefits and meet future eelgrass mitigation requirements in San Diego Bay. The Proposed Action is needed to facilitate implementation of future Navy projects and activities in San Diego Bay that may have the potential to impact eelgrass.

The Draft EA and supporting materials are available for public review at <https://www.cnrc.navy.mil/navysouthwestprojects>. The Draft EA is also available for hardcopy review at the following public libraries: San Diego Central Library, 330 Park Blvd., San Diego, CA 92101; Point Loma Branch Library, 3701 Voltaire St., San Diego, CA 92107; Coronado Public Library, 640 Orange Ave., Coronado, CA 92118; Imperial Beach San Diego County Library, 810 Imperial Beach Blvd., Imperial Beach, CA 91932; and the Chula Vista Public Library Civic Center Branch, 365 F St., Chula Vista, CA 91910.

To receive additional information about the project and submit written comments, interested persons are invited to attend a virtual public meeting on Wednesday, July 19, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. PDT. Here is the meeting access information. Via computer or mobile device, click on this link: <https://zoom.us/j/96780700762>. Via phone, dial this number: (669) 900-6833, then enter the Meeting ID: 967 8070 0762; you do not need to enter a participant ID, just enter "#" to connect when prompted.

Comments can be submitted in writing during the virtual public meeting or at any time prior to the close of the public review period, which is Monday, August 14, 2023 to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Southwest
Attention: Code EV26.SVR

750 Pacific Highway (12th Floor, Environmental)

San Diego, CA 92132-5190

Or via email to: navfac_sw_eelgrass_ea_public_outreach@us.navy.mil

New craft brew uses local photographer's OB Pier shot on label

By DAVE SCHWAB | The Beacon

Ocean Beach has a new collaborative craft brew to boast about with a colorful label courtesy of local freelance photographer Jim Grant.

San Diego-based Resident Brewing Co. and Pizza Port OB have teamed to create Ocean Beach Hazy IPA, which was released on July 7. The new brew is the latest iteration of Resident Brewing's San Diego Series, with labels showcasing photos of the neighborhoods from which the brewery draws inspiration.

"Ocean Beach is an IPA designed and brewed in appreciation of San Diego's quintessential beach community," said Jordan McDonald, Resident's marketing director. McDonald noted Resident's head brewer, Bill Lindsay, and assistant brewer, Keith Holter, joined with longtime OB institution Pizza Port OB head brewer Matt Palmer and assistant brewer, Alexis Gutierrez, to brew a hazy IPA utilizing a combination of hop varieties from New Zealand and the Pacific Northwest.

"The result is an approachable and flavorful IPA with relatively low bitterness and vibrant aromas reminiscent of lime, tangerine, and white peach," said McDonald.

"Those two entities just have an unbelievable history with

prestigious beer awards. It's ridiculous," said Jim Grant, one of OB's most prolific and talented photographers who freelances for the Peninsula Beacon. It was Grant who provided the image for OB Hazy IPA's label.

"One of my photos of the Ocean Beach Pier and a green flash shot will be the new label for Ocean Beach Hazy IPA," Grant said, adding both breweries involved have "stellar reputations in craft beers. The brew team was aiming for a bright, citrus-forward IPA with aromas of tangerine, grapefruit, and refreshing lime. They believe they have hit the bullseye."

The tale of how Grant got involved with OB Hazy IPA is interesting.

"I was approached by someone at Resident Brewery about a year ago to do this San Diego Series, and they asked if they could use one of my images," he said. "And I said, 'Sure, what do you guys want?' I was flattered. But then I didn't hear anything from them, and a year goes by. I figured they found someone else's photo to use in OB."

Then Grant got a letter from Resident Brewing that read, "We're getting ready to go forward and we need to get the OK to use your image for the label."

"That's when they went into

high gear. And they've been working on it ever since," Grant said.

Grant, who does photography as a sideline, and whose day job is cleaning and sealing exterior lumber tropical hardwood decks, is well known for his OB Pier and green flash photos. Green flashes are optical phenomena that sometimes occur around sunsets or sunrises.



