

County Supervisors declare emergency

San Diego County becomes latest entity to seek federal help on Tijuana sewage crisis

By JULIETA SOTO
The Coronado News

The San Diego County Board of Supervisors have declared a state of emergency regarding the ongoing Tijuana sewage crisis that has polluted the Pacific Ocean and closed beaches in Coronado and Imperial Beach. This resolution on June 27 seeks to ensure clean water for all fami-

lies, businesses, and visitors by asking federal and state governments to provide necessary funding to fix a problem that has occurred since the Great Depression. The issue has never been fixed because of decades of broken promises from U.S and Mexican officials, a Coronado News investigation has found. “The actions today are going to direct the (county) Chief Administrative Officer to assess the economic impacts resulting from the U.S.-Mexico border transboundary pollution environmental crisis and provide a

report to the board within 120 days to outline the extent of the economic consequences,” said Chairwoman Nora Vargas. The county also allocated additional funds to improve the situation. The City of San Diego and Imperial Beach also have declared local emergencies related to the economic and public health conditions posed by the ongoing Tijuana River pollution. Members of San Diego’s congressional delegation and children in Imperial Beach through a letter campaign also have urged President Biden to allocate more money to stop

a public health crisis that has sickened residents, U.S. Border Patrol agents and Navy SEALs in addition to shutting down beaches and hurting the economies of Coronado and Imperial Beach. The momentum for change comes after The Coronado News earlier this year published a five-part investigative series that examined the historical failures since 1934 of numerous politicians to stop the daily flow of tens of millions of gallons of raw sewage from Tijuana into the ocean.

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Up to 150,000 people soaked up a sun-kissed morning at the patriotic 74th annual parade to celebrate Independence Day



Grand Marshal U.S. Navy Vice Admiral Roy Kitchener makes his second appearance in the Coronado Fourth of July Parade. Staff photo by Madeline Yang.

Fourth of July Parade packs Orange Avenue

By SOFIE FRANSEN and MADELINE YANG
The Coronado News

Clydesdales dressed in red, white and blue gracefully clomped down Orange Avenue, their long, braided tails grazing the ground as they go. Small, hand-held American flags were scattered among crowd members, complimenting the full-sized flags waving in the light breeze. Artfully cleaned classic cars hummed down the city’s main drag, reminiscent of the days when those vehicles could be regularly spotted around Coronado, around the same time that the Coronado Fourth of July Parade made its debut. Welcome to the city’s 74th annual parade, a kickoff to a day’s worth of Independence Day events as 100,000 to 150,000 people came to Coronado to also enjoy the Navy Leap Frogs, concerts and fireworks,

» Continued on Page 10



Coronado Little League players walk in the Coronado Fourth of July Parade. Staff photo by Julieta Soto.

FOURTH OF JULY SPECIAL COVERAGE INSIDE

- More photos from the parade. PAGES 10-11
- See the list of parade winners. PAGE 11
- Visit our web page at thecoronadonews.com/fourth-of-july for more.

Resident sues for access at Coronado Yacht Club

By MADELINE YANG
The Coronado News

Longtime Coronado resident and lawyer Matthew Herron is picking a legal fight with the Coronado Yacht Club for not allowing public access to the facility that overlooks Glorietta Bay on Strand Way. The Yacht Club, which limits its membership to 650 people, claims Herron “allegedly accosted a female” member, which resulted in him getting kicked out in 2018 after a 20-year relationship, according to legal records filed in San Diego County Superior Court. The Yacht Club, which has been around since Franklin D. Roosevelt was first elected, stated that this could be the reason why Herron decided to file a complaint. Herron, who is representing himself, filed suit earlier this year when the Yacht Club and Port of San Diego, which manages the public property, were given a Petition for Writ of Mandate. Herron says the Coronado Yacht Club is exclusivity at its finest, only allowing paid members onto the property to use their boat slips and other features on public land. Herron points to a California Coastal Commission ruling in March 2018 that says “the existing structure is located on public tidelands, yet has historically blocked any physical opportunity for the general public to ac-

» Continued on Page 12



Longtime Coronado resident Matthew Herron is suing the Coronado Yacht Club for not allowing public access to the facility that overlooks Glorietta Bay on Strand Way. Staff photo by Craig Harris.

CORONADO

CORONADO LOVE LETTER

Meet Cynthia Kosciuczyk

By **FIONA RASAK**
The Coronado News

Most people go to college, pick a career field, and stick with it till they retire.

But that’s not Cynthia Kosciuczyk. The Coronado woman is a life-long jack of all trades.

She is an author and has written several books including “My Odyssey,” “Weaving Life,” and “The Energi4U Program, which discuss how she turned her chronic health condition into what she calls her “superpower.”

Aside from being an author, in 2007 she lived in the Adams Avenue area and had an art gallery.

While she was walking around the area supporting local business at an artist event, she walked into an office that had the Optimist Creed, a short, motivational 1912 writing from Christian D. Larson, hanging on it.

Kosciuczyk was impressed and went to several meetings and now

belongs to the Optimist Club of Coronado, which supports over 50 organizations.

“The Optimists are so community minded, and that’s how I ended up in Coronado because it is a small town feel but I am close to the water,” she said.

Kosciuczyk also had a radio show in 2010 for Art, Music, and Culture which she said led her to be the program director for the Optimist Club.

As club program director, Kosciuczyk said she is able to meet and get to know a lot of people in the community because she picks the speakers every week.

