

We spent 24 hours on the USS Carl Vinson to learn about the ship and its operations.



An F-18 landing on the flight deck.

Staff photo by Madeline Yang

On the USS Carl Vinson

An inside look at The Coronado News' time on the USS Carl Vinson.

By MADELINE YANG
The Coronado News

It's a bizarre sight, watching a man walking as if on land but with the vast ocean on all sides of him. He walks against the waves, nature subtly reminding humanity of their insignificant size. He's on the USS Carl Vinson, one of three Navy Nimitz-class nuclear-powered aircraft carriers stationed at Naval Air Station North Island, but now is navigating through the Pacific Ocean.

» Continued on Page 8

- 'My time on the USS Carl Vinson was an experience I'll never forget or take for granted.' [PAGE 8](#)
- First-hand video of the visit. www.thecoronadonews.com



Coronado's Little Leaguers traveled to Salt Lake City in July to attend the Major League Baseball Alumni Clinic for kids. Photo courtesy of Kevin Gates.

Little Leaguers go to Cooperstown

By SAM DATIN
The Coronado News

Sixteen Coronado Little Leaguers are being given the opportunity of a lifetime as they travel to Cooperstown, New York this August to partake in competition and festivities, thanks to the Marshall Gates Foundation. Cooperstown is famously home to the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum and the Little League World Series. The all-expenses-paid trip will invite the 16 young baseball players to demonstrate their talent and passion for the game of baseball as they compete in the Cooperstown Dream Park Tournament. The 16 athletes were chosen by Coronado Little League coaches familiar with the boys and their skill sets.

While the foundation has sent many teams across the country, this experience will be the first of its kind as the foundation tries to expand their demographic to meet a younger audience. Foundation trustee Kevin Gates would like to see it continue. "It's our first and we're gonna try and do it every year for the next few years and see how it goes," said Gates. For Gates, the trip is about more than just a game of baseball. "It's the opportunity of a lifetime. Some of my fondest childhood memories were playing Little League baseball," said Gates. Gates hopes this experience will further instill a passion for baseball in many of the boys,

» Continued on Page 15

Coronado Island Film Festival's role with Hollywood

By MADELINE YANG
The Coronado News

The Coronado Island Film Festival is in its 8th year and is steamrolling ahead. Founded by actress, writer and architect Doug St. Denis and led by CEO and Artistic Director Merridee Book, this film festival premieres roughly 80 films each year, giving back over \$1.5 million to the city throughout the years, according to Book. This year's festival is Nov. 8–12. Around 50 to 60% of the attendees are residents on the island and greater San Diego, while 30 to 40%

» Continued on Page 6



CEO Merridee Book (left) and Founder Doug St. Denis sit down with the Coronado News to discuss the Coronado Island Film Festival. Staff photo by Madeline Yang.

CORONADO

CORONADO LOVE LETTER

this week

8 • tuesday

Story time is moving from the library to Central Beach Coronado at 10 a.m. Don't miss out on a fun beach day with stories, songs and fun. Look for a green canopy to the right of the Central Beach Lifeguard tower. There is an ADA accessible path to assist with strollers. Bathrooms are located within a short distance of the new location.

The library at 6 p.m. is offering a free four-session SAT prep workshop starting on August 8 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Winn Room. The three following workshops will be offered on August 10, 15 and 23. The workshops are hosted by math magician Steve Reiss. Attendance at all sessions is not required, but is recommended for the best outcomes. Registration is required and space is limited to 20 students per class. So don't hesitate to visit the library's events calendar to sign up and register for each individual session at cplevents.org.

9 • wednesday

Compete in the cupcake decorating contest for teens and learn how to make tie-dye frosting. This is part of the Summer Reading Activities for Youth at the library.

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By MAYA SCIARRETTA
The Coronado News

Little Frenchie, a restaurant located at 116 Orange Ave., is dedicated to producing high-quality food with an authentic French foundation.

And local produce is integral to Little Frenchie's mission, rooting the kitchen's imported French products in San Diego soil.

Fermin Tinamisan, Little Frenchie's chef de cuisine, said "produce is at its best when it's local." This belief led him on a hunt for the best locally sourced lettuce he could find.

Tinamisan spent weeks cycling through different lettuces until he connected with Ruth Jordan, the founder of Paradise Found, a vermiponic farm in Bonita.

After trying Jordan's product and visiting her farm, Tinamisan was ready to make the switch.

He was not only drawn to the lettuce, but also to Jordan's commitment to "trying to promote agriculture and urban farming."

Jordan maximizes her farmland in Bonita by using vertical vermiponic systems, which harness the power of worms to produce a nutrient-rich “tea” from organic waste. In turn, the tea nourishes plants as they grow. Vermiponics works to simultaneously enhance produce quality while acting as a regenerative medium for plant growth.

The greens grown at Jordan's farm



Little Frenchie, a restaurant located at 116 Orange Ave., is dedicated to producing high-quality food with an authentic French foundation.

Photo courtesy of Fermin Tinamisan.

"Lettuce is pretty big for us. It's pretty much on all of our menu items."

— Fermin Tinamisan, Little Frenchie's chef de cuisine

were a hit as soon as they reached Little Frenchie's tables. During the Paradise Found trial week, Tina-misan realized that "customers

were enjoying the lettuce.”

Since switching to Paradise Found lettuce, customers appear to be eating more of the leafy greens on their plates than they ever did before.

"Lettuce is pretty big for us," Tina-misan said. "It's pretty much on all of our menu items."

Little Frenchie's relationship with locally grown lettuce is emblematic of the restaurant's values.

"At Little Frenchie, we're really dedicated to giving the best food and hospitality we can. That's really our main goal," said Tinamisan.

Student of the Week is on Summer Break — it will return when school resumes!