Jim Grant's photo of the OB Pier at sunset is on the label of the new Ocean Beach Hazy IPA. COURTESY PHOTO

Read more online at sdnews.com

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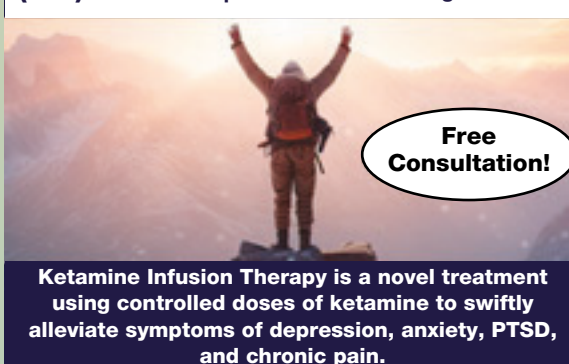
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Chili Cook Off Winners AMATEUR DIVISION

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Our panel of judges awarded the following Amateur Chili Cookers
- 1st Place - Ed Haase with OMBAC
 - 2nd Place - Cory Laughlin with Chili Boat
- PEOPLE'S CHOICE**
Community tasters voted for their favorite chili and awarded the following Chili Teams
- 1st Place - Monica Dewitt with California Wild Ales
 - 2nd Place - Cory Laughlin with Chili Boat
 - 3rd Place - Anthony To with The Taste Buds
- HOTTEST CHILI**
- Jason Tripp with American Builders
- BEST BOOTH**
- Jason Bullard with The Chiliest

RESTAURANT DIVISION

- JUDGE'S CHOICE**
Our panel of judges awarded the following Restaurant Chili Teams
- 1st Place - OB Surf Lodge
 - 2nd Place - Wonderland Ocean Pub
- PEOPLE'S CHOICE**
Our panel of judges voted for their favorite chili and awarded the following Restaurant Chili Teams
- 1st Place - Wonderland Ocean Pub

Thank you Volunteers!



Dirty Birds Wing Eating Contest Winners



- 1st PLACE: 19 Wings!**
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- RUNNERS UP: 3 way tie with 17 wings!**
Stephen King • Dirty Birds
Travis Ferreira • Sandbox Pizza
Adam Preda • Paddle
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Thank you Josh Utley for the amazing photographs.
For more information & photos visit: OceanBeachSanDiego.com



MADCAP TEENS VOLUNTEER

MADCAPs teen volunteers, primarily from Point Loma, pose in their new Habitat for Humanity volunteer T-shirts with part of the fence they built together on June 23 (left). Class of 2024 members of Mothers and Daughters Club Assisting Philanthropies (MADCAPs) recently spent six hours together building a new replacement fence around a local property that qualified for Habitat for Humanity's Critical Home Repair Program. The group of 13 high school seniors are completing their sixth and final year in MADCAPs, which has involved them in both understanding and responding to the needs of their

communities. They'll have several opportunities during their summer break from school to help San Diego Habitat for Humanity respond to local housing needs. (Photo by Karen Austin)

COURT DATE

A readiness conference was scheduled recently for Robert Brians, who is accused of intentionally driving a car with his 2-year-old daughters off a cliff and into the water off Sunset Cliffs. He faces charges that include attempted murder. Brians is accused of abducting his daughters from his parents' home on June 13, 2020. About 4:30 a.m. that day, the toddlers' mother called 911

to report that Brians had taken their children without permission. Previously, his wife testified that after he allegedly took the children, she exchanged several text messages with him stating Brians repeatedly sent messages indicating he was planning to drive off a cliff in his truck with the girls inside.

BOAT LAUNCH DOCKS CLOSED

For public safety, the Port of San Diego has closed the west side floating docks at the Shelter Island Boat Launching Ramp due to structural damage.