She has also a big passion in supporting the youth.

She started her life as a scientist and went to an engineering school where she earned a degree in bio-



Cynthia Kosciuczyk

chemistry. Kosciuczyk said she did immunology research when she got out of school and also helped in AIDS Research. She also has spent time living in Greece, where she was a substitute teacher and worked in a textile factory and even opened a commercial bakery.

Kosciuczyk said she had a very successful baking business for about 10 years where she was a supplier for restaurants and made bagels, carrot cakes and cheesecakes.

Kosciuczyk then found herself back and forth from Greece, where she worked at a spice factory.

She then came back to San Diego and began working in Persian rugs for about 15 years.

Kosciuczyk also went back to school and earned a Master of Business Administration from the University of Phoenix, and she’s worked at a Naval hospital.

Currently, five days a week she works in flooring while also working in software and writing.

this week

11 • tuesday

The Coronado Public Library continues its activities for youth as part of its Summer Reading Program in the Ruby Room at 2 p.m. This event will be Sticker-Resist '90s Tee Shirts. Using cool stickers, make a color-resist 1990s-inspired tee shirt. Shirts will be provided (while supplies last). Fabric dying can get messy, so please dress in clothes you don't mind staining.

12 • wednesday

Teen Summer Reading Event at 2 p.m. at The Coronado Public Library. This event is Crystal Dig. Keep the crystals you excavate, then race against other participants to identify the rocks and minerals to win a prize. Teen events are for those entering or finishing grades 6-12.

14 • friday

Concert by the JourneyBirds in the Winn Room. Blending harmony over acoustic guitar, and ukulele with live looping and sampling, The JourneyBirds (Keila-Rae and David Jensen) create fresh arrangements of favorite songs both classic and current. Having been described as Woodstock by way of Nashville, their extensive repertoire allows the JourneyBirds to effortlessly shift between musical genres: folk, pop, rock, island, California country, oldies, Top 40, and Americana, imbuing each song with an upbeat alt-folky makeover. Doors will open 15 minutes prior to performance at 1 p.m.

CONTACT US

For news tips, story submissions and letters to the editor, contact Editor Craig Harris at craig@thecoronadonews.com or 602-509-3613

To advertise contact Ad Executive Braeden Stegman at braeden@thecoronadonews.com

Pet of the Week: Here’s Blossom!

Meet Blossom, an energetic “partner-in-crime.” PAWS of Coronado says Blossom’s vibrant personality is only outshined by her genuine love for her people.

Blossom has a smile that lights up every room she enters, but our favorite trait about Blossom is her tail. When Blossom wags her tail, her entire body comes alive with joy. With her infectious spirit, zest for life, and unwavering loyalty, she is eager to become a part of your family. Apply to adopt Blossom today!

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Meet Blossom! This loving canine is available for adoption at PAWS of Coronado. Courtesy of PAWS.

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Coronado Beach Resort is a vacation ownership property located on Orange Avenue across the street from the iconic Hotel Del. Units can be purchased by the week (or weeks) in a studio, one or two bedroom condo. Your use will be guaranteed year after year for that week as long as you own it, for a one time purchase price.

These weeks are deeded property and can either be resold or handed down in your estate. Ownership weeks also allow you to either trade your week into other properties globally or rent it out and collect rental proceeds. Currently there are a limited number of weeks available priced as low as \$8,990 per week.

We have many local resident owners as well that purchase weeks to use as a guest suite to host family or friends when they come to visit. Ownership gives you year round access to the spa deck and fitness center as well as complimentary use of the beach cruiser bikes and beach equipment. Additionally, during your ownership week(s) you can enjoy complimentary access to the amenities at Lowe’s Coronado Bay Resort.

For more information on how to purchase your home away from home in Coronado please contact Meaghan Farley at (760)715-9800 (call or text) or at mfarley@gpresorts.com.*



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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



Are you vested?

Since real property is arguably the most valuable asset you will own in your lifetime, it is important to understand exactly how you hold title to your property.

The way that you hold the title, or rather, how you are vested, determines everything that you can do with your property in your lifetime and after.

That’s a big statement.

Broken down, it means that the form of vesting will determine who can sign documents such as real property taxes, income taxes, inheritance and gift taxes, transferability of title and exposure to creditor’s claims.

The way that a property is vested also has implications for whether or not a probate will be needed after death.

The California Land Title Association recommends buyers carefully consider how their title will be vested when it comes time to purchase.

As your trusted real estate agent, it should be important to note that I can not recommend a specific form of ownership, since that would constitute practicing law. For legal or tax advice, it is recommended to consult with an attorney and/or your tax advisor.

I can, however, identify the many methods of owning property for informational purposes, and I am here to help you answer a vital question: How are you vested?

Let’s take a look at the two common ways of holding titles — sole ownership and co-ownership.

With sole ownership, an individual can acquire a title in his or her name whether in a relationship or not. These are the three qualifiers of sole ownership:

- A single individual who is not legally married or in a partnership.
- A married individual who desires title in his or her own name (with relinquishment from the spouse).
- A domestic partner who desires title in his or her own name (again with relinquishment from the spouse).

With co-ownership, there are a few ways that a property may be vested under the names of two or more people.

