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INSIDE



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Much-anticipated Elvira opens in OB
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PLNU women's soccer wins national title
SEE PAGE 15



Woodies, a tradition in Ocean Beach, head west down Newport Avenue as part of the community's popular 44th Annual OB Holiday Parade on Saturday, Dec. 2, which was themed 'Santa's Disco Luau.'

MIKE MCCARTHY/PENINSULA BEACON

Point Loma Nazarene pastor says goodbye after losing license

By NEAL PUTNAM | The Beacon

Two standing ovations were given to the Rev. Dee Kelley on Nov. 26 as he said goodbye to his congregation after losing his license to preach in the Church of the Nazarene following a church trial.

"God loves you and I love you," said Kelley to his congregation at First Church of the Nazarene on campus at Point Loma Nazarene University.

"That's the best place we have to start and that's the place we all have to end. God loves you and I love you," concluded Kelley, to a standing ovation from his congregation of 17 years.

Kelley, who is in his 60s, was convicted on Aug. 14 by a church jury of supporting same-sex marriage, which is considered contrary

to the Church of the Nazarene manual about human sexuality and "out of harmony" to church doctrine.

Kelley's 35-page appeal was denied on Nov. 20 by a Nazarene appeal board in Kansas City. On Dec. 5, he filed an appeal to the denomination's seven general superintendents.

Kelley wrote a three-page essay in the book, "Why the Church of the Nazarene Should be Fully LGBTQ+ Affirming" in which 89 other writers including former pastors and others wrote essays.

The publisher, Thomas Jay Oord, is a Nazarene minister, and the denomination has since filed charges against him seeking to revoke his license in 2024 in a church trial.

Kelley's appearance at First Church on Nov. 26 drew a sharp



The Rev. Dee Kelley

rebuttal from Southern California District Superintendent Tom Taylor, who sent out notices saying "Rev. Kelley is not a minister in good standing and did not receive the required approval to preach at the Nov. 26 service."

Taylor wrote that Kelley "has forfeited his right to further appeal" because of "his refusal to

suspend all ministerial activity as required."

Kelley responded by saying the district-appointed senior interim pastor asked him to say some words of farewell to the congregation. Two pastors presided over the service, and Kelley said he was not preaching. He added he did not pray, lead worship, or read scripture other than passages he remembered in his farewell.

Kelley said he only wrote the essay to spark a dialogue about same-sex marriage within the church and get people to think about it.

Former theology professor Craig Keen said Taylor was being "petty" by sending out notices about Kelley's goodbye at First Church.

SEE PASTOR, Page 18

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Zipper, the world's oldest green iguana living in Point Loma

By KYUNGMIN MIN | The Beacon

The oldest green iguana, that broke the Guinness World Records, was found in Point Loma, San Diego.

The heroine of this record is Zipper, who has lived for 29 years and 11 months. Locally born and raised in San Diego, Zipper now resides with Phillip Benham's family in Point Loma. Their first meeting occurred when his daughter bought Zipper from a friend when she was a child.

"When my daughter asked her mother if she could get an iguana, my wife said, 'Absolutely not.' But

when I came home, and she asked me, I said 'Sure, an iguana,'" Benham recalled the starting point of their co-living journey. They didn't expect Zipper to live this long at first, but she surprised all the family members and also the people around them. Zipper even outlasted the dogs and cats they had raised.

The average lifespan of a Green Iguana is typically 12 to 15 years in the wild, and the latest green iguana, which held the Guinness World Records, lived around 28 years.

What made Zipper the oldest green iguana in the world? The

primary reason is that she had no natural predators. Besides this, Benham's family put their efforts into making Zipper comfortable and building a healthy environment.

"We attribute her long life and health to eating the fresh figs and leaves off the tree in the backyard," said Benham. When they bought the house from a Portuguese family 30 years ago, there were 23 different kinds of fruit trees. In this environment, it was easy for them to provide Zipper with a nutritious diet, such as fresh guavas, tangerines, figs, etc.

Zipper also gets regular exercise daily. She used to hang out in the backyard with cats and dogs, and she can actively move even in the cage. She climbs up inside her cage and spends much time getting sunlight in her happy spot. Benham designed their house so that they could bring the cage inside the house, allowing Zipper to stay warm during the winter months.

Communication is another key to the longevity of companion animals. While it is not as easy to have a conversation with reptiles compared to cats and dogs, Zipper has her way of expressing herself

to her family.

"If she wanted something, she would make more noise in the cage so that we could walk over and see what she was doing. When my wife talks to Zipper, she bobs her head up and down, and when she strokes Zipper, she closes her eyes and leans into patting like a cat," explained Benham.

Zipper is still in good shape and is enjoying a happy, healthy life, even though she is not as active as she was 10 years ago. Benham's family is still working on the new record for the Guinness book, and soon it will be available to check on the website.



Zipper the green iguana.

COURTESY PHOTO

Warmest Wishes

During this holiday season, we wish you all the best.

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When everyone else is down at the mall • Or dodging those snowballs • Never too many reasons to pretend
Packages to send • Grinchie girl, if we ring the bell, will you tell • A little secret
Even though no one will ever keep it • No need to talk a lot • Hot chocolate, green whip cream, hits the spot
Warm up a space like logs on the fire • Wow, everybody was a liar • No 2 perspectives are ever the same
& Maybe after all, you ain't to blame • Just cause they find themselves singin in the rain
Guess you could try to trade your name down there at the gift exchange • Steal a few candy canes
But maybe ..you should remain the same-Grinchie Girl...
it might be your oddness makes you the bombest, to be altogether honest
Face into the blizzard trekking right through ... Now let's see what they gotta say about you
Never ever been a knock off, got that lowkey shine just like good 'Ole Rudolph
Cause the proofs in the pudding and that thing that you bring: keeps the frostiest snowman melting
There's rain & theres snow, & life don't totally blow, when you know...
you can dump out that old coal, Just a short stroll, not too far to the North Pole
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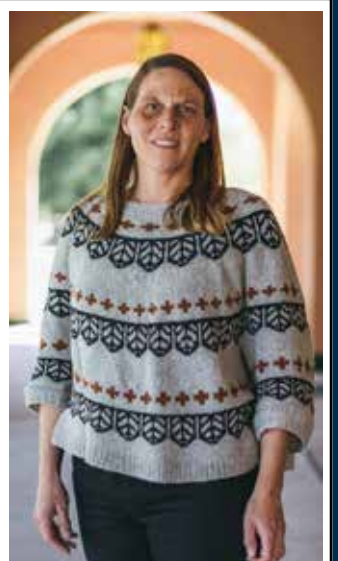
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Cesarina group unveils Roman cuisine restaurant Elvira in Ocean Beach

The trio of restaurateurs behind one of San Diego's most notable Italian restaurants, Cesarina Ristorante (Michelin Bib Gourmand) led by chef Cesarina Mezzoni, Niccolò Angius, and Giuseppe Capasso, have unveiled their sophomore concept Elvira, a Roman osteria and pizzeria in the Ocean Beach neighborhood at 4996 W Point Loma Blvd.

Rife with old-world charm, the restaurant carries on the Roman legacy of cofounder Niccolò Angius' great-grandmother, Elvira Lippi. Having opened doors to the public on Nov. 19, the eponymous restaurant personifies the late Italian matriarch — the menu, a story of Rome's ancient-to-urban foodways; cherished traditions frozen in time through an interactive theatrical dining experience; and a 'Nonna chic' design imbuing every corner with the nostalgic warmth of her very home.

"My great-grandmother, Elvira, was a quintessential Roman whose tenacity and unwavering passion for life have been our guiding inspirations. She taught me how exceptional food and down-to-earth hospitality have a remarkable ability to serve as a conduit for love and unity, and I'm proud to carry on that ethos at her namesake restaurant," said Angius.