Read more online at sdnews.com



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Congratulations to the OB Street Fair Drawing Winners

Elijah Kittle checks out his new beach cruiser as Roger Lovett of Bernie's Bicycle Shop and Mike Fahey of the Beacon look on. Elijah won one of three prizes in the Beacon's OB Street Fair Drawing. Megan Glancy won a \$100 Raglan Gift Certificate and Michele Reyes won a free Jet Ski Rental from H2O



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Learn to paint with online classes at Prima Materia Art Institute

By DAVE SCHWAB | The Beacon

The pandemic turned out to be a boon for the mother-daughter team Nikusha Beatty and Olya Losina, causing them to switch their family art business from in-person to online.

And the pair, who jointly run Prima Materia Art Institute, have successfully made that change – and never looked back.

“We switched completely online after COVID,” said Beatty, who noted she and her mom previously operated out of a brick-and-mortar space at 3350 Sports Arena Blvd. in the Midway District.

Beatty admitted, after having been forced to go online, that she and her mom both thought doing so “would just be temporary.” But as it turned out, “It worked so much better, all of our students begged us to stay online saying now they didn’t have to drive, sometimes as long as two hours, to get here. Now we have students from Brazil, New York, Canada, and Costa Rica. This has definitely been helpful in extending our reach.”

On primamateriainstitute.com,



Nikusha Beatty (left), art instructor, and Olya Losina, founder.

COURTESY PHOTO

it states that Prima Materia Art Institute is open to all levels of experience ages 14 to adult. Their programming is described as accelerated learning for a wide range of artists including absolute beginners, those self-taught, and those searching for a unique identity. The website notes their ongoing art classes and art techniques are applicable for recreation and personal development, professional training for career artists (certification), art teacher training (certification),

one-day workshops like “Learn to Paint in 1 Day” and more.

The Prima Materia Art Institute website claims the “Losina Method” will help artists discover their “art gene” whether they think they have it or not. The method is geared toward helping students learn to draw and paint in less than 30 hours of studio instruction, allowing them to apply for one of the certification courses.

Beatty said techniques taught at Prima Materia Art Institute cover

PRIMA MATERIA ART INSTITUTE

What: Online art instruction.

Info: primamateriainstitute.com, 802-505-7624.

everything from classical to contemporary. “It’s fine art drawing and painting, collages, sculpture, and mixed media, whether it’s about self-expression or realism,” she said.

“We want to emphasize that we are science-based,” said Losina. “We talk about physics and chemistry and history and linguistics. At the same time, we teach people how to express themselves, even those who’ve never tried to paint. We’ve actually ‘converted’ people who thought they were talentless, turning them into talented masters within one year.”

Online classes at Prima Materia Art Institute are 90 minutes. Most students are either members of the institute or subscribe to year-long programs, though classes are also taught in blocks of weeks. Typical classes cover subjects such as figure drawing or abstract painting focusing on drawing proportionally,

sketching people in motion, or rendering facial expressions.

For a class on impressionism, for example, Beatty said students are taught the history of the artistic style before they set out to try to mimic artists using that style.

“We believe in emulating before innovating,” noted Beatty. “Some of our classes are experimental, where people don’t know what’s going to happen. We propose a technique, and they come up with their own style. We try to introduce people to everything and anything in art that ever existed.”

Prima Materia Art Institute classes involve slideshow presentations, online discussions, and live demonstrations by the instructor. “Students are able to listen and follow step-by-step in real-time,” noted Beatty.

Beatty talked about what’s best about Prima Materia Art Institute. “Our program works,” she said. “When fully committed, our students make more art than they ever did in person. People who used to come in twice a week are now going online six days a week. When the Zoom sessions end, they just keep painting, keep going.”

New Americans Museum highlights the country’s immigrants

By DAVE SCHWAB | The Beacon

The New Americans Museum in Liberty Station is exactly that: a special place dedicated to extolling the accomplishments of all immigrant Americans throughout history.