- Community property: Unless otherwise stated, property owned by married couples and partners is assumed to be considered community property. Here, the property is owned equally between the parties and all important documents are signed together.
- Community property with right of survivorship: this form of vesting is exactly the same as a community property with one distinction—after the death of an owner, the interest passes to the surviving owner, granting them ownership of all interests in the property.
- Joint Tenancy: A joint tenancy gives equal rights and ownership to all parties, and upon the co-owner’s death, the survivor’s interest cannot be disposed of by will.
- Tenancy in Common: The ownership in this form of vesting can be divided up into any number of interests, equal or unequal. Each tenant owns a share of the property and is entitled to a portion of the income from the property.

In addition to sole ownership and co-ownership, a property title may be vested by a corporation, a partnership, trustees of a trust and LLC’s.

As always, I am here to provide you with educational pieces to keep you informed about key details concerning property ownership.

Don’t hesitate to reach out at 619-568-0568 or info@simonerealestategroup.com if you have any questions, or if you have educational topics you would like to be discussed in the future.

I am always here to help answer any questions and keep you in the loop on the world of real estate.

-Corey

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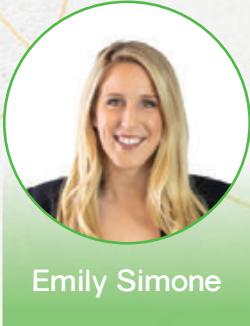
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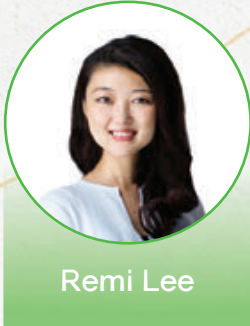
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OPINION

OP-ED

The art of being a good houseguest

By JANE MACDOUGALL

A well-appointed guest bedroom is a glorious thing. It speaks of the finest of human expression. Hospitality. Geniality. Connection.

A guest bedroom, however, can also leave you in the crosshairs of expert freeloaders.

Your guest bedroom can become a public amenity.

Being able to accommodate can be interpreted as an obligation to accommodate.

Palm trees, ski hills, cruise ship terminals — these place you at elevated risk of being highly attractive to opportunists. Golf courses, discount malls, the “Great White Way” — attractions like these leave you vulnerable to the guileful. Miraculously, these problems evaporate if you move to sleepy Fond-du-Lac, Saskatchewan.

For a while, I lived in Boca Raton, Fla. For a couple of years I lived in Greenwich, Conn. Boca Raton lured with relentless sun; Greenwich is a bedroom community to the playground that is Manhattan.

Our guest bedroom was a popular destination. We were wildly popular. A quick finger count reveals that we had close to two dozen guests during these few years. Some of these guests were ideal. Some of them I smothered in their sleep and buried in the backyard.

I had to. If you decide to pop popcorn in your host’s kitchen at three in the morning, well, you take your chances.

But the good houseguests made it all worthwhile.

They arrived with plans that allowed the household to carry on with its necessary business. I might take the first day to show them the sights, but they were well able to manage without me.

They pitched in with dishes and cooking. Bottles of wine would materialize on the kitchen counter. There was a quid pro quo of reciprocal



The good houseguests made it all worthwhile. They arrived with plans that allowed the household to carry on.
Stock photo

restaurant meals in South Beach. We might take them to Madison Square Gardens for a game, they’d take us to see a Broadway show.

They’d bring home coffee beans and bagels; I’d lay in lox and cream cheese. At some point during the visit, there would be the opportunity for quiet conversation wherein confidences were exchanged and the relationship deepened.

You’d bid each other “good night” at the top of the stairs and feel all warm and fuzzy about your relationship. When they left, the bath and bed linens were deposited in the laundry room and a florist delivered flowers the following day. We missed them when they were gone.

And then there were the other ones.

The ones who sat expectantly at the breakfast table and asked what the plans were for the day.

The ones who only ate non-GMO chia seeds with oat milk but who had

failed to mention this.

The ones who would make themselves Reuben sandwiches and leave sauerkraut, corned beef, mustard and frying pans on the counter waiting for the kitchen fairy to clean up.

The one who made popcorn at three in the morning — Oh, did I wake you?! — explaining something about jet lag and time zones. The ones who took half-hour showers and who were disappointed the towels weren’t organic cotton.

Being a good houseguest

Being a good houseguest takes a bit of scholarship. You can’t just presume that you’re doing it well.

Newspapers used to offer etiquette columns that helped us learn the ropes for so many social situations but the information can still be found. And maybe it’s not a bad idea to keep the existence of your guestroom on the downlow. At the very

least, no one could blame you for having a preemptive excuse at the ready. After all, even Confucius acknowledged the complexities around hosting guests.

“Every houseguest brings you happiness. Some, when they arrive and others, when they are leaving.”

QUESTION: What makes a good houseguest? Any horror stories to share? Email Jane at booklessclubusa@gmail.com.

Jane MacDougall is a Canadian journalist who has worked in the newspaper, radio, TV and film industries. Her columns have appeared in a variety of publications in Canada, including the *National Post*, as well as in the U.S. (She is also a trained chef who recently appeared on Sara Moulton’s PBS show, *Sara’s Weeknight Meals*.) You can email Jane at booklessclubusa@gmail.com and visit her website at <https://janemacdougall.com>.

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

Two appointed to Discover Coronado board

Coronado News staff

The Coronado City Council recently appointed two businesswomen to the advisory board of Discover Coronado, the city's official destination marketing organization.

The appointees are Colleen Cavallieri, owner/operator of Coronado Tasting Room and vomFass Coronado, and Christine Stokes, executive director of the Coronado Historical Association.