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ISLAND INSIDER



Expert Analysis on the Coronado Housing Market

HELLO CORONADO!

Corey Simone here. Every Friday moving forward, I will be bringing you news, stats and information in the ever changing real estate market. Should you have a topic you want covered please email me at info@simonerealestategroup.com

How does Proposition 19 provide property tax transfer relief for anyone 55+ looking to purchase?

Wanting to find a home in the location of your dreams but worried about property taxes?

Coronado may be just the place you are looking for with its endless stretch of white sand and year-round enjoyable weather. Plus, Proposition 19 may make the transition more manageable for those 55 years and older.

Proposition 19, also known as “The Home Protection for Seniors, Severely Disabled, Families and Victims of Wildfire or Natural Disasters Act,” was approved on Nov. 3, 2020 and put into effect on April 1, 2021.

Put simply, this California proposition deals with the transfer of a property’s taxable value.

It applies to any homeowners who fall under the following categories: those 55 years of age or over, those who are severely disabled, those who are victims of a wildfire or a natural disaster or those who are looking to keep inherited property in the family.

With the scope of information that Proposition 19 outlines, I figured I would break everything down in two separate educational pieces, the first of which I covered a few weeks ago.

Check out my ad, “What does Prop 19 say about keeping a home within the family?” to learn about the ins and outs of Proposition 19’s contingencies for inherited properties.

When it comes to the other piece of the pie—transferring a property tax base from one residence to a new one—Proposition 19 can provide serious relief for anyone 55+ looking to relocate.

This proposition nudges open the door for those considering purchasing a

new property but concerned about the headache of property tax transfers.

Under previous law, the purchase price of your new home needed to be equal or less than the sale price of your old home in order to transfer existing property taxes.

Now, it is possible to transfer property taxes if your new home’s value is higher than the value of your old home.

In fact, the replacement property’s market value can exceed the original property’s value up to 105% if it is purchased within a year of the sale of the original. Its value can exceed 110% in the second year.

Here’s the formula:

- **The base year value of your old home + inflationary adjustments of the new home (or the amount of increased value of the new home) = your new home’s taxable value.**

Keep in mind that this transfer can be done anywhere within California!

Before Proposition 19, the transfer could only happen if the old home and new home were in the same county (or in one of the counties that allowed inter-county transfers).

Additionally, homeowners 55+ can take advantage of Proposition 19’s transfer of equal property tax rates up to three times. This is great news for

anyone scared of commitment, since a transfer was previously only allowed once.

Qualifications:

- The replacement residence must be purchased or newly constructed within two years of the sale of the original property.
- The homeowner must be at least 55 years old at the time of the property’s sale.
- Both properties must be eligible for the homeowners’ or disabled veterans’ exemption.

I would recommend taking advantage of the possibility to transfer your old property’s base year value to the taxes you pay on your new home. In a competitive real estate market like Coronado, don’t hesitate to begin looking for your dream retirement home now.

As your trusted real estate agent, I am here to assist you with any of your needs, whether that be starting the search for a property in Coronado or learning more about the tax implications and benefits of Proposition 19.

As always, please don’t hesitate to reach out at 619-568-0568 or info@simonerealestategroup.com.

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OPINION

OP-ED

The promise and perils of Artificial Intelligence

By GEORGE GALDORISI

The headline on the first page of the New York Times Sunday Opinion page in early July could not have been more stark or more menacing: “The True Threat of Artificial Intelligence: Technology Forged by Private Markets Won’t Solve the World’s Problems. It Will Only Amplify Them.”

It that statement doesn’t get your attention, it’s likely that nothing will.

It would be difficult to identify a technology that has been talked and written about than those under the umbrella of artificial intelligence or AI.

The term AI is generally used to include big data, artificial intelligence and machine learning, a trifecta of technologies that impact our lives today, and promise to have an even more profound effect in the future.

Sadly there is vastly more heat than light when AI-technologies are discussed in the media.

The article mentioned above is a prime example. It notes, for example: “More than 350 technology executives, researchers and academics signed a statement warning of the existential dangers of artificial intelligence. They said that mitigating the risk of extinction from A.I. should be a global priority alongside other societal-scale risks such as pandemics and nuclear war.” I suspect that we all agree that the phrase “risk of extinction” is pretty strong stuff.

Another article entitled: “Robot Overlords? Maybe Not,” quoted Alex Garland, director of the movie Ex Machina, who talked about artificial intelligence and quoted several tech industry leaders.

The theoretical physicist Stephen Hawking told us that “the development of full artificial intelligence could spell the end of the human race.”

Elon Musk, the chief executive of Tesla, told us that A.I. was “potentially more dangerous than nukes.”

Steve Wozniak, a co-founder of Apple, told us that “computers are going to take over from humans” and that “the future is scary and very bad for people.”



Stock illustration

More strong stuff. More recently, the advent of AI-powered technologies such as ChatGPT, Bard and Bing have sent concerns about AI into overdrive.

Is it any wonder that the general public has become skeptical – or even fearful – of AI and why many are calling for a complete halt to AI development?

We (my fellow Coronado colleague – Sam J. Tangredi) think that these fears are overwrought.

We base this opinion on years of research that has been manifested in many articles in professional journals, numerous papers presented at professional conferences, and in two books, “AI at War: How Big Data, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Are Changing Naval Warfare” and the forthcoming, “Algorithms of Armageddon: The Impact of Artificial Intelligence On Future Wars” (both by the U.S. Naval Institute Press).

There is a saying attributed to H. L. Mencken: “For every complex problem there is an answer that is clear,

simple and wrong.” In spite of this caution, it is rather straightforward to get to the bottom of fears about AI and suggest that there is a simple way to unpack concerns about artificial intelligence if we recognize the fact that the term AI is far too broad and encompasses too much.