Cacio e Pepe and Margherita pizza at Elvira in Ocean Beach.

PHOTO COURTESY: ARLENE IBARRA

ITALIAN CHEF DUO

Just 23 years old when her first brick-and-mortar opened doors in 2019, executive chef and partner Mezzoni has been gaining momentum as a rising star chef and indie restaurateur ever since, stealing the hearts of San Diego's dining community, earning her namesake restaurant a Michelin Bib Gourmand nod, and making her national TV debut as a featured chef on Food Network's "Chopped Next Gen." Raised in Rome by a Seychellois-immigrant mother, Mezzoni gleaned an affinity for cooking at a young age, following in her maternal footsteps by using food as a means of cross-cultural connection. Elvira's recent opening marks a pivotal moment for the now-28-year-old chef, whose indelibly personal touch is poised to amplify the osteria's regionally-driven cuisine.

Helming over Elvira's pizza program, executive pizza chef Ignazio Tagliavia joins the team with a scorecard of culinary credentials. A fellow Italian expat, hailing

from Palermo, Sicily, Ignazio is an accredited technician of the historic Grandi Molini Italiani (GMI) and an expert pizza instructor who's worked in restaurants throughout Europe and beyond. His breakout role with the esteemed Pier88 Group brought him to Egypt in 2019, where he served as executive pizza chef across a celebrated hospitality portfolio. In 2021, he relocated stateside, joining the team at Eataly Los Angeles as head pizza chef, before jaunting around some of the nation's most prominent food cities, collaborating with renowned institutions and visionary figures. Now, working together with Mezzoni at Elvira, Ignazio applies his international experience and innovative interpretation of pizza in teglia to the lineup.

THE MENU

Elvira's menus favor the bold flavors and time-honored preparations that shape Rome's epic gastronomy — from the simple yet thoughtfully-curated

Antipasto della Casa, brimming with cured meats, cheeses, house-made jams, and Italian-imported provisions, to a daily-changing spotlight on the city's most iconic street foods, or Fritti Del Giorno. The polished simplicity of Roma's hallmark pastas shines through with housemade Cacio e Pepe, Rigatoni alla Carbonara, and Bucatini all'Amatriciana, while heartier second-course entrées aim to recontextualize 'cucina povera' with traditional Roman comfort foods. Meanwhile, Pizzaiolo Tagliavia's program of wood-fired pizzas pose as the centerpiece of Elvira's dinner menu. Embracing a reimagined version of pizza in teglia, red sauce pizzas range from quintessential classics like Margherita to meatier renditions like Diavola, while the white base selection rolls out lighter undertones like the veggie-forward Ortolana with fresh mozzarella, mushroom, peas, zucchini blossom and basil.

ARTIST EXHIBITION

Point Loma artist Jean Silva has won the first place award in the December 2023 San Diego Watercolor Society Member's exhibition "Luminous Spaces," featured in an in-gallery show of the SDWS at 2825 Dewey Road in Liberty Station. Silva's painting titled "Ice Cold II" was selected by prominent local artist and juror Chuck McPherson for this honor out of 223 paintings.

"I really like this artist's work, and always have, because there is no deliberate statement: not a scene or a subject or anything like that. It gives you the freedom to just step into it and be nowhere... and enjoy it," said McPherson who spent 30 years as a graphic artist for the federal government.

After she retired, she started painting again and joined SDWS. Her art usually employs

mixed media using a combination of materials. She gravitates towards nature themes, envisioned abstracts or non-representational images. The SDWS Gallery Exhibit will run through Saturday, Dec. 31 and is free to the public. Paintings can be viewed and purchased directly from the gallery, and are also available to view and purchase at sdws.org/galleryart.php?cat=7038.

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Letters for Santa mailbox set up at Ocean Beach Business Center

By DAVE SCHWAB | The Beacon

Thanks to Ocean Beach Business Center, all children's letters to St. Nick, both "naughty" and "nice," will be answered once again through the "Letters for Santa" mailbox.

Sponsored by OBBC and set up in the indoor mall at 4967 Newport Ave., outside suites 10 and 12, the mailbox established by husband-and-wife team Jo and Chris Perego, co-owners and operators of OBBC, is now a fixture in the beach community's Yuletide landscape.

"We are thrilled to be a part of family traditions year after year and to be able to see the children growing," said Jo Perego noting, "We have letters from all over the world this year. It's pretty amazing. We're getting calls from all over San Diego to find out if the mailbox is up because people plan on making a special trip just to visit it and mail out their letter to Santa."

Perego added word has gotten out that they are "in" now with Santa at the North Pole. "I've seen the program discussed in school PTA's, in Facebook groups, etc. that are not related to OB," said Perego. She added, "As you can see, we are very excited to see the growth and excitement the Santa Letters bring to the community. We've even heard that families use the pictures they take of their kids in front of the box as their annual holiday photo. To be a part of this tradition is amazing."

Santa's Mailbox goes up the week of Thanksgiving to make sure it's in time for Shop Small Saturday. It goes back to the North Pole on Christmas Eve.

Following is what the Peregoys say when asked about the origin of their mailbox: "The story we tell is that Santa lives in OB and we're lucky enough to be able to host his mailbox every year," said Jo. "We typically have a cut-off of Dec. 8, but since Santa lives in OB, we can try to make sure letters arrive before Dec. 23."

Added Jo: "We cover the cost of everything, but if anyone wants to donate a book of stamps, it's always helpful. A book of stamps has 20 stamps but covers 10 letters, since we use larger envelopes to accommodate the certificates and each letter has a 'real' wax seal on the back with Santa's special stamp. Those are the reasons for the increased postage, but add to the uniqueness and authenticity the child feels when they receive their letter."

If parents have any special information they want included in the letter to their children each year, they can just email the information to the Peregoys at print@obbc.com. "Make sure to include the child's information so we can make sure it goes with the correct letter," said Jo adding, "We do not make any promises of specific gifts. We just make sure to keep the messages positive."



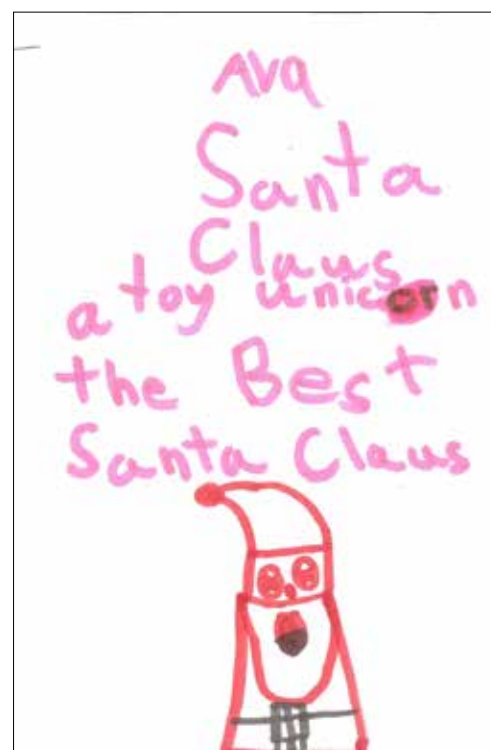
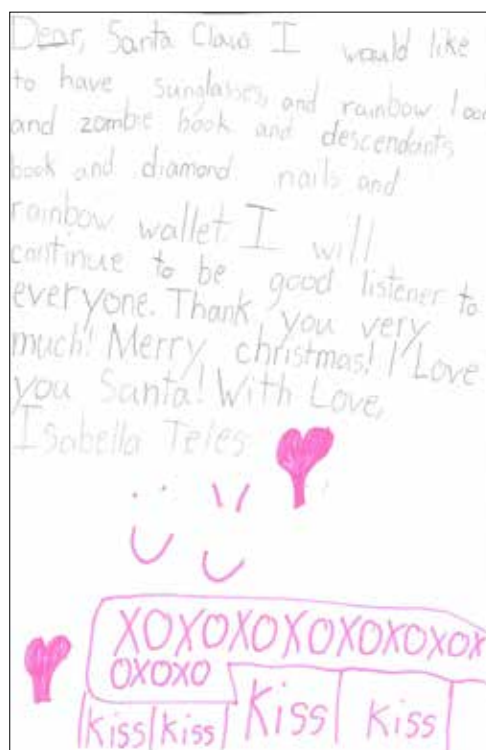
Joanna and Audrey Chieh have their letters to Santa ready to mail.