Cavaliere, a longtime resident of the Coronado Cays, will serve as an at-large board member, joining David Spatafore, another non-hotelier, in the same capacity.

Cavalieri will represent small business owners on the island while Spatafore represents Coronado's array of restaurants, cafés and eateries.

Stokes, who joined the historical association in 2016, replaces Dave Landon, whose term on Discover Coronado ended June 30.

Stokes oversees programming at CHA's museum as well as its advocacy for preservation in the commu-



Christine Stokes, left, and Colleen Cavalieri, right, after being sworn on to the advisory board of Discover Coronado. *Photo courtesy of Discover Coronado.*

nity. She will represent residents and property owners who cherish the his-

tory of Coronado Island.

Although overnight hotel guests

pay the assessment that funds Discover Coronado, the organization features a board majority of non-hotel representatives.

Only four of the nine seats on the Discover Coronado Advisory Board are held by hotel operators, including the Hotel del Coronado, Loews Coronado Bay Resort, Coronado Island Marriott Resort and the Glorietta Bay Inn. Together, the nine-person advisory board promotes Coronado as an ideal destination for group meetings and leisure hotel visits during the off-season.

Overnight guests pay a 10% transient occupancy tax which is the second largest source of funding for the City of Coronado, about \$16 million annually.

Discover Coronado advisory board meetings are open to the public and are held the first Thursday of each month in Council Chambers at Coronado City Hall.

Discover Coronado was founded in 2010. For information on the economic impact of Discover Coronado, visit www.discovercoronado.com/impact.

Badge sales for Coronado Island Film Festival opens July 10

By SOFIE FRANSEN
The Coronado News

The eighth season of the Coronado Island Film Festival, celebrating the power of cinema and showcasing a solid lineup of films, is kicking off with the opening of badge sales on Monday, July 10.

The annual festival, held over five days from Nov. 8 to 12, is a must-attend event packed with engagements, according to organizers.

Not only will the film festival premiere screenings, panels, parties and

the Leonard Maltin Industry Tribute Awards Gala at Loews Coronado Bay Resort, but it is also an amazing networking opportunity for professionals in the entertainment industry, organizers said.

Attendees can mingle with industry leaders including Festival Host and Honorary Jury President Leonard Maltin. The Industry Tribute Awards Gala will honor emerging talent, cultural icons, humanitarians and legendary actors.

In past years, red carpet films such as “Women Talking” and “Jojo Rabbit”

have gone on to win Academy Awards.

The all-inclusive Emerald Badge is recommended to experience every ounce that the Coronado Island Film Festival has to offer, organizers say.

It includes: Early reservations of films, priority line entry, parties, the Kick-off Bash, Opening Night Film + After Party, panels, Master Lab Workshops, Jury Awards, the Culinary Cinema Series and weekend happy hours.

The Industry badge is reserved for professionals in the entertainment and media industries, offering everything that the Emerald Badge features

at a discounted rate.

Those who qualify can visit the website to submit credentialing.

While badges are recommended for a full, all-inclusive experience complete with a priority entry line and after party, individual tickets will be sold online or at the festival box closer to the festival date.

Organizers said to make sure not to miss out on any of the festivities, badges should be purchased when they open for sale on July 10.

For more information go to <https://coronadofilmfest.com/>



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Answer: Napa

3. CLOSET REGION TO SAN DIEGO KNOWN FOR SYRAH.

Answer: Temecula

4. HERE YOU CAN DRINK WINE WHILE WATCHING WHALES.

Answer: Monterey



DAVE'S FAVE'S THIS WEEK IS A BIG BOLD POWERFUL GSM BLEND! NOT FOR THE TIMID, HOWEVER, NOTES OF BLACKBERRY, PEPPER, CHERRY AND CINNAMON ARE PRONOUNCED. A DECANTER GOLD WINNER.

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County Supervisors declare emergency

» Continued from Page 1

The county’s declaration, while largely symbolic, is hoped to expedite more funding to infrastructure projects that correspond to what’s called Minute 328, a binational agreement with the purpose of reducing the transboundary pollution stemming from the Tijuana River Valley.

The Coronado News found one of the biggest problems is Tijuana’s major sewage plant in Punta Bandera constantly fails and the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant, which hugs the U.S.-Mexico border, cannot handle the overflow of waste coming from a city where large pockets of homes have no sewage pipes.

Vice Chair Terra Lawson-Remer, whose district includes Coronado, said that the county has garnered more than 2,300 petition signers calling for a federal state of emergency.

“Today marks a key moment in a long battle to protect our beaches and coastline,” said Lawson-Remer. “A federal emergency lets Mexico know that Punta Bandera must be fixed, and it’s not just a San Diego issue, it’s a major national priority of the United States of America.”

She added that the resolution should streamline the allocation and expenditure of secured critical funds to get shovels in the ground immediately and put pressure on the Mexican government.

With much ballyhoo, the United States and Mexico last summer announced they had agreed to spend \$474 million to collectively address the “Tijuana sewage problem,” with the U.S picking up nearly 70% of the tab. Yet, officials told The Coronado News that close to \$1 billion is needed.

At a hearing on June 27, community members voiced their support



Imperial Beach Mayor Paloma Aguirre addresses the San Diego County Board of Supervisors in support of the state of emergency proposal during a meeting on June 27. Staff photo by Julieta Soto.

and opposition about the proposal pushed forward by Vargas and Lawson-Remer that would mitigate cross-border sewage flow that spans along a 70-mile coastline

Among those in support were City of Imperial Beach Mayor Paloma Aguirre and Council Member Jack Fisher.