“The purpose of the museum is to celebrate and to educate about the contributions of multi-generational immigrant Americans,” said Linda Caballero Sotelo, executive director and chief curator of the museum at 2825 Dewey Road, #102. “One of the things most important right now is for our communities to really understand the impact of our immigrant heritage, as part of our national American story.”

Founded 14 years ago at the former Naval Training Center, even before its conversion to Liberty Station, Caballero Sotelo noted the museum was established to “really focus on the contributions of all multi-generational Americans who have all been immigrants at some point.”

Of the museum’s mission, Caballero Sotelo noted: “It’s a different vehicle to tell immigrant’s stories through art and cultural programming, and through talks and forums. It’s an opportunity to come together and just celebrate our roots as Americans.”

Stop by the New Americans Museum to view their newest art exhibition titled “Una Storia Segreta: When Italian Americans Were Enemy Aliens.”

The exhibition explores the period during World War II when Italian Americans were designated as “enemy aliens” and subjected to discrimination. Through different mediums such as powerful photographs, documents, and personal recounts, the exhibition sheds light on this difficult period of fear and uncertainty.

The Italian-American exhibition will be open to the public until Saturday, July 15. The exhibit showcases artifacts and photos from this period, giving attendees a deeper understanding of this often-overlooked piece of history. General admission tickets are \$20.

At newamericansmuseum.org, it is pointed out that the United

States has beckoned immigrants the world over for centuries. Consequently, contemporary America is a diverse mosaic of cultures and traditions. One in five Americans today was either born in a foreign country or has a parent who was born abroad. In fact, children of immigrant families are the fastest-growing population group in the U.S. Therefore, understanding the impact of these demographic changes is a national imperative.

“In the civic, economic, and artistic arenas, yesterday’s newcomer is tomorrow’s pioneer in a continuing process that defines us to this day,” states the museum website noting the museum serves as a “catalyst to celebrate America’s past and promise, providing inspiring and compelling educational and cultural programs to honor our diverse immigrant experiences.”

Read more online at sdnews.com

JUMP

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

PIER REOPENS

On Saturday, July 1, the City of San Diego reopened the Ocean Beach Pier following a six-month closure to allow time for repairs to damage caused by powerful winter storms. The reopening was ahead of the 57th anniversary of the pier’s grand opening on July 2, 1966.

The pier was closed on Jan. 6 and the City opted to wait until the winter storm season passed to hire a consultant to assess the damage. A visual assessment completed in early May determined that storms had caused minor damage to the pier’s railings and pump station, but that the pier remains

structurally safe.


While necessary repairs to the pier’s facilities and railings have been completed, repairs to the pump station will continue for several weeks and will not impact public access. However, the pier’s restrooms will remain closed until the pump station repairs are complete.

With the reopening, the City continues to seek input on the Ocean Beach Pier Renewal project, which aims to provide a long-term solution for the pier through a potential replacement. A 2018 study determined that the pier has reached the end of its service life and the City is engaging San Diegans on what they want to see for this landmark in the future.

On June 10, the City held the second in a series of community workshops to share information

about the project and gather community feedback. That input is being used by the City’s engineering consultants to develop several design alternatives for the potential replacement of the pier. In developing design alternatives, several factors will be considered including operational usage, environmental permitting, sustainability, cost, and historical significance. Design alternatives are expected to be presented this fall and the preferred design alternative is anticipated to be chosen early next year.

After the preferred design alternative is selected, a detailed project schedule and cost estimate will be prepared. Currently, there is \$8.4 million in state funding designated for the project and the City will pursue other state and federal grants.



Keith Finley

Keith Finley, 60, of San Diego, passed away peacefully on June 18, 2023. He was born in 1962 in Wooster, OH, to Dwight and Nyda Finley. He was a graduate of Triway High School, where he played varsity football, and earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English Literature from Point Loma Nazarene University in San Diego. In 1987 he became publisher of The Beacon newspaper and sold it to a community newspaper group a few years later. He also owned Ocean Beach Books, a secondhand bookstore specializing in used, out-of-print, rare, and antiquarian hardcover and paperback books for nearly two decades. Most recently Keith was employed as a manager with the People’s Food Co-op in the San Diego community of Ocean Beach.