COURTESY PHOTO



Isabella Teles and her father Alexandre Teles mailed her letter to Santa.

COURTESY PHOTO



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New Point Loma gateway sign in planning stages for 2025

POINT LOMA ASSOCIATION

The Point Loma Association is a nonprofit comprised of a 20-member board of directors and 10 committees including the Mean Green Team, Graffiti Busters, and over 1,000 resident and business members, sponsors, donors, and hundreds of dedicated volunteers. “Our all-volunteer organization has been beautifying and enhancing our community for over 50 years,” said PLA chair Sandy Hanshaw at pointloma.org.

SAN DIEGO SIGNS

San Diego has a unique collection of community identity signs. Some are historic, some are more modern, but all help to create a sense of place for the unique character of the community they represent. These signs are a sense of pride for residents, a welcoming feature for visitors, and often a driver for economic development. There are presently 14 monument street signs in the region including Hillcrest, North Park, El Cajon Boulevard, Normal Heights, Kensington, Gaslamp Quarter, Little Italy, Barrio Logan, Chula Vista, Imperial Beach, El Cajon, Encinitas, Carlsbad, and University Heights.

City of San Diego monument signs are presently located in North Park at the intersection of University and 30th installed in 1935 and replaced by a median pedestal sign in 1993; the 25-foot-long red metal and pink neon Hillcrest sign erected in 1940, rebuilt in 1984, and again in 2011, originally was a gift from female shopkeepers; the El Cajon Boulevard sign erected in 1989 as a major new landmark promoting the boulevard as a destination and encouraging further community revitalization; the Kensington sign that hangs above Adams Avenue, which is a historic replica of the original installed in 1954; installed in 1990 utilizing neon, incandescent, and fluorescent lighting techniques, the Gaslamp Quarter sign is a uniquely luminous example and is one of San Diego's most photographed and recognizable downtown landmarks; Little Italy's blue neon-and-silver metal sign was installed in 2000.

By DAVE SCHWAB | The Beacon

Residents and visitors alike will be welcomed in style with new monument signage being developed for a Point Loma gateway.

The community's new landmark sign at its northeast entrance at Rosecrans and Lytton streets is to be outfitted with lighting so it can be seen at night.

Details of this Point Loma Association project were unveiled at the group's annual dinner on Oct. 30. Plans reveal the resemblance of the new Point Loma gateway sign to the recently restored Hillcrest monument sign.

“We just kicked off detail design for this signage,” said landscape architect JT Barr, a PLA board member and president and managing partner of Schmidt Design. “That will take about three months. Then we'll get permitting for the signage through the City. Our goal is, within the next 18 months to two years,



An artist's rendering of the Point Loma gateway sign.

to have the sign permitted and installed.”

Barr pointed out that the new Point Loma monument sign was the end product of discussions over time about a void in distinguishing signage, which he noted establishes “a sense of identity in a community.”

Barr, who chairs PLA's projects committee, was also involved in the Village Lights project, which was formally dedicated on May 9, 2022. The centerpiece of that multi-phase PLA project is a canopy of lights strung between Talbot, Canon, and Rosecrans streets. The Village Lights project was seeded with a \$60,000 grant from the County of San Diego through former supervisor Greg Cox's office and \$5,000 from the City through Council District 2.

More than 250 individuals and 30 businesses were sponsors of the Village Lights project, while engineering and design services were provided by DPR Construction,

Schmidt Design Group, ELEN Consulting, Rick Engineering, BWE, and American Wiring.

The PLA has contracted with Graphic Solutions, specialists in the design of gateway signage, to design the new Rosecrans-Lytton sign. “It was important for us as a board that this new gateway sign be an exposition of Point Loma, who we are, and of its location,” noted Barr adding, “So light posts are part of the design inspired from the historic lamp posts that are visually significant elements found in Loma Portal.”

Concerning the writing on the new gateway sign, Barr said: “The font will be cursive, a reference to the history of Point Loma, a community within the City of San Diego.”

Once the design of the new gateway signage is complete, Barr said the PLA will then entertain bids for its manufacture “reaching out to individual contractors specializing in this type of work.”

Donations help Point Loma teacher replace stolen funds

By DAVE SCHWAB | The Beacon

A GoFundMe campaign established by a Point Loma teacher to replace more than \$1,000 raised by her students that was stolen from her vehicle has succeeded.

Fifth-grade teacher Jenny Merrill said her students raised \$1,300 through a “Penny Wars” fundraiser benefiting the San Diego Humane Society as part of a class project this semester. Sadly, when Merrill went to a local bank to see if they would take the coins and bills in exchange for larger bills or a check, someone broke into her car, stealing her laptop, iPad, and the SD Humane Society funds that had been raised through the class fundraiser. The following day, Merrill started her GoFundMe campaign.

“Our students put in such hard work and they were so excited over the money our schools' families and community was able to donate,” reads Merrill's fundraiser on GoFundMe. “Although I am upset about my personal belongings and having to fix my car window, I am

completely devastated and heartbroken over losing that money. Not only will my students feel let down, but we now cannot fulfill the donation we had promised to the Humane Society. We are hoping to raise back the money we lost so the students can give their full donation.”

As of Dec. 12, the “Cause for Paws Fundraiser” had raised \$3,370 far exceeding its \$1,300 goal.

“Thank you to everyone who has donated,” responded Merrill. “You all have helped us exceed our donation goal for the Humane Society and my students are blown away. They were so upset when the money was taken and it was hard to get them invested in our project again. Now they are so excited to keep planning our pet adoption event.”

Added Merrill: “We will be using any of the additional funds to not only increase our promised donation to the Humane Society but also donate to other local shelters and to help support our ‘Cause for Paws Adoption Event’ at NTC Park on Saturday, Jan. 27.”

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Ocean Beach Holiday Gift Guide



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Ocean Beach Holiday Gift Guide



SHOP LOCAL: Buying gifts in Ocean Beach matters



BECOME AN ADVOCATE

It's easier than ever to find a local movement supporting shopping locally. Joining one is even easier. Shopping local is even more crucial now than ever, as so many small businesses try to survive after the pandemic.

In most cases, the best way to show love for your local business is to buy from them. The holidays are a great time to give back to your small business community by spending your dollars there.

But what happens when you go beyond the purchase? How much can you achieve by becoming an actual voice in the conversation promoting the act of shopping locally into the mainstream?

JOIN THE MISSION

Community-focused organizations, like Ocean Beach Merchants Association (OBMA) are continually seeking volunteers to help get the word out on their efforts. Choosing to devote your time or resources toward the overall growth of the small business landscape can have a big impact on your community.

Individuals looking for everything from clothing to home improvement services to office supplies can look to small businesses to fill those needs:

- Ocean Beach has unique and personalized gifts that you can't find anywhere else.
- Look for small businesses for any and all of your shopping needs. Chances are items sold by big box retailers also are sold by small busi-

nesses. When the options are the same or similar, purchase from a small business instead of its big box competitor.