Others in favor included San Diego and Imperial Beach residents as well as representatives from YMCA Camp Surf, WILDCOAST, Outdoor Outreach, Surfrider Foundation, San Diego Coastkeeper, Port of San Diego, San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce, state Sen. Catherine Blake-spear’s district office in San Diego, and Emerald Keepers of Coronado.

Leon Benham, an Imperial Beach resident, agreed that more money is needed.

However, he said his opposition for the declaration was the most recent U.S.-Mexico agreement may bring more offshore sewage to Imperial Beach. Other speakers in opposition said they favored border crossing shutdowns and limiting commerce to encourage a more immediate response from Mexico.

County allocates water quality funds

Meanwhile, the county also approved a \$8.11 billion budget, which includes improving water quality in the Tijuana River Valley.

“This budget provides significant increases to programs that help lift up our communities,” Lawson-Remer said. “We also will continue to build and improve community infrastructure and protect our beaches, waterways, and other unique environmental resources.”

The vote follows a press conference last week in which Vargas said communication with Mexican officials continues, but what is truly needed is that the Biden administration considers this environmental crisis a priority. “We’ve never declared a state emergency for the Tijuana River Valley,” said Vargas. “The goal is that we’re able to advocate for additional dollars from the federal government and really prioritize the work that so many of us have been doing for decades.”

Meanwhile, a letter writing campaign in the South Bay Union School District allowed elementary school

students participating in a three-week summer Intersession program, set to conclude this month, to share how the sewage contamination in Imperial Beach has personally affected them.

Fisher proposed this initiative in May and according to Aguirre and the SBUSD Extended Learning program, those letters will be mailed to the White House this week.

“I hope that we continue to send boxes or envelopes worth of those from our children in this region to the White House,” Fisher told the Coronado News. “They’ll see them consistently – not just one time – and then they can put it to the side and ignore it if they choose to, which I don’t think they’re willing to, we can’t ignore children.”

The county’s emergency declaration mirrors Imperial Beach’s efforts.

“We’re going to see some influence happen at the right level, which is in Washington, D.C.,” said Fisher. “It’s going to cost less the sooner that we do it, just because we see inflation and prices of materials continue to go up.”

In terms of Imperial Beach closing its beaches, they will continue to be closed until this project is finished, he added.

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brunch noun

ˈbrʌntʃ

: a meal usually taken late in the morning that combines a late breakfast and an early lunch.

Also defined as: An excuse to have breakfast at 11 am; a reason to look chic on Saturday or Sunday morning; the reason the Mimosa’s exist.



Chez Loma is now offering brunch service every Saturday and Sunday from 9:00 am to 1:30 pm. Our brunch dining space on the second floor is designed with sophistication and style in mind, featuring an abundance of natural light and a refined, white linen classic ambiance.

Our brunch menu is carefully curated with the finest ingredients and flavors to bring you a memorable and satisfying dining experience at a great value. From classic breakfast dishes to innovative seasonal creation. Our bar will be open as well and will feature specialty cocktails for you to enjoy. Our menu truly offers something for everyone to enjoy.

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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Activists in Tijuana inform the public about sewage-contaminated waters

By JULIETA SOTO
The Coronado News

A group of environmentalists in Tijuana walked among beach-goers with signs about the ongoing Tijuana sewage crisis encouraging them to take action on July 2.

That Sunday morning, Tijuana Animal Rights organized a beach cleanup and demonstration to raise awareness of ocean contamination at Playas de Tijuana, with outreach efforts to enact the Plant-Based Treaty in the city among families who enjoyed a day at the beach.

The event included more than 20 volunteers and local activists cleaning the beach by sorting out plastics and other trash found using handheld strainers.

According to Tijuana Animal Save organizers, residents and beach visitors were directed to contact Baja California Governor Marina del Pilar Ávila on social media, urging her to start immediate repairs on much-needed infrastructure.

Posters also called on the Mayor of Tijuana, Montserrat Caballero, for help regarding negligent bleach closures.

Organizers said those in attendance witnessed dolphins swimming near the shore and one community member highlighted the increased number of dead animals on shore due to untreated waste.

In a statement following the event, Tijuana Animal Save addressed the local government: “We are simply asking for the government to do the job afforded by the taxpayers. Their job is to keep us safe. Their failure to address this issue over the last few decades has impacted many lives. They need to act now!”

Last week, the San Diego County Board of Supervisors declared a state of emergency regarding the transboundary pollution that has contaminated the Pacific Ocean and closed beaches



Above: Tijuana Animal Save hosts beach cleanup and demonstration July 2 in Playas de Tijuana.

Left: A volunteer shares information with beach-goers during the cleanup.

Photos courtesy of Andrea Diaz.

in Coronado and Imperial Beach.

Tijuana Resident and organizer Andrea Diaz considers dangerous levels of sewage dumped into the ocean a concern among animal rights activists like herself.

“The damage to wildlife and their ecosystems has yet to be examined,” said Diaz. “In addition to this, people on both sides of the border are getting sick. Many people come from other parts of Mexico and Latin America who are entirely in the dark about the issues. The

Tijuana government isn’t educating the public on the real dangers.”

Regarding subsequent efforts working to mitigate the sewage crisis, Diaz said they are in the works for future events to begin taking place in Tijuana later this month.