Current AI systems, often referred to as “narrow AI” or sometimes “weak AI” are ones that exist today.

These are algorithms that suggest pithy responses to an email, finish your sentence in an email, provide buying suggestions on various websites, defeat champions at chess or on game shows or many other tasks that happen in our daily lives t often happen without our awareness.

This narrow AI is designed to only perform as if a human for one very specific function.

Many technology advocates – and increasingly the general public – believe that narrow AI can and will evolve into “artificial general intelligence” (AGI).

As the New York Times article points out: “AGI doesn’t exist yet, but some fear it could. However, that would mean that technologists will build systems that are generally smarter than humans.”

And therein lay the rub. The hype has outstripped reality. We would have to convince ourselves that humans will have the means (at present, highly doubtful) and the desire (again, why would they do that?) to create machines that will trump our human abilities, take over the world and end humanity because we humans are no longer necessary.

These dystopian scenarios are the stuff of science fiction, but for some reason many take the leap that if computers can beat professional players in Texas Hold ‘Em Power, they will somehow decide become too powerful to control.

While there is a popular term, “Never say never,” that is where our money is: We humans are a smart lot and we won’t decide to build computers that even approach human consciousness.

Finally, it is worth recalling that due to marvelous benefits that cutting-edge technology has bestowed on humanity we do have a tendency to buy-in to technology hype.

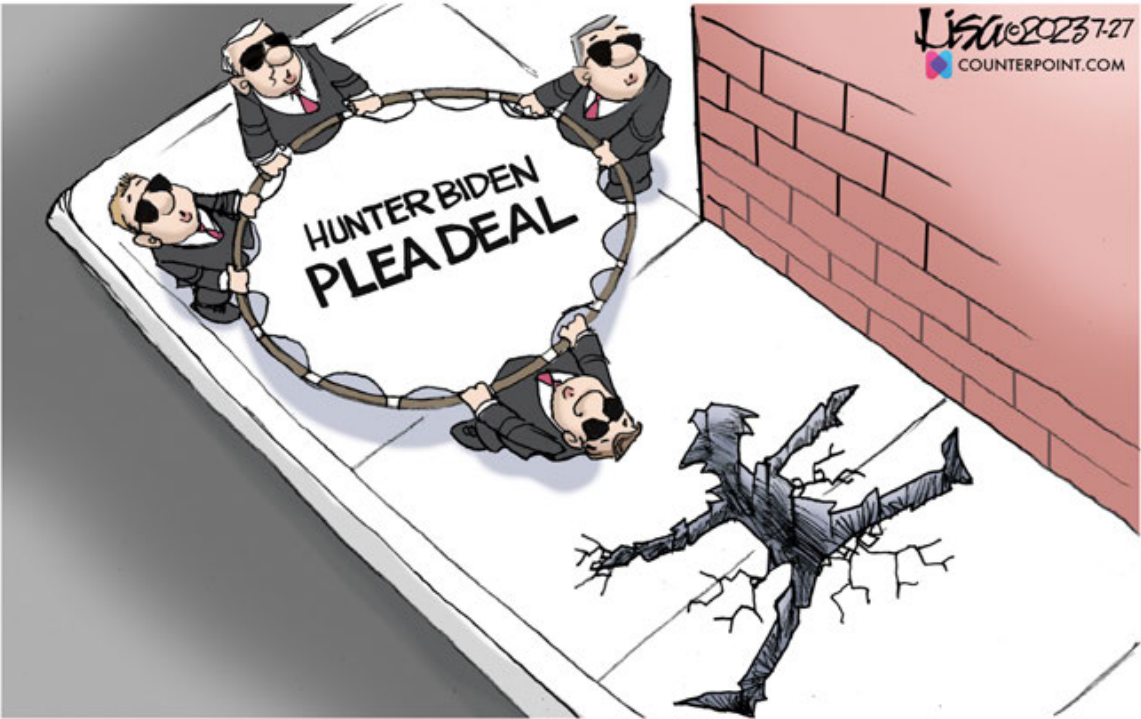
To provide just one small example, a decade ago, legions of tech experts, venture capitalists, government officials and many others predicted that driverless cars would be ubiquitous on our highways today. That hasn’t happened, and as deaths caused by driverless cars mount, the hype-induced vision of a driverless car future has dissipated.

We can manage AI. It will not manage us.

Capt. George Galdorisi (USN – retired) is a Coronado resident. He is a career naval aviator whose 30 years of active duty service included four command tours and five years as a carrier strike group chief of staff. He is the author of 15 books, including four New York Times best-sellers. The views presented are those of the author, and do not reflect the views of the Department of the Navy or the Department of Defense.

The Coronado News accepts Op-Eds and Letters to the Editor. Please send them to Editor Craig Harris at craig@thecoronadonews.com.

LISA BENSON



JACK OHMAN



CORONADO



The Cotton Patch Gospel was first performed by Lamb's in 1988. The show was brought back to the theatre and is now extended until Sept. 3.
Photo courtesy of Lamb's Players Theatre.

Lamb’s theater extends dates of Cotton Patch Gospel to Sept. 3

By **SOFIE FRANSEN**
The Coronado News

The production of Cotton Patch Gospel has been extended through Sept. 3 at Lamb's Players Theatre.

Lamb's Theatre is one of the region's leading not-for-profit professional theatres, producing year-round productions in Coronado's iconic Spreckels building.

With a live band of bluegrass musicians, the musical sets the gospels of Matthew and John in the American south as adapted from Clarence Jordan's book, "The Cotton Patch Version of Matthew and John."

Actor Tom Key first performed the musical as a one-man show in 1979 and the production had a successful Off-Broadway run in 1981 with

added music and lyrics by Harry Chapin.

After previously showing "Cotton Patch Gospel" in 1988, 1991 and 2003, Lamb's said it was a good time to bring the show back again. Now, performance dates have been extended through Sept. 3.