- Readily provide recommendations of small businesses with which you have done business. Too often people are quick to complain about places that have failed them, but those same people don't think to say kind words about companies that went above and beyond. Share great experiences on social media or through word of mouth.
- Talk to small business owners first if you have an issue. It's tempting to go directly to social media to complain about something, but such complaints can have a dire impact. Always take issues to the manager or business owner first to see if a resolution can be reached. A manager may not be aware of an issue at all. Give small businesses a chance to make it right before taking things public.
- If you own a small business, rely on other small businesses to fulfill your needs.

Small businesses have experienced unprecedented setbacks due to COVID-19. By supporting small businesses, communities can help them regain stable footing.

Find local businesses through the OBMA directory at OceanBeachSanDiego.com or reach out to OBMA at 619-224-4906 and they will point you in the right direction. (In a world that doesn't answer the phone-we do. Think of us as the OB Concierge)

H

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Ocean Beach Holiday Gift Guide



Play O’Beachy Bingo this holiday season

Ocean Beach MainStreet Association has announced O’Beachy Bingo, a fun holiday game to encourage the community and visitors alike to cruise around the Ocean Beach business district this holiday season.

O’Beachy Bingo is part of the OBMA’s ‘Tis The Season to Shop Local’ campaign, which kicked off with their annual Small Business Saturday Celebration on Nov. 25.

Search for the flock of “OB parrots” in var-

ious businesses throughout Ocean Beach. Once you’ve located the stuffed animal parrots and identified their name, such as Peppermint, Butterscotch, Willow, and Twinkle, turn your completed bingo card into the OBMA storefront located at 1868 Bacon St.

Participants are entered into an opportunity drawing and winners will receive fun OB swag, merchandise, and \$25 gift cards.

Grab your bingo card from Ocean Beach

MainStreet Association at 1868 Bacon St. Mondays to Fridays from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., or at OB Farmers Market Info Booth on Wednesday from 4-8 p.m.; Ocean Beach Business Center, 4967 Newport Ave. Ste. 12., (Mondays to Fridays from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; South Coast Surf Shop, 5023 Newport Ave. daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Stronghold HQ, 2176 Chatsworth Blvd. daily from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Ocean Beach’s business district has flourished for over 125 years, and OBMA is proud to celebrate decades of neighborhood shopping. They encourage everyone to “Shop Local” this holiday season.

Visit OceanBeachSanDiego.com for printable O’Beachy Bingo cards, OB holiday calendar, and the OB Local Online Business Directory. You’ll find everything you need for the holidays in Ocean Beach.



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Holiday gift suggestions from Ocean Beach businesses

By KYUNGMIN MIN | THE BEACON

VERVOR SHOP

At Vervor Shop, shoppers can find OB-centric art, jewelry, and crafts. How about a photo or painting of the pier or their favorite palm-lined street done by someone who lives just around the corner? Or a mug



A selection of gifts at Vervor Shop.
COURTESY PHOTO

or bowl made by a neighbor? Or how about some funky one-of-a-kind jewelry crafted by the gal across the way? You can find all that here! 4689 Voltaire Street next to ABC Liquor.

OB CONNECT

A place for artists and small businesses to sell and showcase their work, OB Connect offers a ton of variety: clothing, jewelry, accessories, collectibles, vintage items, custom clothing, pins, and stickers – literally everything that the artists create. Are you looking for cool and fun holiday gifts? Discover awesome little disco mushroom statues or fashionable jewelry hats with phenomenal prints. 4847 Newport Ave.

THE BLACK

A gift and smoke shop located just half a block from the ocean, The Black has been there for 55 years. Renowned as one of San Diego's finest smoke shops, it is much more than that. Shoppers can find great items for holiday gifts, including jewelry, clothing, candles, incense, and housewares. There is even a music department in the back with instruments cards, posters, books, and more. 5017 Newport Ave.

WILLOW

Locally-owned gift shop located on the corner of Voltaire and Cable streets, Willow has a wide range of maker-made gifts available from jewelry and bath and body products, to garden and home goods. Willow loves variety and has items fitting everyone's budget and looking for the perfect gift? What about beautifully crafted earrings in an array of styles? Pair them with a handmade jewelry dish. Or maybe shower affirmation cards along with aromatherapy shower steamers, or perhaps a drink kit with a bottle opener made from recycled skateboards! 4918 Voltaire St.

COW RECORDS

Shoppers can find new and used vinyl at Cow Records, whose old-fashioned wood-paneled walls are welcoming. Greg, the proprietor, is also a musician and a member of the band "Chimpos," with great

taste and knowledge in music. If you're curious, he will share wonderful stories about various artists. You can find valuable deals among the numerous playlists he has. There are also CD and DVD sections, so grab some delightful music for holiday gifts. 5040 Newport Ave.

OB GIFTS & SHELLS

A gift, souvenir, and beachwear store on Newport Avenue, OB Gift & Shells specializes in ocean-related gifts, such as seashells. They are fully prepared for the holiday, so why not bring some Christmas vibes to the beach? Explore their variety of ornaments, already boxed and ready to be given as gifts. There are also other gift options: candles and jewelry like stone bracelets. Hoodies have already been a popular choice this year. 4934 Newport Ave.

THE PHILOSOPHER'S STONE

The Philosopher's Stone rocks, literally. It is chock full of crystals and stones of every imaginable size and type. Crystal healing is an ancient practice dating back at least 6,000 years to Mesopotamia. It has been recognized as a form of medicine with philosophies borrowed from Hinduism and Buddhism. With a homey boutique look, the crystal shop also offers jewelry in-laid with stones as well as selling complementary products like sage. The proprietor is not

a mineralogist. In the OB Mall 4967 Newport Ave. # 5

OB GIFT SHOP

Shoppers will find the perfect gift suited to their taste at OB Gift Shop. They have all kinds of gifts such as jewelry, custom T-shirts, crystals, souvenirs, etc. Ask them about the red dress if you're looking for holiday-mood clothing. Many customers visit OB Gift Shop to get things for parties, so you'll be satisfied with what they have. A couple of deals for this holiday are also suggested: Buy two, get one free for jewelry, and T-shirts are two for \$30. 4949 Newport Ave.

OB MINDFUL GOODS

"We have art supplies and we also sell local artists' art, make our own handmade soap, and have jewelry and fiber arts. If you're an artist looking for supplies – this is it. If you're looking for gifts – this could also be it."

Painter Jeremy Evans noted OB Mindful Goods is a "do it yourself place" that puts art supplies "back into circulation. We try to provide people with a place where they can come and buy brushes and stuff without having to go outside the community. We find out what people want and stock it," said Evans adding, "We try to reduce some of the consumption of the art stuff."

While OB is artist-friendly, Dembeck pointed out: "We noticed a bit of a gap in the market. So we're here to fill that gap." In the OB Mall 4967 Newport Ave.

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CHRISTMAS EVE | 8:30AM-2:30PM
CHRISTMAS DAY | 8:30AM-2:30PM
NEW YEAR'S EVE | 8:30AM-3PM
NEW YEAR'S DAY | 8:30AM-6PM

BLUE WATER SEAFOOD
CHRISTMAS EVE | 11:30AM-4PM
CHRISTMAS DAY | CLOSED
NEW YEAR'S EVE | 11:30AM-5PM
NEW YEAR'S DAY | 11:30AM-8PM

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Ask The Trust & Estate Attorney

Are there any important changes to IRS exemption or exclusion amounts for 2024 that may affect my estate planning?

On November 9, 2023, the IRS issued Revenue Procedure 2023-34, which provides the annual inflation adjustments for tax provisions to be used by individual taxpayers on their 2024 tax returns. The adjustments are as follows:



Shannon O'Neill Jones

For 2024, the estate, gift, and generation-skipping transfer tax exemption amount is \$13,610,000, an increase from \$12,920,000 for transfers in 2023.

The annual exclusion for gifts is \$18,000 for calendar year 2024, an increase from \$17,000 for 2023.