The organization is also working to partner with San Diego Animal Save, the San Diego extension of The Save Movement, to expand efforts for the Plant-Based Treaty, a multi-step plan addressing climate issues.

Feds set to hold public meeting on July 12

By CRAIG HARRIS
The Coronado News

Concerned about the Tijuana sewage crisis and beach closures in Coronado?

The United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission is inviting the public to a meeting regarding the health crisis at the Coronado Community Center on July 12.

The two-hour meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. in the Triton Room at 1845 Strand Way.

The meeting will include a presentation from Morgan Rogers, the area operations manager who oversees the international wastewater treatment plant on the U.S.-Mexico border.

Oscar Romo, executive director of binational conservation group Alter Terra, will discuss proposed trash booms across the Tijuana River, and community members will have time to comment.

The Coronado News earlier this year wrote a five-part investigative series that examined the myriad number of broken promises by U.S. and Mexican officials since the Great Depression over fixing Tijuana’s sewage problem that has resulted in a polluted Pacific Ocean and beach closures.

The newspaper also found how the crisis has sickened residents, beachgoers, U.S. Border Patrol agents and Navy SEALs.



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74TH ANNUAL FOURTH OF JULY PARADE



Escondido Mounted Posse going through the Fourth of July parade. Staff photo by Madeline Yang.



Families sit together along Orange Avenue on Tuesday. Staff photo by Madeline Yang.

Coronado tradition fills Orange Avenue

» Continued from Page 1

according to Coronado Fourth of July President Robert Kracht.

Hours before the sun rose, people parked their blankets, chairs, tents, food tables and a brave, designated representative from their group to save spots along the median of Orange Avenue.

Before the speakers came to life with loud music and kids filled the streets with chalk, dedicated parade-watchers waited along the median, a few capitalizing on the momentary quiet for a nap.

A couple of watchers even came prepared with a chess board and cards.

Jonathan Pettit, 11, and his dad Jason Pettit, a longtime Coronado resident, were the designated spot savers for their group of 30 people.

For a group that large, they decided to set up camp at 3 a.m.

“We get here at three o’clock because a lot of people now are coming here a lot earlier because it’s getting harder to get a spot on the median,” Jonathan Pettit said. “A few years ago, we were coming at 3:30 a.m. and then [one time] we came here at 2:30 a.m.”

Jason Pettit has lived on the island since he was in third grade. He can attest to a time when people would camp out overnight.

Another Coronado local, Rikki Navarro, came prepared with every piece of Americana decor in her possession to enhance her stake out spot.

Underneath her wide brimmed hat, Navarro smiles and reflected on her love for the parade.

She has been a Coronado local for over 20 years, and has been attending the parade for nearly an equal amount of time.

“I love the Coronado parade on the Fourth of July,” Navarro said. “I just love how the community can come together.”

The parade itself was brought together more than just the community.

Classic cars, military jeeps, Clydsdale horses, miniature ponies, clowns and even a Tom Cruise look-alike strolled down the parade route.

A total of 115 parade entrants made

“I love the Coronado parade on the Fourth of July. I just love how the community can come together.”

– Rikki Navarro, Coronado local

a debut down the heart of Coronado.

Each vehicle carried important people, and all of those people were outfitted in red, white and blue.

A sleek black convertible shines in the sun, red leather seats and trim surrounding the double “R” logo sitting pretty in the middle of the steering wheel. It’s a 2020 Rolls-Royce Dawn and in it sits something — or someone — even more unique.

He is Grand Marshal Roy Kitchener, and he is the Commander of Naval Surface Forces for the U.S. Pacific Fleet. It’s his second time in the Coronado Fourth of July Parade.

Looking sharp in his Service Dress Whites, he sits on the top of the leather seats, his uniform standing out among the black and red of the Rolls-Royce. His wife, Sharon, sits next to him.

“I’m coming up on my retirement... If I was staying, you bet I would [continue in the parade],” Kitchener said.

He says he loves being a part of this day.

At the front and leading Kitchener with the rest of the parade is the Chief of the Coronado Police Department, Chuck Kaye, who has been the front of the parade for four years.

“I’m pretty shy,” Kaye said with a laugh. “But it’s a lot of fun. People are just out here to have a good time.”

When the parade starts, he saunters onto Orange Avenue, waving at the crowd with ease.

The crowd is relaxed, enjoying the sun and the company, and the Coronado Fourth of July pulled off another successful 4th of July parade.



Fourth of July Parade watchers gathered early on Tuesday morning to watch the 74th annual event. Staff photos by Madeline Yang.



A giant flag is carried during the Coronado Fourth of July Parade. Staff photo by Julieta Soto.



Sunny, one of the horses in the Escondido Mounted Posse. It was her first time in the parade. Staff photo by Madeline Yang.



Coronado Chief of Police Chuck Kaye leading the parade. Staff photo by Madeline Yang.



ABOVE: Clowns were a big part of the Coronado Fourth of July Parade.



RIGHT: Canine Companions greeting the crowd during the Coronado Fourth of July Parade.

Staff photos by Julieta Soto.



Onlookers who arrived early to secure their spots nap while they wait for the parade. Staff photo by Madeline Yang.



A Tom Cruise look alike goes through the Coronado Fourth of July Parade. Staff photo by Madeline Yang.