Tickets range from \$28 to \$82 depending on the day of the week and the theatre's seating section.

Discounts are provided for seniors ages 66 plus and Veterans.

Half-price tickets are available for active duty military, youth ages 5 through 17, and young adults ages 18 through 34 who join the theatre's free under-35 club.

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit <https://www.lamb-splayers.org/>.

The Coronado News joins partnership with publishers

Coronado News staff

In an era of dwindling trust and declining subscriptions, the fate of traditional daily newspapers hangs in the balance.

Now, three local community publishers — San Diego Community Newspaper Group, The Coast News Group and The Coronado News — have formed a story-sharing and advertising partnership that will reach more than 200,000 weekly print readers and more than a quarter million monthly online readers.

From Oceanside to east of downtown San Diego to Coronado, these publishers offer local, regional and national advertisers some of the most affluent households not just in San Diego County but across the country.

"The demand for accurate and in-depth community news is at an all-time high and this partnership is a big win for our readers. Plus, a stronger paper creates more reader engagement in print and online allowing us to deliver more value for advertisers," said Chris Kydd, associate publisher of The Coast News Group.

Julie Main, whose newspaper group of eight titles has grown to be the largest independently female owned and operated newspaper group in San Diego County, noted this partnership will allow small businesses to afford to advertise because they will have the option to buy into their target communities. Meanwhile, larger corporate accounts can buy at a wholesale price for the whole circulation network.

"We are absolutely thrilled to be working with two amazing, well-respected newspaper publishers," said Paul Huntsman, owner of the Coronado News. "Readers in Coronado now will have access to addi-

tional in-depth and feature stories throughout the San Diego region, and our advertisers will have a broader reach to other communities across greater San Diego."

The partnership comes as The San Diego Union-Tribune was recently sold to an out-of-state hedge fund company renowned for its cost-cutting measures and downsizing strategies at other papers it has acquired.

The takeover resulted in the U-T losing its longtime editor and publisher while numerous veteran key staff members accepted buyouts.

Enter the three community newspapers, the unsung heroes of grassroots journalism.

These publications have embraced a different approach to news delivery, catering to specific neighborhoods and serving as the voice of their readership. Their direct delivery to high demographic zip codes has cultivated a strong bond with the communities they serve.

The combined reach of the three community publications is three times greater than the paid circulation of the Union Tribune.

Unlike their ailing daily counterparts, community newspapers have managed to retain a sense of trust and authenticity. Their commitment to local stories, highlighting the triumphs and challenges unique to each community, has garnered widespread appreciation and support. The readers eagerly anticipate each edition, savoring the engaging content tailored to their specific interests.

This network seeks to expand the reach of community newspapers, incorporating additional zip codes and ensuring market saturation for readership and advertisers.

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» Continued from Page 1

DOUG: I mean, truly I mean everybody knows about "Some Like It Hot" filmed in 1958, but the fact is that it started 50 years before that. You know, at the Hotel Del which was new, and film was new. And they



Staff photo by Madeline Yang.

And we've had to keep up with all of that in order to continuously produce a film festival that is unique but also current. We always have a certain element of our programming that pays

I loved that film was always a platform for education. And I sat on the board of directors for COSA (Colorado School of the Arts) for four years. And, you know, just seeing what was

Their scores help determine the cut off for selection. As the artistic director, I have the final say as to what films make it into the festival.

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OP-ED

Life on the USS Carl Vinson

By **MADELINE YANG**
The Coronado News

Watching jets land and planes take off from the USS Carl Vinson aircraft carrier under the brightest stars I’ve ever seen was a sight I never want to forget.

I was a part of seven other journalists from San Diego, Orange County, Belgium and France that had the opportunity to spend a night on the USS Carl Vinson and see what life was like on board.

To be honest, it was hard to be focused on the night operations when I was standing under the Milky Way, fully able to see the light variations and striations of our galaxy in the sky.

But the roaring of the aircraft brought my gaze down to the E-2D Hawkeye preparing to be catapulted into the shimmering sky.

The propellers turned near the front of the plane as personnel ran around it, ensuring all the takeoff gear was ready to go.

And as soon as I saw the plane, it was gone. There didn’t seem to be much runway, but the E-2D lifted into the air and disappeared among the sky.

Leaving behind trails of wind and cloud, the next plane pulled up, shrouded in fog. It swirled around, but for the most part stayed in thick streaks, streamlining past the E-2D.

This was the second flight operation we had watched today, so after about half an hour, we made our way back under the flight deck.

The best way I could describe the inside of the ship is like a human body. Hallways and corridors like veins and arteries systematically connect every room to another.

Hundreds of enlisted and officers flowed through the hallways like blood vessels, splitting into different paths like the blue veins in our hands.

In this analogy, the journalists and I were

like cholesterol building in the body, little bundles of plaque blocking personnel from moving as they needed, but we were met with nothing but patience and helpfulness as we stumbled through the raised doors.

And at night, the ship played into the analogy as the white lights turned a deep hue of red and illuminated the entire space below deck, simulating night time.



The USS Carl Vinson from the Osprey.
Staff photo by Madeline Yang.

We were woken at 6 a.m. to eat breakfast with the rest of the crew in their ward room, or cafeteria.

Groups of enlisted and officers in different colored jumpsuits sat in a large room, sounds of conversation and cutlery coming together in an orchestra of people’s days either beginning or ending.

Our Public Affairs Officer led us to a balcony, for lack of a better word, off the side of the boat. There was something special about to happen that not even most of the people on board had seen before.

We stepped out onto the balcony and almost immediately saw a large cruiser trailing

behind the Carl Vinson. It was the USS Princeton, a missile cruiser that was about to use the Carl Vinson as a gas station. This was called a replenishment at sea (RAS).