If you have any questions regarding how the estate tax exemption amount may affect your estate planning, please contact our office.

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Point Loma Nazarene women win NCAA national championship

By NOAH PERKINS | The Beacon

Lifelong memories are rarely formed at the Jensen's Foods' deli counter, but championships often bring out the best in people.

"This morning, the guy who runs the deli said 'thanks for what you've done for the community,'" Point Loma Nazarene women's soccer head coach Kristi Kiely said on a conference call, less than 48 hours removed from leading PLNU to a Div. II national championship victory over Washburn University at the Sportsplex in Matthews, N.C. "That was so wonderful. We are grateful and happy to represent."

The title is the first national championship in any sport for PLNU.

"I didn't realize the extent of how big this was until we got home Sunday," junior defender Emma Thrapp, also on the call, said. "The support we felt the last two weeks has been so incredible."

Thrapp scored the lone goal of the match, in the 53rd minute she put a header into the net off a corner kick from freshman midfielder Grace Nelson.

Mobbed by her teammates, she celebrated with a cartwheel.

"Grace Nelson and Nikki Ross are good at set pieces," Thrapp said. "The three of us were in a

rotation all season. I was running up to take the corner and Mara Sovde was like 'Thrapp are you sure?' and I was like you know what Grace, you got it. Grace hit a beautiful ball and I didn't have to move much, she put it perfectly on my head. It's fun to celebrate with teammates who are more excited for you than you are for yourself."

"I mostly remember the cartwheel," Kiely added with a laugh.

The Sea Lions finished the regular season at 12-3-1, earning an NCAA Tournament first-round bye. In their five tournament wins, astonishingly, PLNU didn't allow a goal, outscoring opponents 9-0.

Sophomore goalkeeper Julia Pinnell didn't allow a goal in her final 915 minutes and 35 seconds spent on the field.

"The back line's ability to be so cohesive – two goals in the run of play is remarkable, no goals in postseason play is remarkable," Kiely said.

"The forwards were busting their butts to make sure the ball wasn't getting back to us and the mids were tracking their runners," Thrapp added. "It may seem like little things, but to a defender, it means so much."

Kiely paused to single out the team's unheralded defensive star, 'do you know who I am going to say?' she asked,

"Mara Sovde," Thrapp answered, finishing her sentence.

"Mara is relentless, she covers tremendous ground and sets a lot of the tone," Kiely said. "You don't hear her name very often, externally. Internally we know she is the glue in terms of front to back, covering ground and defending."

"Mara makes my job so much easier," Thrapp added about the junior midfielder. "She is dedicated to who this team is and genuinely wants to do so well and you see that every time she is on the field."

The team arrived back at the Point to a surprise gathering of family, professors, and fellow students at Golden Gym.

"We had roommates and families there with signs and everyone was so excited," Thrapp said. "Being able to bring it home to this community is so amazing."

After a dominating run, PLNU is in prime position to make another go at a championship next season, only graduating one player, Mackenzie Kimmel.

"Both in talent and leadership Mackenzie will be hard to replace," Kiely said.

"From a player perspective my first thought was I want to do this again next year, that would be fun," Thrapp said. "What's so special about this group is just the desire to be better."



Point Loma Nazarene women's soccer team celebrates after winning the NCAA national title. PHOTO BY BRIAN WESTERHOLT

Point Loma Nazarene volleyball season ends in opening round at NCAA Tourney

By NOAH PERKINS | The Beacon

When Point Loma Nazarene University, outside hitter, Abigail Nua goes through her Rolodex of memories from this past season, the one that stands out most happened off the court, and has both nothing and everything to do with volleyball.

"It would be my baptism," Nua, a 5-foot-10-inch tall sophomore and All-West Region honoree, reflected. "I got baptized early in the season with my brother at 11 p.m."

One message to the group chat and moments later, Nua was surrounded by teammates.

Longer in the tooth and less technologically savvy, it took a phone call to get through to head coach Jonathan Scott.

"Granted, I did have to call Jon and he was very slow [to arrive]," Nua said with a laugh. "That will be my biggest memory of this team."

"I may or may not have been sleeping for like two hours before the baptism went down," Scott added. "So it took me a little bit to get going. That is also my favorite memory, looking at a single snapshot [of the season]."

Six days removed from PLNU's opening round NCAA Tournament loss to Cal Poly Pomona, the closeness of the team and the



Point Loma Nazarene outside hitter Abigail Nua. COURTESY PHOTO

realization it will never be exactly as is, again, is what Scott is most lamenting.

"Every season has a different team that creates the Point Loma volleyball identity," Scott said. "This particular team is now no more, so there's a great grieving that goes on, losing the girls that are no longer going to be on the team."

"Realizing that I won't get to see everyone tomorrow has made me sad," Nua added. "I loved the seniors on this team."

The Nov 30. opening round match marked the second NCAA Tournament appearance for the Sea Lions in program history. Ending the season 21-7 overall, PLNU won its first PacWest

Championship, getting an automatic bid to the tournament, a year after just missing out on qualifying.

"It's really easy to categorize each season by an identity," Scott said. "This team's identity was 'we don't know what we are going to look like out there but we know we are good enough.' We had a ton of injuries and I remember telling those girls in the locker room after the loss, that every single player was a starter at some point this year, and every single one of them contributed to winning the conference title, and that's not something I can remember ever happening before."

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CLASSIFIEDS/LEGALS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-9022112 Fictitious Business Name(s) a. KAYODE RIVER, 3500 SPORTS ARENA BLVD, SAN DIEGO, CA 92110 Is registered by the following: a. RIVER KAYODE EDWARDS Is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL The first day of business was: N/A Registrant Name: a. a. RIVER KAYODE EDWARDS Officer, if Limited Liability Company/Corporation Title of Signor The statement was filed with Jordan Z. Marks, , Jr. Recorder/County Clerk of San Diego County on: OCTOBER 27, 2023 ISSUE DATES: November 24 ,December 1, 8 & 15

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-9022906 Fictitious Business Name(s) a. MOONWOOD MARKETING, b. MOONWOOD EVENTS, 11018 W OCEAN AIR DR, APT365, SAN DIEGO, CA 92130 Is registered by the following: a. MICHELLE MAIELLO Is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL The first day of business was: 01/31/2021 Registrant Name: a. MICHELLE MAIELLO Officer, if Limited Liability Company/Corporation Title of Signor The statement was filed with Jordan Z. Marks, , Jr. Recorder/County Clerk of San Diego County on: NOVEMBER 9, 2023 ISSUE DATES: November 24 ,December 1, 8 & 15

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-9023136 Fictitious Business Name(s) a. NORTH STAR NATURALIST, 1721 REED AVE, SAN DIEGO, CA 92109 Is registered by the following: a. CYPRESS HANSEN Is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL The first day of business was: N/A Registrant Name: a. CYPRESS HANSEN Officer, if Limited Liability Company/Corporation Title of Signor The statement was filed with Jordan Z. Marks, , Jr. Recorder/County Clerk of San Diego County on: NOVEMBER 15, 2023 ISSUE DATES: November 24 ,December 1, 8 & 15

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-9023015 Fictitious Business Name(s) a. FRESVES REALTY GROUP , 1420 KETTNER BLVD #100, SAN DIEGO, CA 92101 Is registered by the following: a. JASON JEROME FARRIS Is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL The first day of business was: 11/09/2023 Registrant Name: a. JASON JEROME FARRIS Officer, if Limited Liability Company/Corporation Title of Signor The statement was filed with Jordan Z. Marks, , Jr. Recorder/County Clerk of San Diego County on: NOVEMBER 14, 2023 ISSUE DATES: November 24 ,December 1, 8 & 15