In his later years, Keith spent virtually all of his vacation time traveling to Germany to visit his beloved children. He enjoyed camping and listening to old Flamenco music, and even bought himself a guitar to teach himself the music style. He also liked to quote lines from the TV show M*A*S*H on a whim.

He is survived by his two children Isabelle Finley, Connor Finley, and ex-wife Kelly (Jörg) Haensel all of Düren, Germany. Siblings include Dwilene (Gary) Young, Kokomo, IN; Ken (Donna) Finley, Tulare, CA; Diane (Rick) Rowe, Wooster; Sharon (Scott) Lowe, Mansfield, OH; Beth (Gabe) Landon, Wooster; in addition to four nieces and four nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents. Interment will be in the Peaceful Forest in Düren, Germany.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Sharp HospiceCare at sharp.com/inmemoryof.

Online condolences and memories may be shared with the family at <https://my.gather.app/remember/keith-finley>

Point Loma Summer Concerts series starts July 14

The long-running free Point Loma Summer Concerts series will continue this year on Fridays from July 14 through Aug. 11 with a different theme each week. Attendees can listen to performances at Point Loma Park, 1049 Catalina Blvd., beginning at 5:30 p.m.

The concert lineup is Big Time Operator ('40s) on July 14; Scot Bruce Elvis ('50s) on July 21; Beatles vs. Stones ('60s) on July 28; Full Strength ('70s) on Aug. 4; and DSB Journey ('80s) on Aug. 11. For more information, visit pointloma-summerconcerts.org.

"We have one of the longest and still growing concert series in the County and these concerts provide a great chance for neighbors and families to gather for a relaxing evening of picnicking, entertainment, and great music," said Point Loma Summer Concerts marketing director Joel Ellazar.

Point Loma Summer Concerts has grown into one of the biggest volunteer-run community concert series in San Diego, boasting an average concert attendance of more than 3,500 fans. The concerts are now a community tradition. While many aspects of the concerts have changed over the years, the organization's ultimate mission is to support music education in local schools.

Point Loma Summer Concerts has announced a new partnership with Coldwell Banker West as the title

sponsor for this year's concert series.

"We are so very excited to be the title sponsor of PLSC this year," said Carey Cuthrie, manager of the Point Loma, Ocean Beach, and Liberty Station Coldwell Banker West offices. "Coldwell Banker

West is one of the top brokerages on the Peninsula, and we are always looking to support the community we love. The opportunity to bring the concerts together for the families of Point Loma and Ocean Beach is truly an honor

for our agents who live and work here. We look forward to seeing all our neighbors at the concerts and can't wait to dance with them on the field as this year's title sponsor."

Platinum sponsors are the Point Loma Association, Dorothea Laub,

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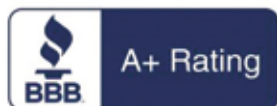
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Former Peninsula Beacon publisher Keith Finley dies

By DAVE SCHWAB | The Beacon

Ocean Beach bookseller and early Peninsula Beacon publisher Keith Finley, 60, of San Diego, died peacefully on June 18, 2023.

Finley was born in 1962 in Wooster, Ohio, to Dwight and Nyda Finley. He was a graduate of Triway High School, where he played varsity football. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in English literature from Point Loma Nazarene University in San Diego.

In 1987, Finley became publisher of The Beacon newspaper and sold it to a community newspaper group a few years later. He also owned Ocean Beach Books, a secondhand bookstore specializing in used, out-of-print, rare, and antiquarian hardcover and paperback books for nearly two decades. Most recently Finley was employed as a manager with the People's Food Co-op in Ocean Beach.

"Keith was both an athlete and a scholar," said his sister, Sharon Finley Lowe. "He got his love for books and reading from our mom who would read to us every night before bed when we were little. Growing up, Keith always had a book in hand and it was not necessarily light reading."