Long thick black tubes resembling tentacles hung from an opening on the side of the aircraft carrier. Like anything large that moves, the tubes swung heavily in the wind.

As the Princeton pulled parallel to the carrier, a loud bang was heard as the cruiser shot over a long wire that would eventually be used to pull the black tubes over to their side, siphoning the fuel over.

This process would take around an hour, and the Princeton would pull out filled with fuel, and slowly disappear into the horizon.

Our day was coming to an end and we were getting ready to hop on a V-22 Osprey, a helicopter that would fly us back to land and complete the experience.

As we walked onto the flight deck, the rotors blew air violently towards us, the engine thundering through our headgear.

We took our seats and strapped ourselves tightly to the helicopter, and someone came around to double check we were all secure.

Why?
The door to the aircraft would stay open during our flight.

The Osprey took off and before we knew it, the entirety of the Carl Vinson came into view.

Pulling away from the aircraft carrier like that was an incredible sight.

I kept my eyes glued to the opening of the Osprey for as long as I could, wanting to take in the sheer power of the floating city we just spent 24 hours on.

I don’t know if this makes sense, but the carrier seemed so much bigger when I saw it smaller from above. I could see everything, every part of it at once, and I could see the force that was the USS Carl Vinson.

» Continued from Page 1

Aircraft carriers are the largest warships in the world, and they are used as a seagoing airbase, or a floating airport. Planes land with a cable system to hold them back and take off with a catapult system that helps propel them to the air.

The Carl Vinson is also more famously known for being used in the original Top Gun movie that premiered in 1986.

The man walking is only one of 5,000 aboard the ship. But the ship is really just a drifting city.

He seems to be making progress in his strides, but the deep blue creases of the water churning with teal foam below him reveal that he is limited by this sailing city he lives on.

The USS Carl Vinson (CVN-70) mainly operates in the Indo-Pacific region, one of 11 operational aircraft carriers in the Navy.

Used for responding to piracy, terrorism and drug trafficking, among other threats, the carriers and their embarked air wings aim to counter the threats far from the nation’s shores, according to an informational packet given to the journalists.

And The Coronado News had the special opportunity to experience a day and a night of life aboard one of these carriers.

Joining five other journalists from the San Diego Union Tribune, Univision, French aerospace magazine Air&Cosmos and two freelance journalists, The Coronado News boarded the ship to embark on its very first “deployment.”

Like an ant hill system, Public Affairs Officer Devin Arneson led the journalists up and down narrow stairs and hallways, through small doors and around hundreds of enlisted soldiers and officers.

Although strategically compact below the flight deck, these carriers are at approximately the height of a 24-story building with the capabilities of holding more than 60 aircrafts at a time, according to Arneson.

And the United States is leading in their maritime technologies with the Carl Vinson and their 10 other aircraft carriers.



Flight personnel on the flight deck preparing for the next plane to take-off. *Staff photos by Madeline Yang.*

China and the United Kingdom follow behind with two aircraft carriers each, and France is the only other nation with a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier.

The United States’ aircraft carriers have a service life of 50 years, with new carriers currently being built, serving until a planned date of 2110.

Commissioned since 1982, the Carl Vinson has been serving for just over 40 years, and it’s seen its fair share of history.

The flight deck operator for CVN-70 led The Coronado News down the flight deck to reveal one of its most notable roles in history.

He did not want to be named or officially interviewed.

Spanning roughly three football fields long, he walked to about half of the way down the flight deck, slowly stopping at a group of padeyes, dark gray metal circles in the ground with cross sections meant as an attachment point for jets or helicopters.

One of them was different. It was painted red.

He told The Coronado News that it was painted red in order to remember the night Osama bin Laden’s body was delivered to the Carl Vinson to be transported.

The flight deck operator said that was where his body was when it arrived.



The red padeye, signifying Osama bin Laden’s body on the USS Carl Vinson.

More than a decade later, the padeye remains continuously painted red.

After exploring below deck for the rest of the day, the journalists made their way back up to the flight deck for flight operations.

The sun was slowly meeting the sweeping horizon, and the sky was

turning deep hues of pink and orange, resembling a scene straight from Top Gun.

Planes started to appear around the carrier, flying in formation and circling it like birds, waiting for their turn to land.

And suddenly, the grumble of an engine got louder and louder as an F-18 Advanced Strike-Fighter jet had its nose pointed straight towards the Carl Vinson.

Posed against a pink and purple sky, the orange glow of the sun reflecting off the shine on its exterior, the F-18 came into focus.

A tailhook is attached to the plane, ready to grab a hold of one of four arresting wires, the cables that help stop the aircraft on the flight deck.

Intimidating and beautiful, it descended, the size of the jet bringing with it violent winds splitting from the plane.

It hooks the third cable and in under five seconds rolls to a stop.

Flight deck personnel run after the jet to unhook it from the cable as it slowly moves to the side, ready for the next F-18 to make its descent onto the Carl Vinson.

A Naval Aviator and Shooter, an officer that oversees the catapult system on the carrier who wanted to remain nameless, told The Coronado News that “this never gets old.”