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-9023373 Fictitious Business Name(s) a. DARYL QUALITY CONSTRUCTION SERVICE, 701 W. BEECH ST #1905, SAN DIEGO, CA 92101 Is registered by the following: a. DARYL V. RELEFORD, JR Is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL The first day of business was: 24 AUG, 23 Registrant Name: a. DARYL V. RELEFORD, JR Officer, if Limited Liability Company/Corporation Title of Signor The statement was filed with Jordan Z. Marks, , Jr. Recorder/County Clerk of San Diego County on: NOVEMBER 17, 2023 ISSUE DATES: December 1, 8, 15 & January 5

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-9023377 Fictitious Business Name(s) a. CONTRACTOR BUILDING PROS, 701 W. BEECH ST #1905, SAN DIEGO, CA 92101 Is registered by the following: a. DARYL V. RELEFORD, JR Is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL The first day of business was: 11/17/2023 Registrant Name: a. DARYL V. RELEFORD, JR Officer, if Limited Liability Company/Corporation Title of Signor The statement was filed with Jordan Z. Marks, , Jr. Recorder/County Clerk of San Diego County on: NOVEMBER 17, 2023 ISSUE DATES: December 1, 8, 15 & January 5

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-9021710 Fictitious Business Name(s) a. SHOWDOWN, 4821 LANERSHIM BLVD, F556, NORTH HOLLYWOOD, CA 91601 Is registered by the following: a. INCONTRO LOGAN LLC Is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY The first day of business was: 04/24/2023 Registrant Name: a. INCONTRO LOGAN LLC Officer, if Limited Liability Company/Corporation Title of Signor JENI INCONTRO, CEO The statement was filed with Jordan Z. Marks, , Jr. Recorder/County Clerk of San Diego County on: NOVEMBER 17, 2023 ISSUE DATES: December 1, 8, 15 & January 5

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-9023859 Fictitious Business Name(s) a. SCHRIFT EVENTS, 5763 BEAUMONT AVENUE, LA JOLLA, CA 92037 Is registered by the following: a.SARAH KATHERINE SCHRIFT Is conducted

County on: OCTOBER 24, 2023 ISSUE DATES: December 1, 8 ,15 & January 5

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-9023417 Fictitious Business Name(s) a. PORCAYO CLEAN UPS, 325 54TH ST, APT 33, SAN DIEGO, CA 912114 Is registered by the following: a. ROMAN PORCAYO HERNANDEZ Is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUALThe first day of business was: 11/07/2023 Registrant Name: a. ROMAN PORCAYO HERNANDEZ Officer, if Limited Liability Company/Corporation Title of Signor he statement was filed with Jordan Z. Marks, , Jr. Recorder/County Clerk of San Diego County on: OCTOBER 24, 2023 ISSUE DATES: December 1, 8 ,15 & January 5

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-9022224 Fictitious Business Name(s) a. FLEUR DE SPA, 12748 MENGIBAR AVENUE, SAN DIEGO, CA 92129 Is registered by the following: a. THE CANTRELL COMPANY, LLC Is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY The first day of business was: 10/11/2023 Registrant Name: a. THE CANTRELL COMPANY, LLC Officer, if Limited Liability Company/Corporation Title of Signor BRIAN CANTRELL The statement was filed with Jordan Z. Marks, , Jr. Recorder/County Clerk of San Diego County on: OCTOBER 24, 2023 ISSUE DATES: December 1, 8 ,15 & January 5

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-9023394 Fictitious Business Name(s) a. PITANJOY MEDITERRANEAN GRILL, 3425 HANCOCK ST, SAN DIEGO, CA 92110 Is registered by the following: a. SAN DIEGO FUSION FOODS, LLC Is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY The first day of business was: 10/11/2023 Registrant Name: a. SAN DIEGO FUSION FOODS, LLC Officer, if Limited Liability Company/Corporation Title of Signor Alejandro Araujo, CEO The statement was filed with Jordan Z. Marks, , Jr. Recorder/County Clerk of San Diego County on: NOVEMBER 20, 2023 ISSUE DATES: December 8 ,15 & January 5 & 12

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-9023402 Fictitious Business Name(s) a. DETAILS SALONSPA, 4933 NIAGARA AVENUE, STE 205, SAN DIEGO, CA 92107 Is registered by the following: a. AIAD GROUP, INC Is conducted by: A CORPORATION The first day of business was: N/A Registrant Name: a. AIAD GROUP, INC Officer, if Limited Liability Company/Corporation Title of Signor AURORA GIL-HOUDROUGE, CEO The statement was filed with Jordan Z. Marks, , Jr. Recorder/County Clerk of San Diego County on: NOVEMBER 20, 2023 ISSUE DATES: December 8 ,15, January 5 & 12

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-9024188 Fictitious Business Name(s) a. CHELSEA BOND, LLC b. LINGERIE LEGGINS c. HEALUNA d. SCHOOL OF ANCIENT WISDOM e. PROHIBITION DANCE, 3035 OLIPHANT ST., SAN DIEGO, CA 92106 Is registered by the following: a.. CHELSEA BOND, LLC Is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY The first day of business was: N/A Registrant Name: a. CHELSEA BOND, LLC Officer, if Limited Liability Company/Corporation Title of Signor CHELSEA BOND, MEMBER The statement was filed with Jordan Z. Marks, , Jr. Recorder/County Clerk of San Diego County on: DECEMBER 01, 2023 ISSUE DATES: December 8 ,15, January 5 & 12

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-9023671 Fictitious Business Name(s) a. Señorita Smiles, 868 OSAGE ST, SAN DIEGO, CA 92114 Is registered by the following: a.Ana Maria Gallegos Is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUALThe first day of business was: N/A Registrant Name: a. Ana Maria Gallegos Is Officer, if Limited Liability Company/Corporation Title of Signor statement was filed with Jordan Z. Marks, , Jr. Recorder/County Clerk of San Diego County on: NOVEMBER 27, 2023 ISSUE DATES: December 8 ,15, January 5 & 12

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-9023859 Fictitious Business Name(s) a. SCHRIFT EVENTS, 5763 BEAUMONT AVENUE, LA JOLLA, CA 92037 Is registered by the following: a.SARAH KATHERINE SCHRIFT Is conducted

by: AN INDIVIDUALThe first day of business was: N/A Registrant Name: a.SARAH KATHERINE SCHRIFT Is Officer, if Limited Liability Company/Corporation Title of Signor statement was filed with Jordan Z. Marks, , Jr. Recorder/County Clerk of San Diego County on: NOVEMBER 28, 2023 ISSUE DATES: December 8 ,15, January 5 & 12

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-9023218 Fictitious Business Name(s) a. NATIONAL MOTORS, 5784 MIRAMAR ROAD, SAN DIEGO, CA 92121 Is registered by the following: a. NATIONAL MOTORS GROUP, INC. Is conducted by: A CORPORATION The first day of business was: 08/15/2013 Registrant Name: a. NATIONAL MOTORS GROUP, INC. Is Officer, if Limited Liability Company/Corporation Title of Signor SHOKOOH ATIGHI, SECRETARY statement was filed with Jordan Z. Marks, , Jr. Recorder/County Clerk of San Diego County on: NOVEMBER 16, 2023 ISSUE DATES: December 15 , January 5, 12 & 19

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-9024276 Fictitious Business Name(s) a. POINT PR COMMUNICATIONS, 1662 PUTERBAUGH STREET, SAN DIEGO, CA 92103 Is registered by the following: a. JOHN B.B. FREEMAN Is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL The first day of business was: 12/4/2023 Registrant Name: a. JOHN B.B. FREEMAN Is Officer, if Limited Liability Company/Corporation Title of Signor statement was filed with Jordan Z. Marks, , Jr. Recorder/County Clerk of San Diego County on: DECEMBER 04, 2023 ISSUE DATES: December 15 , January 5, 12 & 19