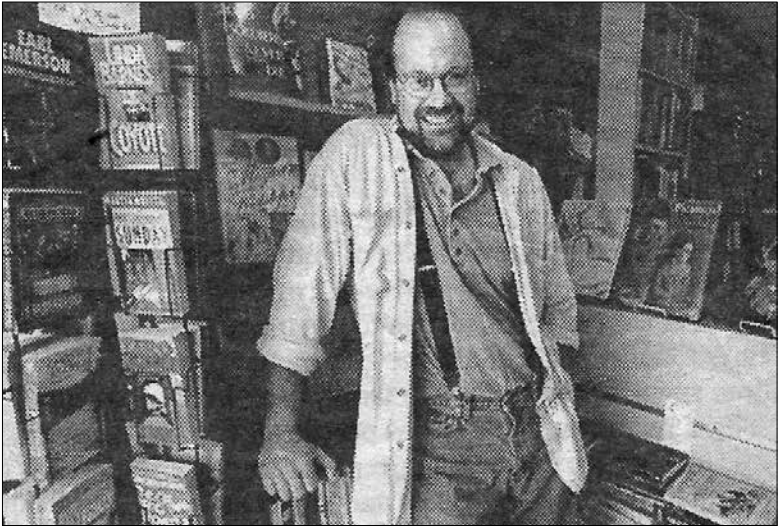
Added Lowe: "If we had a snow day from school, just for fun, Keith would pull a book from our set of encyclopedias and read through an entire volume by the end of the day. One of the last books he was reading was about our Scottish heritage. The Finley's were highlander Scots that belonged to the Farquharson Clan whose motto is 'fidelity and fortitude.' How fitting a description of Keith. He was a devoted father, loyal friend, and kind brother who watched out for others."

Two classmates of Finley's at PLNU, Howard Owens and Doug Brunk, also spoke highly of him. Owens, who was editor of "The Point," the university's newspaper, recalls that he, Finley (managing editor), and Brunk (sports editor), were all big fans of the TV show "M*A*S*H."

"Every time we passed each other on campus, we would trade ("M*A*S*H") lines," said Owens about Keith and Doug.

After graduation, Finley and another classmate purchased The Beacon, then a bi-weekly, and Ocean Beach Books, from Dorette Jackson. After a couple of months, Owens noted Finley's business partner decided owning a newspaper wasn't for him.

"He offered me his half of the business and Keith okayed it," noted Owens, who then became the paper's co-publisher, managing editor, editorial writer, one of the photographers, and the only ad sales rep. "Pierce Harris, our chief photographer, taught both me and Keith how to develop film, and when we moved the bookstore and newspaper office to Cable Street, we built a darkroom," said Owens, who recalled many "all-night sessions" laying out the paper on Cable Street, and of working hard to scratch together enough money to buy early MacIntosh computers with a 50 MB



external hard drive.

"Keith began layout in the middle of the day before we went to press," said Owens. "I joined in the evening. We worked all night. Then it was my job in the (early) morning to drive to La Mesa and drop off the page proofs. Then back to OB for a couple of hours of sleep before driving back to La Mesa to pick up the papers before delivering them to drop spots all over OB and Point Loma. I'm not sure how he (Keith) got this done after he bought me out."

Added Owens: "Keith was a hard-working man dedicated to whatever tasks he took on. He was driven to see a task through. Keith was as dedicated a community journalist as I've ever known."

Of Finley's character, Brunk said: "He became an older brother to me. He was probably one of the most stoic people I've ever known. He had great analytical skills and was a master of newspaper layout. He's the kind of person you'd want to have on a jury. He had a good head on his shoulders. The light of his life were his two children."

Added Brunk: "Keith knew a lot about many things. He was one of the most genuine people. His authenticity really rang through. He couldn't care less about keeping up with the Joneses. He just wanted to

enjoy his family and his friends. He was just a dedicated, good guy who was happy with his life and so incredibly proud of his kids. There's a lesson for all of us in that."