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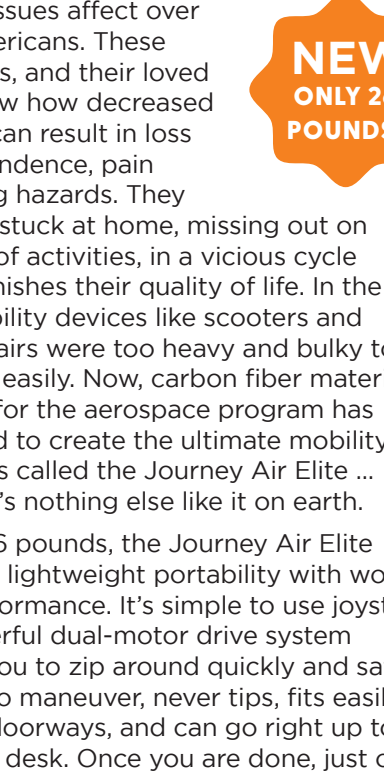
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Mobility issues affect over 1 in 5 Americans. These individuals, and their loved ones, know how decreased mobility can result in loss of independence, pain and falling hazards. They are often stuck at home, missing out on a variety of activities, in a vicious cycle that diminishes their quality of life. In the past, mobility devices like scooters and power chairs were too heavy and bulky to transport easily. Now, carbon fiber material invented for the aerospace program has been used to create the ultimate mobility device. It's called the Journey Air Elite ... and there's nothing else like it on earth.

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NAVY

SEALs enhance maritime dominance with partners in Colombia

As part of the exercise, SEALs trained alongside partner nation special operations forces.

DVIDS

CARTAGENA, Colombia – East-Coast-Based Naval Special Warfare Operators (SEAL) showcased their capabilities and strengthened international partnerships during their participation in the multinational exercise UNITAS 64.

As part of the exercise, SEALs trained alongside partner nation special operations forces in submarine operations, visit, board, search, and seizure (VBSS), and close quarters combat (CQC), reaffirming the importance of collaboration in maritime defense strategies.

UNITAS, an annual joint exercise, brought together naval forces from 20 nations in Colombia to enhance interoperability and increase the collective capability to respond to evolving maritime security challenges. The event kicked-off with an opening ceremony where Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro delivered remarks.

The Colombian navy hosted this year's UNITAS, which featured 26 warships/vessels, three submarines, 25 aircraft (fixed wing/helicopter), and approximately 7,000 people from 20 partner nations. Forces conducted operations off the coast of Cartagena, Colombia, and ashore in Covenas and Barranquilla, Colombia.

“When I assumed office as the 78th Secretary of the Navy in August of 2021, I made enhancing strategic partnerships one of our Department's top enduring priorities,” said Del Toro. “Trust, proficiency, and interoperability are core tenets of our partnerships as we work together to advance our common interests in the Western Hemisphere, maintaining



East-coast based U.S. Naval Special Warfare Operators (SEALs) and Colombian special operations personnel pull a combat rubber raiding craft aboard the Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarine USS Pasadena (SSN 752) during UNITAS 2023. Hosted this year by Colombia, UNITAS is the world's longest-running maritime exercise bringing together multinational forces from 20 partner nations, training in joint maritime operations.

U.S. Navy photos by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Bill Carlisle.



U.S. Naval Special Warfare Operators (SEALs), Paraguayan, and Colombian special operations personnel training in joint maritime operations.

they fostered strong relationships, deepened mutual understanding, and improved operational effectiveness.

This exercise served as a testament to the United States' commitment to maritime security and operating everywhere international law allows, Navy officials said.

UNITAS, which is Latin for unity, united, or oneness, was conceived in 1959 when representatives at the first Inter-American Naval Conference in Panama agreed to conduct an annual maritime exercise with one another.

Prior to UNITAS I in 1960, U.S. Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Arleigh Burke reviewed preparations for the multinational exercise.

He commended planners for their progress, especially in building compatible communication systems among navies, and predicted that UNITAS would build strong relationships among sailors of the Western Hemisphere.

Naval Special Warfare Group 2 produces, trains, supports, and deploys the world's premier maritime special operations commandos to conduct full-spectrum operations and integrated deterrence that support national objectives.

Story by Lt.j.g. Martin Carey

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brunch **noun**

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To check out our menu or make a reservation for our brunch service, we invite you to visit our website at Chezloma.net or use OpenTable. Thank you for considering Chez Loma for your brunch plans. We look forward to welcoming you and your guests to our establishment and providing you with a truly outstanding brunch experience.

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Like millions of older Americans, I struggle with mobility. For years, I watched my quality of life slip away, as I was forced to stay home while friends and family took part in activities I'd once enjoyed. I thought I'd made some progress when I got a mobility scooter, but then I realized how hard it was to transport. Taking it apart and putting it back together was like doing a jigsaw puzzle. Once I had it disassembled, I had to try to put all of the pieces in the trunk of a car, go to wherever I was going, and repeat the process in reverse. Travel scooters were easier to transport, but they were uncomfortable and scary to drive, I always felt like I was ready to tip over. Then I found the *So Lite™ Scooter*. Now there's nothing that can hold me back.

Years of work by innovative engineers have resulted in a scooter that's designed with seniors in mind. They created Electronic Stability Control (ESC) that makes it virtually impossible to tip over. If you try to turn too quickly, the scooter automatically slows down to prevent it from tipping over. The battery provides powerful energy at a fraction of the weight of most batteries. With its rugged yet lightweight aluminum frame, the *So Lite™ Scooter* is the most portable scooter ever—but it can hold up to 275 pounds—yet weighs only 40.8 pounds without the battery! What's more, it easily folds up for storage in a car seat, trunk or even on an airplane. It folds in seconds without tools and is safe



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SPORTS

Ty Smock: Coronado native, next Rory McIlroy?

At 15, Smock is ranked No. 1 in the San Diego Junior Golf Association for his division. He is among the youngest competitors in his league.

By SAM DATIN
The Coronado News

Despite just turning 15, Ty Smock is the No. 1-ranked player in the San Diego Junior Golf Association's boys 15 to 18 division. In November, Ty will be named player of the year for the San Diego Junior Golf Association.

Ty is a Coronado native and will attend Coronado High School for his first year this fall.

His father, Brian Smock, is a former PGA Tour player and the head golf instructor at Coronado Golf Course. Ty's great uncle, Ernie Gonzalez, was a successful PGA Tour member. It's safe to say golf runs in the family, but only by choice.