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-9023420 Fictitious Business Name(s) a. COAST HOME RE-MODELING, 424 15TH ST #2503, SAN DIEGO, CA 92101 Is registered by the following: a. COAST EXTERIORS, INC. Is conducted by: A CORPORATION The first day of business was: 08/08/2023 Registrant Name: a. COAST EXTERIORS, INC. Is Officer, if Limited Liability Company/Corporation Title of Signor LIZA GOIS, CEO statement was filed with Jordan Z. Marks, , Jr. Recorder/County Clerk of San Diego County on: NOVEMBER 20, 2023 ISSUE DATES: December 15 , January 5, 12 & 19

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-9023554 Fictitious Business Name(s) a. METLA HOUSE CLEANING, 330 13TH STREET, APT 2004, SAN DIEGO, CA 92101 Is registered by the following: a. METLA, LLC Is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY The first day of business was: 04/01/2022 Registrant Name: a. METLA, LLC Is Officer, if Limited Liability Company/Corporation Title of Signor ARTSIOM MACHEKIN, MANAGER statement was filed with Jordan Z. Marks, , Jr. Recorder/County Clerk of San Diego County on: NOVEMBER 21, 2023 ISSUE DATES: December 15 , January 5, 12 & 19

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-9024824 Fictitious Business Name(s) a. MR BENJAMIN'S 3344 FENELON ST, SAN DIEGO, CA 92106 Is registered by the following: a. MR BENJAMIN'S COTILLION, LLC Is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY The first day of business was: 10/15/1983 Registrant Name: a. MR BENJAMIN'S COTILLION, LLC Is Officer, if Limited Liability Company/Corporation Title of Signor PETER G. BENJAMIN, MANAGING MEMBER, statement was filed with Jordan Z. Marks, , Jr. Recorder/County Clerk of San Diego County on: DECEMBER 12, 2023 ISSUE DATES: December 15 , January 5, 12 & 19

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2023-9023881 Fictitious Business Name(s) a. PACIFIC BROKERAGE, 5638 TAFT AVE, LA JOLLA, CA 92037 Is registered by the following: a. KIRK PATRICK ZURBRIGGEN MR conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL The first day of business was: 02/07/2019 Registrant Name: a. KIRK PATRICK ZURBRIGGEN MR Is Officer, if Limited Liability Company/Corporation Title of Signor statement was filed with Jordan Z. Marks, , Jr. Recorder/County Clerk of San Diego County on: NOVEMBER 29, 2023 ISSUE DATES: December 15 , January 5, 12 & 19

Robert ‘Woody’ Woodard, former owner of Sunset Garage, dies

By TERRY L. WILSON | The Beacon

On Wednesday evening, Dec. 6, surrounded by his immediate family, Robert Woodard, 77, owner of Sunset Garage from 2000-2020, died at the VA hospital in La Jolla.

Surviving him are his wife Martine Woodard, daughter Nathalie Herron, her husband Eric Herron, their children Asher, Penny, and Zane, and daughter Michele Simon, husband Andy, and their children Hollie and Josh.

“Customers and friends alike knew Dad affectionately as Woody,” said Michele. “Dad enjoyed meeting customers daily and he loved the small town of Ocean Beach. He would often help people who didn’t have enough to pay for repairs. He just couldn’t turn them away and let them drive a car with bad brakes. So he allowed people to make payments; he even did a lot of work for free.”

“Woody” proved to be a loyal member of the community in other ways, like donating his parking lot for vets for free and to the Ocean Beach MainStreet Association on holidays.



Martine and Robert Woodard.

“My dad was raised in Bremerton, Wash., and joined the Air Force when he was 17,” said Michele. “He served six years, mostly overseas, four years in Vietnam and two years in Germany, that’s where he met my mom, in Belgium.”

When Woodard retired from the Air Force he moved to Pasadena, where he opened Woody’s Air, installing air conditioning in cars before it was standard. Twenty years later he packed up the family and moved to San Diego and in 2000 bought Sunset Garage.

It didn’t take Woody long to embrace the Ocean Beach lifestyle—surfing, sunbathing, and taking strolls along the OB Pier.

“My dad was a pretty laid-back guy, especially on weekends,” said Michele. “He liked to ride go-karts with me and my sister or just lay out in the sand like a cat. And he would stop by Lighthouse

where I worked, and I’d scoop him up a waffle cone full of his favorite ice cream. If it weren’t for my dad I would never have known OB. I started working at Lighthouse Ice Cream in April of 2002 off and on for about 10 years.”

In October of 2023, Robert and his wife Martine were vacationing in Germany when he fell ill and had to return to San Diego where he was diagnosed with stage 4 metastatic pancreatic cancer. He died two months later.

Friends can contribute to the family’s GoFundMe page here https://gofund.me/63f8d285.

Fall All-League teams announced by City Conference

By SCOTT HOPKINS | The Beacon

All-league teams have been announced by the City Conference, which includes all San Diego Unified School District high schools and several private schools. The following athletes from Point Loma High School have been honored:

FOOTBALL

First team offense (grade): Brady Allen (12), Joaquin Edwards (12). Second team: Canon Ogden (11), Dylan Upjohn (11), Ryan Burdine (12). First team defense: Rocket Robinson (12), Nate Terzoli (12), River Abenroth (12). Second team: Ian Matayer (11), Matthew Cleator (12).

Defense Athlete of the Year: Rocket Robinson (12).

League champion: La Jolla.

FIELD HOCKEY

Second team: Natalya Gouveia (12), Quinlan Wood (11).

League tri-champions: Mission Bay, Clairemont, La Jolla Country Day.



Pointer senior Rocket Robinson was named Defensive Player of the Year in the Eastern League after making 93 tackles and four tackles for loss.

FLAG FOOTBALL

League A offense, first team: Rachel Morris (12). Defense: second team: Savanna Guitar (9).

League champion: Morse.

GIRLS GOLF

First team: Emilee Canepa (12), Anna Wang (9).

League champion: Cathedral Catholic.

GIRLS TENNIS

League champion: Point Loma.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

First team: Nazare Judd (11).

League champion: Cathedral Catholic.

BOYS WATER POLO

First team: Andrew Bockstahler (11), Beckett Cahill (11). Xander Stewart (11). Second team: Anderson Bockstahler (9), Bryce Fuller (11), JJ Curtis (12).

Athlete of the Year: Andrew Bockstahler.

League co-champions: Point Loma, Patrick Henry.

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

Second team: Gabriel Xavier (11), Sebastien Palmer (12), Toby Feiler (12), Maximus Kelly (11), Ethan Levine (10).

League champion: Cathedral Catholic.

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

First team: Isabella Ramos (10). Second team: Sara Geiszler (10), Nicole Witt (11).

League champion: Cathedral Catholic.

Pointer head football coach Joel Allen is stepping aside to spend time with family

By SCOTT HOPKINS | The Beacon

Point Loma High's head football coach Joel Allen is stepping down.

Allen, who was hired four years ago to replace long-time coach Mike Hastings, spoke of his desire to spend more family time with his family.

"As many of you may know, I am not just a football coach," Allen wrote in a letter to the community. "I am also a husband, and a father to three incredible children. My oldest is now a freshman in high school, and the younger two are discovering their own passions in sixth and fourth grade. With their growth and evolving interests, I have made the decision to prioritize being present in their lives. These years are fleeting, and I want to make the most of every precious moment."

PLHS principal David Jaffe praised Allen's contributions in a letter to the families of players.

"During his tenure, Coach Allen has not only led our football team with passion and dedication but has also instilled in our players a commitment to excellence both on and off the field," Jaffe wrote. He has run a program that consistently pushes our players to achieve at the highest level, fostering a culture of hard work, discipline, and perseverance. Under his leadership, our team has achieved

success on and off the field, and his team of coaches have played a significant role in the growth and development of our student-athletes.