Brunk said Finley spent virtually all of his vacation time traveling to Germany to visit his beloved children. He added Finley also enjoyed camping and listening to old Flamenco music, even buying himself a guitar to teach himself the music style. "And he was actually learning Japanese, too, on his own," Brunk said.

Finley is survived by his two children, Isabelle Finley and Connor Finley, and his ex-wife Kelly (Jörg) Haensel all of Düren, Germany. Siblings include Dwilene (Gary) Young, Kokomo, Ind.; Ken (Donna) Finley, Tulare, Calif.; Diane (Rick) Rowe, Wooster; Sharon (Scott) Lowe, Mansfield, Ohio; Beth (Gabe) Landon, Wooster; in addition to four nieces and four nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents. The interment will be in the Peaceful Forest in Düren, Germany.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Sharp HospiceCare at sharp.com/inmemoryof. Online condolences and memories may be shared with the family at <https://my.gather.app/remember/keith-finley>.

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SUDOKU PUZZLE

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CLUES ACROSS


1. Database management system
5. Medical procedures
11. ___ Clapton, musician
12. Defender
16. Exert oneself
17. Indicates position
18. Prevents river overflow
19. Atrocities
24. Mister
25. Ends
26. Slope or tilt
27. Taxi
28. The very ends
29. Actor Sean
30. Japanese persimmon
31. Sours
33. Beneficiary
34. Baseball official
38. Muddy, boggy ground
39. Not worldly
40. Actress Lathan
43. Soil
44. ___-Cola
45. Asleep
49. ___ Angeles
50. Give birth to a child
51. Beach shelter
53. Commercial
54. Taste property
56. Local jurisdictions
58. It cools your home
59. Dismounted from a horse
60. Charge with a crime
63. Close in
64. Spoke
65. Famed garden

CLUES DOWN

1. Draw a scene
2. Its sultan is famous
3. Unlucky accident
4. A way to ski
5. Abba __, Israeli politician
6. Saw
7. "Westworld" actor Harris
8. Belonging to me
9. Shoelace tube
10. Takes to court
13. Early multimedia
14. In a way, produces
15. Bowlers
20. Of I
21. Equally
22. Gets some sun
23. A place to stay
27. Town in Galilee
29. Aronofsky film
30. Klingon character, "Star Trek"
31. Equal to 100 square meters
32. Atomic #58
33. Arrived extinct
34. Loosen grip
35. A distinctive odor that is unpleasant
36. Membranes
37. Some is poisonous
38. Partner to Pa
40. Small brown gray rail
41. A salt or ester of acetic acid
42. Sodium
44. Military official (abbr.)
45. Lighted
46. Took off
47. All
48. Ohio city
50. More abject
51. A radio band
52. Controversial tech product (abbr.)
54. Monetary unit
55. Passed with flying colors
57. A way to win a boxing match
61. The Golden State
62. Home of the Longhorns


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SUNSET CLIFFS \$3,200,000
Stunning 3 bedroom, 3-1/2 bath Mediterranean beauty perched high above Sunset Cliffs! This Tuscan inspired home features Panoramic Views, 2 fireplaces, 8 sets of French doors, gourmet kitchen, travertine floors, vaulted wood beam ceilings, 3 car garage, and wine cellar. The romantic master retreat has a fireplace, walk in closet, bidet, soaking tub, and view deck. The first floor bed and bath are perfect for a parent, guest or au pair. The upstairs family room with ocean views and 14' ceilings and the full apartment within provide so many options! This is a rare find with unobstructable views of world famous Sunset Cliffs, the ocean, white water, and surf. You deserve the best.