Coronado Fourth of July Parade winners

Judges' Special Award: City Staff

Sweepstakes Winners
The Andy Szymanski
“Mr. 4th of July” Sweepstakes:
Coronado Rotary Club.

Admiral James B. Stockdale
Sweepstakes: Force-Con 2023

Coronado Categories
John D. Spreckels Award:
Coronado Rotary Club.

Coronado Freedom Award:
California's Tom Cruise.

Military Categories
Military Heroes Award:
Force-Con 2023

Glenn Curtiss Liberty Award: PRC
Composites, LLC, San Diego County

Other Than Coronado
or Military Category
The Independence Award:
Kingdom of Terre Neuve, San Diego

Resident sues for access at Coronado Yacht Club

» Continued from Page 1

cess the site.”

While the Coastal Commission, a state agency with quasi-judical control of land and public access along the state’s 1,100 miles of coastline, wants the club to provide public access to it, the Yacht Club has managed to avoid that for at least the last decade or so, Herron said.

So, that’s why he said he’s filed the complaint.

The petition was filed in February of this year, and the demurrer in May.

There’s a little bit of history to know before getting into the petition filed by Herron against the club and the Port.

Since its inception in 1932, the Yacht Club and the areas surrounding it – the shoreline, the bay and the ocean, belonged to the City of Coronado until the Port system was created.

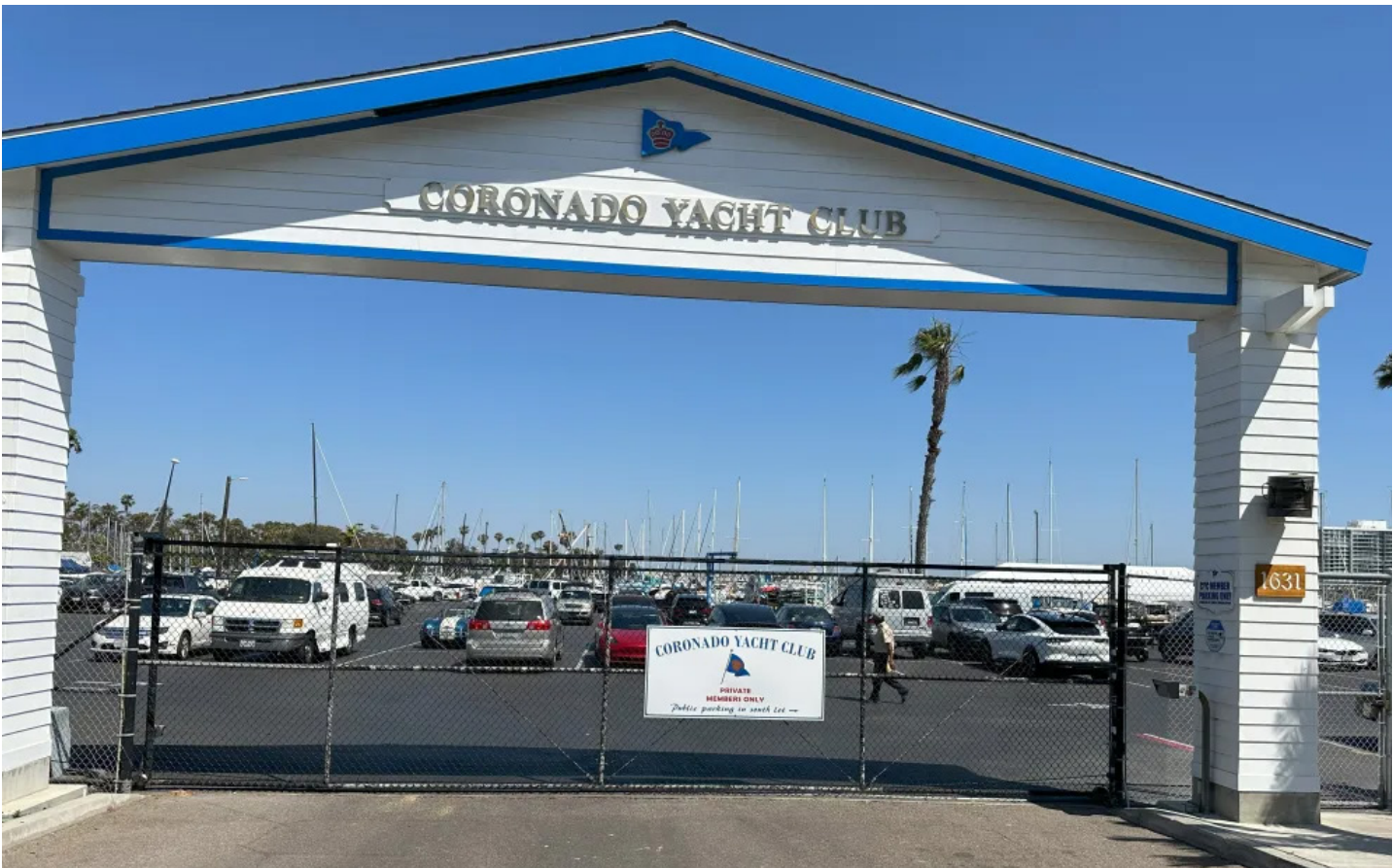
The Port of San Diego was then established in 1962 wherein the yacht club entered into a long-term lease agreement that lasted 40 years.

That deal ended in 2011 and since then, the Yacht Club has been in short-term leases with the Port, each lasting about 4 to 5 years.