"Moreover, Coach Allen has been a role model for our players, emphasizing the importance of ac-



Pointer head football coach Joel Allen speaks to his players on Nov. 17 after a 9-7 loss to eventual CIF Div. II champion Del Norte. Allen has stepped aside after four years to spend time with his young family.

countability, not only to the team but also to the overall student population and the community at large," Jaffe continued. "His commitment to building character and instilling values in our young athletes has made a lasting impact, and we are truly grateful for his dedication to our program."

Allen spoke of the uniqueness of

the Point Loma community.

"Point Loma High School is not just a school; it's a community that fosters growth, camaraderie, and excellence. I extend my sincere appreciation to the coaches who have shared in the victories and faced challenges alongside me," Allen said. "To the players who dedicated themselves to the sport, showing resilience and commitment, you have inspired me every step of the way."

Allen also thanked the school administration, teachers, parents, coaches and community for making his time at the school "truly unforgettable."

Principal Jaffe will now lead a search to hire Allen's successor.

"In light of Coach Allen's departure, we are now in the process of seeking a new Head Coach for our football program," Jaffe noted. "The position will be posted on Monday, Dec. 4, and the selection process will involve various school and community partners, including our school administration, booster representation,

and player participation. We are committed to finding a candidate who shares our vision for the program and who will continue to uphold the high standards of excellence that Coach Allen has established."

Allen is only the fourth head football coach at PLHS in its 98-year history.

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SUDOKU PUZZLE

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Droops
5. Subatomic particle
10. Not in danger
14. Nursemaid
15. Black band worn in mourning
16. Long song in opera
17. Edible seed of a Philippine tree
18. Chicago political family
19. Pursues pleasure from one place to another
20. Appetizer
22. Hill (Celtic)
23. Simple shoe
24. Songs to one you love
27. Secret activities

30. Upset
31. Popular hot drink
32. Body art (slang)
35. Fired
37. Blood relation
38. Identical
39. Porticos
40. Partner to cheese
41. Type of sword
42. Enough (archaic)
43. Surface layer of ground
44. Cotton fabric woven like satin
45. Choose for a post
46. Father
47. Tell on
48. Indian title of respect

49. Fonts
52. Fencing sword
55. Mock
56. Vaccine developer
60. Atmosphere surrounding a person or place
61. Marten with a short tail
63. Chinese temple
64. Invests in little enterprises
65. Popular cut of meat
66. Charity
67. Iron-containing compound
68. River in Northern Europe
69. One point east of southeast

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PACIFIC BEACH \$2,750,000
Welcome home to this stunning 5 bedroom, 4 bath beauty in North PB! Updated kitchen and baths, gorgeous hardwood floors, pantry, family room, dual paned windows, 2 car garage and gated parking, sparkling spa and outdoor shower. 4 bedroom, 3 bath on 1st floor and 2nd floor primary retreat with ocean views, rain shower, and walk in closet. The cherry on top is a 600 sf roof top deck with panoramic ocean, bay, fireworks, City and night light views and is plumbed for outdoor kitchen. Blocks to shopping, dining, excellent schools, and the beach. SoCal at its best and you deserve it!

OCEAN BEACH \$2,150,000
California coastal meets modern farmhouse meets amazing opportunity! This stunning redesigned 4 bedroom, 2 bath home has a gourmet kitchen, remodeled baths, dual paned windows, high end laminate flooring, tankless water heater and owned solar. It also has an attached granny flat with private entrance. High on the hill on a 10,300 sf lot, the possibilities are endless. Sea World fireworks, nightlights, enormous yards and award winning schools make this a no brainer. Plus, proposed plans for 3 bedroom, 2 bath ADU. You're welcome!!!

PACIFIC BEACH \$1,075,000
All I want for Christmas is a turnkey ocean front condo! This single level 1 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath beauty features a remodeled kitchen with quartz counters and stainless-steel appliances, high end plush carpet, extra guest bath + ensuite primary bedroom. Dual paned windows, ocean and pool views, secured parking and dedicated storage in supreme ocean front location. Fully furnished and ready to enjoy! Fantastic location by Crystal Pier, Tower 23, shopping, dining, nightlife. A surfer's paradise. Open concept, ocean front living? YES PLEASE!!!

POINT LOMA \$2,295,000
Own a piece of Point Loma history! This coastal farmhouse was likely the 2nd home built in Loma Portal. It is a turnkey vacation rental with excellent income, style, location, and pizzazz! In addition to this beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath detached home, there are 2 more 1 bedroom homes bringing in great income. Live in front and enjoy extra income, keep as vacation rental or add units because this baby is zoned for 5 units. Great location close to restaurants, shopping, top rated schools, the public library, and churches. Equally close to sandy beaches and the local yacht clubs. This is truly a unique opportunity for the savvy homeowner or investor. Come check it out. You'll be glad you did!

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PASTOR

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

Earlier in the service, Kelley said, "I look out at this sea of faces. I see the wonderful diversity we have. I love that about this place."

"I know that church has not always been a safe place for all people at all times. I'm sorry about that," said Kelley.

In his appeal, Kelley wrote, "Oh, how I wish they would know we are Christians by our love. Instead, I think they have come to know we are Christians by our judgments."

When Kelley's appeal was denied, many supporters wrote "I Stand with Rev. Dee Kelley" on their Facebook pages. There are hundreds of angry Nazarenes commenting on the treatment of Kelley on Facebook pages.

"I'm at a bit of a loss on how anyone can say it was a correct decision, when a congregation of about 200 people gathered on Sunday, and lament filled the room," wrote Lainie Alfaro, the former editor of The Point, the student newspaper at PLNU.

"I'm at a bit of a loss with the blatant disregard of care and support for this congregation as they are going through this change... someone has lost their job of over 17 years," wrote Alfaro.

"The auditorium was packed, and it was all supportive of Dee," said First Church board member and PLNU professor Dean Nelson. "But it was so sad because Dee had been taken away from us for no rational reason."

Keen wrote that the appeal denial, "literally sickens me," because the panel is supposed to be "purportedly a fellowship of the body of Christ, turning to one another... caring, embracing, hoping, praying to be a means of grace for one another..."

Kelley's trial sparked the creation of a cartoon series lampooning the Church of the Nazarene online. The most recent cartoon showed an angry judge from on high at a desk labeled "Nazarene Church Bureaucracy" saying "For the crimes of critical thinking, seeking dialogue, and including the 'wrong' people...you have been found GUILTY!"

The church board has allowed Kelley and his wife to remain at the Nazarene parsonage in Point Loma for now. The interim senior pastor is Russ Martin who is a graduate of PLNU and attended First Church for many years.

On Monday, Dec. 11, Nelson confirmed the board offered Kelley "to stay on staff in an administrative role, where he can stay in the church-owned house for the next several months." Nelson said he does not know if Kelley would take the offer, but it is not a ministerial role.

Nelson said he was perplexed as to why District Superintendent Tom Taylor would fixate on removing Kelley as a pastor. Taylor first demanded Kelley's resignation once he learned of his essay in the book, but a district superintendent does have the authority to remove a pastor.

Taylor later served a role in Kelley's trial, which Nelson was "like a bad 'Perry Mason' episode except this isn't fiction – it's stranger than fiction." Nelson described Taylor as "a bully." Taylor, a former Nazarene pastor, has announced he will retire in May of 2024. He could not be reached for comment.

"Everybody loves Dee," said Nelson. "Which makes it that more mystifying that Tom would object so much to a man who is so Christ-like. It's like a purge of anyone who thinks independently."

Read more online at sdnews.com

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POINT LOMA 4 BDRM / 2 BA \$1,499,000

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