WWW.1971VENICE.COM

OCEAN BEACH \$2,145,000
Stunning California modern farmhouse perched high on the hill! This gorgeous 3 bedroom, 2 bath will WOW you. The gourmet kitchen features stainless steel appliances and quartz counters, a walk-in pantry, wood floors, attached garage, family room with romantic fireplace, and Lift and Slide door that opens up the entire back of the house for indoor/outdoor living. Remodeled bathrooms, tankless water heater, leased solar and enormous backyard with outdoor shower, turf and sparkling pool. All of this overlooks Downtown, palms, and gorgeous sunrises. Close to the beach, marina and Sunset Cliffs. Blocks to award winning schools, shops, and restaurants.

Ocean Beach Real Estate Expert

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Experience Gets Results



4 Bedroom
3.5 Baths
2,398 Sq Feet
\$1,599,000
6,700 SF Lot



Just Sold

5030 August Street, San Diego, CA 92110
Welcome to this Lovely Bay Park home! The open-concept floor plan flows seamlessly from room to room, creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere for family gatherings or entertaining friends. Offering two family rooms, a separate dining room and two cozy fireplaces, perfect for cozy evenings and creating lasting memories.

4 Bedroom
3.5 Baths
3,244 Sq Feet
33,105 SF Lot
\$2,150,000



In Escrow

13012 Avenida La Valencia, Poway, CA 92064
Welcome to this meticulously remodeled, single level, craftsman style home, offering an open floor plan, a private backyard oasis with a pool and ample space for relaxation and entertainment.




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Point Loma 3 BDRM/ 3.5 BA \$2,475,000
This stunning newer custom 3 bedroom/ 3.5 bath home built in 2006, has 2,449 estimated square feet of living space on a 0.26-acre lot. Newly remodeled, this secluded and private home offers amazing outdoor entertainment areas from every main room and balconies off every bedroom. Gourmet kitchen with high end appliances, quartz counters and a five-burner range. 2-car attached garage plus additional off street parking potential boat/RV parking. Only four blocks from the Bay and Point Loma Village.



POINT LOMA, 3BDRM/ 2 BA / 2 CAR GAR \$1,650,000
Amazing Architecture! Custom Iconic Mid Century Modern at its finest. This 3 BD, 2 BA is over 1,600 estimated square feet on a 6,400 square foot lot. Vaulted wood beam ceilings, Soaring concrete fireplace and hearth. This home was built for privacy, sitting high above the street, with panoramic vista and neighbor views with refreshing breezes. Huge deck off the great room with built in seating, perfect for entertaining and expansive indoor / outdoor living. Once you are in the home, it is one level.



POINT LOMA 4BDRM/3BA \$1,499,999
Custom built home 4 bedroom, 3 bath, 2300 ESF with 2 Car Attached Garage. One owner. Quiet cul-de-sac location, views and oversized lot. Open floor-plan with room to grow. Covered Porch. Double door entry opens to a dramatic foyer with 25 foot ceilings. Spacious living room & formal dining. Kitchen with breakfast area that opens to a deck & family room with a romantic gas fireplace and wall of glass opening to the covered patio and wrap around yard. Master Retreat w/ views & balcony! Lowest Price Per SQ FT Active 92107.



POINT LOMA 2BDRM/1.5BA \$1,495,000
Beautifully remodeled single story beach bungalow in Point Loma. This stunning 2 bedroom + Game room / gym/ office, 1.5 bath home with a 957 Est. Sq. Ft. Detached 3 Car Garage has spared no expense! Open layout with modern quartz counters, stainless steel appliances, new windows, romantic fireplace, custom window coverings, and modern lighting throughout. Newer construction 3 car detached garage with skylights, 3 garage doors, 2 side doors and large half bath could make an amazing ADU with its own patio.

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SAN DIEGO WALKABLE LIVING | 3 BEDROOMS | 2 BATHROOMS | \$950,000



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COMPASS



JUST SOLD
4525 Alhambra, Sunset Cliffs
4 Bed | 3.5 Bath | 2,863 SF
Pool + Stunning Ocean Views
\$2,850,000



PENDING
3135 Quimby St, Point Loma
3 Bed | 3 Bath | 2,425 SF
Saltwater Pool + Pool House
Views of Downtown Skyline, Bay, and Coronado Bridge



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