Brian Smock fell in love with the game watching his Uncle Ernie. Ty is painting a similar picture himself, following in the footsteps of his Dad.

Brian avoided pushing Ty to play golf, instead letting him gravitate to the game.

"He grew up playing all the other sports just like anyone else. But then at a certain point, he got captivated," said Brian.

A new arrival to the 15 to 18 age group, Ty is among the youngest competitors in this league. Despite this, he welcomes the challenge with open arms.

"The competition is better because kids are already committed to college. I like competing against them because it shows me how good I am," said Ty.

He models his game off his favorite player, Rory McIlroy, and it's easy to see why. Ty has developed an effort-



Ty Smock, Coronado native, will be named player of the year for the San Diego Junior Golf Association in November. Photo courtesy of Galen Banghart.



Ty Smock (left) and his father Brian Smock. Photo courtesy of Brian Smock.

less swing, as noted by his father. "He has an amazing swing. It's kind of like a textbook modern swing. He can also create power that kids his size and age can't," he said.

Despite his incredible talent, Brian believes Ty's most significant advantage lies within.

"He puts in the time and effort, you know; he's self-motivated," said Brian. At the end of the day, it's like anything else; it's what you put into it.

He puts the time in and he's got the talent—a great combination."

Ty possesses a great deal of talent at a young age. Ty has been playing in older age groups to increase his level of competition. He cannot win every round, which his dad believes is a good thing.

"Sometimes it's good not to have that initial success; you have to keep working at it. He's got a bunch of second, third and fourth place finishes

this year," said Brian. "He knows he's super close; regardless, he's put together a great year."

Colleges are keeping a close eye on Ty. Nonetheless, Ty chooses to tune out the noise.

"I still have a little ways to go until I can start getting recruited by colleges," said Ty.

Regardless of Ty's No. 1 ranking and the interest he's generating from colleges, he can play without pressure.

"The only pressure I face is on the first tee. After my first shot, I'm good," said Ty.

Perhaps the only pressure Ty deals with is trying to beat his dad. While Ty has yet to defeat his father in a round of 18, he's getting darn close.

"The last time we played, he kicked my butt for nine holes," said Brian.

The day is quickly approaching. But when will this day come?

"Very soon," answered Ty.

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SPORTS



Coronado Little League players hanging out with the Utah Marshalls during a doubleheader game in Salt Lake City. Photos courtesy of Kevin Gates.



Coronado Little League player Luke Baker goes through drills at a summer training facility in Salt Lake City.

Little Leaguers go to Cooperstown

» Continued from Page 1

inadvertently growing them into young men.

“I think it’s a matter of giving the kids some guidance...teaching them some values,” said Gates. “That’s the whole purpose of what we’re trying to do, make the kids better kids.”

The Marshall Gates Foundation was founded in 2004 and named after Gate’s late son, Marshall. Marshall was an avid baseball player and fan.

The foundation supports young,

talented players through training for national and international competitions. The foundation has seen the likes of many historic players including MVPs Bryce Harper and Kris Bryant.

This past week, the team of little leaguers traveled to Salt Lake City, Utah to attend the Major League Baseball Alumni Clinic for kids.

Former major league baseball players and the Utah Marshalls, dubbed “America’s Premier Summer Baseball Program, hosted the camp.

All Utah Marshalls in attendance

have either been drafted or are attending a major college baseball program, six of whom will report to the reigning national champions Louisiana State University this fall.

Following the clinic, the trip will first kick off in Boston, as the team plans to attend a Boston Red Sox game.

With the baseball juices flowing, the team will drive four hours to Cooperstown for the tournament.

The tournament will see 100 teams compete, with each team playing a minimum of six games.



Coronado Little League players work out at the Mountain West Training Facility.

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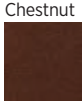
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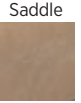
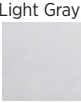
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Throughout the ages, there have been many important advances in mobility. Canes, walkers, rollators, and scooters were created to help people with mobility issues get around and retain their independence. Lately, however, there haven’t been any new improvements to these existing products or developments in this field. Until now. Recently, an innovative design engineer who’s developed one of the world’s most popular products created a completely new breakthrough . . . a personal electric vehicle. It’s called the *Zinger*, and there is nothing out there quite like it.

“What my wife especially loves is it gives her back feelings of safety and independence which has given a real boost to her confidence and happiness! Thank You!”
–Kent C., California

The first thing you’ll notice about the *Zinger* is its unique look. It doesn’t look like a scooter. Its sleek, lightweight yet durable frame is made with aircraft grade aluminum so it weighs only 47.2 lbs. It features one-touch folding and unfolding – when folded it can be wheeled around like a suitcase and fits easily into a



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The Zinger folds to a mere 10 inches.

backseat or trunk. Then, there are the steering levers. They enable the *Zinger* to move forward, backward, turn on a dime and even pull right up to a table or desk. With its compact yet powerful motor it can go up to 6 miles an hour and its rechargeable battery can go up to 8 miles on a single charge. With its low center of gravity and inflatable tires it can handle rugged terrain and is virtually tip-proof. Think about it, you can take your *Zinger* almost anywhere, so you don’t have to let mobility issues rule your life.

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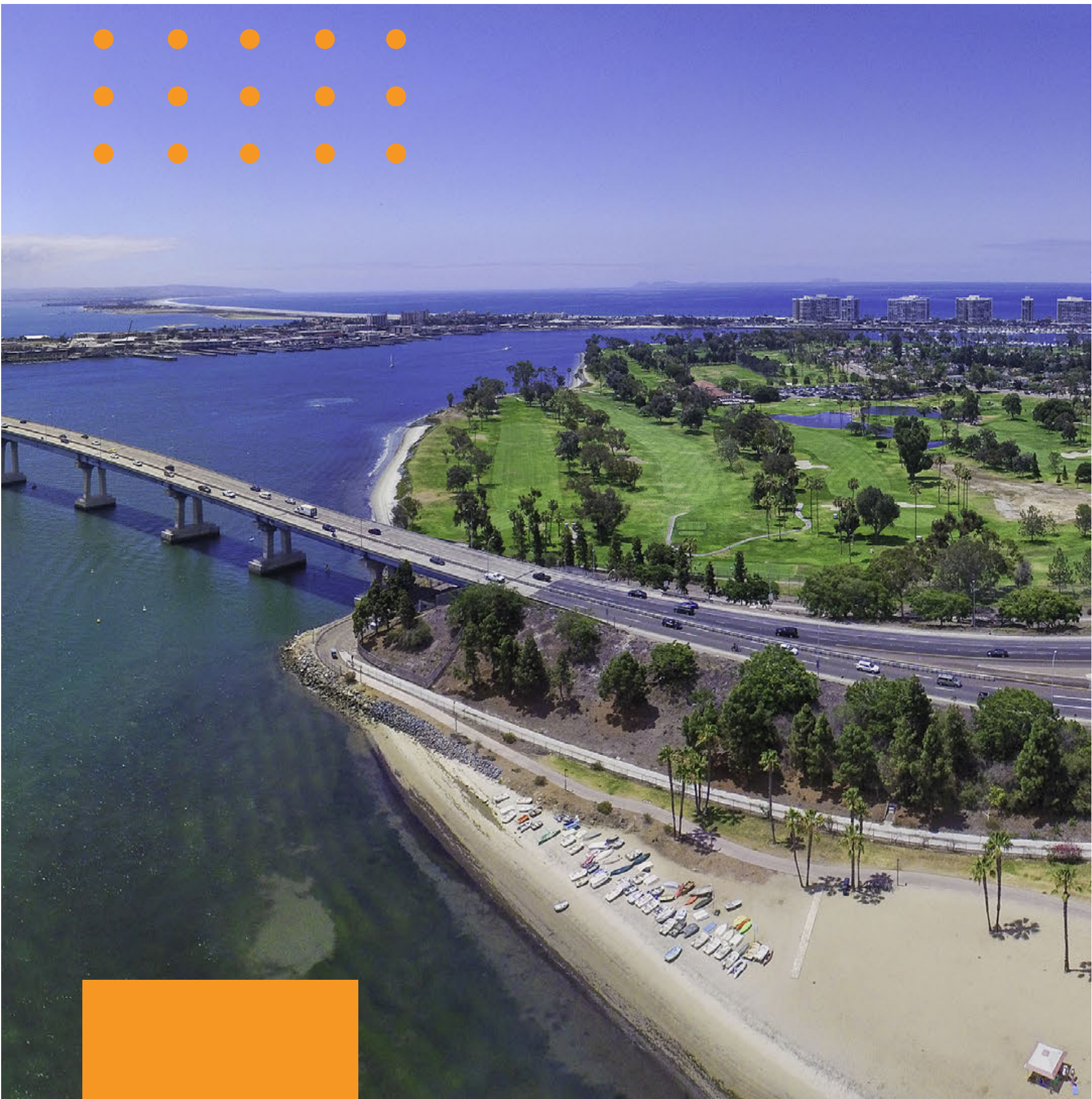
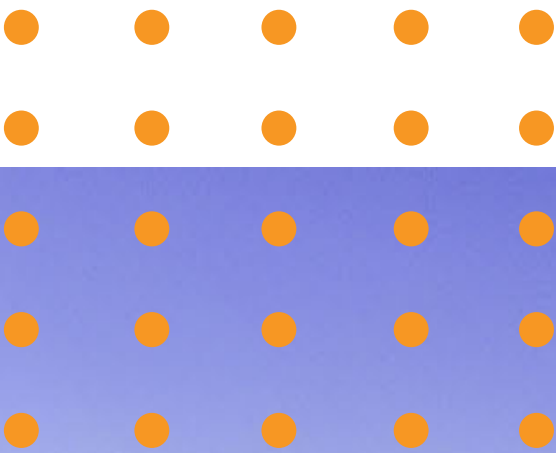


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PAWS of Coronado hosts its first summer camp and it is just a few PAWS away!



Join PAWS of Coronado for an unforgettable summer experience with the perfect blend of cuddles and education.

Summer is here and PAWS of Coronado is excited to launch its first summer camp, happening August 7-11th at the Coronado Animal Care Facility (1395 First Street). There are 5 fun-filled days planned, with two 3-hour sessions offered (AM & PM), designed to engage children ages 8-13 in hands-on activities that foster compassion and responsible pet ownership. With a focus on animal welfare and education, camp participants will have the opportunity to interact with our animals under the guidance of experienced & trained staff. Throughout the camp, they will learn about the needs of different animals (specifically dogs, cats, and small animals), how to provide basic care and the importance of love for our furry friends, and what PAWS of Coronado provides to our community. Activities will include feeding, cleaning, grooming, enrichment, training, medical care, and more!



We are excited to launch ‘PAWS Days of Summer’ camp offering children a chance to connect with animals and gain valuable knowledge about their care and well-being,” said Teresa Leighty, PAWS of Coronado Board President. “By instilling compassion and understanding at a young age, we hope to inspire the next generation of animal advocates and responsible pet owners.”

PAWS Days of Summer is guaranteed to be a camp your child loves! Registration is now open at www.pawsofcoronado.org/pawsdaysofsummer. SPACE IS LIMITED! For more information about “PAWS Days of Summer” or if you are interested in becoming a sponsor for our summer camp, please contact Jennifer Stein @ jennifer.stein@pawsofcoronado.org.