“To get a long-term lease, you have to commit to a substantial improvement. In this instance, the improvement was a replacement of the clubhouse,” Herron said in an interview with The Coronado News. “And that’s when the Coastal Commission said it triggered the need to allow the public access, at least through the property.”

The Yacht Club entered into these short term leases with the Port of San Diego in order to avoid building this pathway that was open to the public, Herron says.

However, in the Port and Coronado Yacht Club’s legal response or demurrer to Herron’s petition, it says, “No-



Above: Longtime Coronado resident Matthew Herron is suing the Coronado Yacht Club for not allowing public access to the facility that overlooks Glorietta Bay on Strand Way.

Left: The back side of the Coronado Yacht Club.

Staff photos by Craig Harris

where does the [San Diego Port District Act] state, or even suggest, that private operations on District Property must allow access to the ‘general public.’”

A demurrer tests the legal sufficiency of the pleader, and the entire demurrer claims that Herron’s petition holds no legal basis.

“There is no conflict between the Trust and uses of Trust property that necessarily exclude general public access to the land,” says the demurrer, although the demurrer does include that the Port and the Yacht Club

do not contest that the Yacht Club is subject to the Public Trust Doctrine.

The Public Trust Doctrine, according to the California State Lands Commission, is to, “[protect] sovereign lands, such as tide and submerged lands and the beds of navigable waterways, for the benefit, use and enjoyment of the public.”

Port officials said they had no comment other than what was mentioned in its legal filing.

The Yacht Club had raised money in 2010 for a new clubhouse, because the

current building consists of two structures from the World War II era. Even though the Yacht Club raised the money, nothing has been done to build it because of building requirements from the Coastal Commission, Herron said.

In a 2013 newsletter from the Yacht Club to its members, a report from Rick Odiorne, commodore of the organization, states: “We are proceeding with the clubhouse portion of our project which will be slightly smaller...to be exempt from the Coastal Commission requirements.” The newsletters, named the Whiskerpole, mentions throughout the years the problems and issues associated with the lease and the clubhouse.

The Yacht Club gave no comment.



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NAVY

Nimitz carrier strike group returns to San Diego after its deployment

Defense Visual Information
Distribution Service

Ships from the Nimitz Carrier Strike Group returned to San Diego on June 28, concluding a seven-month deployment to U.S. 3rd and 7th Fleet areas of operations.

U.S. 7th Fleet is the U.S. Navy’s largest forward-deployed numbered fleet.

Sailors assigned to Ticonderoga-class guided-missile cruiser USS Bunker Hill, Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Decatur and the embarked air wing of Carrier Air Wing 17 returned home with the arrival of USS Nimitz in San Diego.

Nimitz will depart San Diego for its return to homeport in Bremerton, Wash. at a later date, Navy officials said.

Hawaii-based ships attached to Carrier Strike Group 11, Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyers USS Chung-Hoon and USS Wayne E. Meyer, returned to homeport on June 20 and 27, respectively.

“For seven months, the Nimitz Carrier Strike Group demonstrated our ironclad commitment to partners and allies in the Indo-Pacific region,” said Rear Adm. Jennifer Couture, commander, CSG-11.

“During this deployment, Sailors of every rank and rate displayed a vigorous work ethic and a humble devotion to duty and I want to thank them and their families for their sacrifice... Our strike group returns home stronger, smarter, and more resilient than ever before.”

While in the U.S. 7th Fleet AO, CSG-11 conducted deterrence and presence operations; multinational



An E/A-18G Growler from the “Cougars” of Electronic Attack Squadron (VAQ) 139 launches from the flight deck of the aircraft carrier USS Nimitz (CVN 68) during the fly-off for aircraft from Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 17 concluding a seven-month deployment to U.S. 3rd and 7th Fleet areas of operations (AO). U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Joseph Calabrese.

exercises; integrated multi-domain training; long-range maritime strike exercises; anti-submarine warfare; information warfare operations; air defense operations; multiple ship navigation; and formation maneuvering and refueling-at-sea operations.

Nimitz executed six port calls – Guam; Singapore; Busan, South Korea; Laem Shabang, Thailand; Sasebo, Japan and Pearl Harbor, Hawaii – and hosted two formal “Big Top” receptions in South Korea and Thailand.

The aircraft carrier also embarked foreign dignitaries, military officials, ambassadors, and international media, and operated with the joint force and several nations, including Australia, Canada, France, Japan, the Philippines, Republic of Korea and Singapore.

Alongside allies and partners, the Nimitz CSG’s presence in U.S. 7th Fleet reinforced the United States’ commitment to fly, sail and operate wherever international law allows in support of a free and open Indo-Pacific region.

Navy seeks input on study for carriers

By **MADELINE YANG**
The Coronado News

Commanding Officer Capt. Newt McKissick wants the community’s input regarding a study that will look at the effects of accommodating three NIMITZ-Class Aircraft Carriers simultaneously for 180 intermittent, non-consecutive days at Naval Air Station North Island.

Members of the public can submit written comments through July 24.

Navy officials said the study will have on aspects of the community, such as traffic, air quality and environmental justice.

In 1999, the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for these three carriers stated a need for them to be in port simultaneously for 13 days per year. In 2008, it changed to 29 days.

Now, in 2023, the Navy plans on analyzing the effects of having the carriers stay in port for up to 180 days. According to McKissick, although they are studying for the full 180 days, there are currently no plans for having the carriers stay in port together for that long.

The Navy wants the community involved as this study will be directly impacting the greater San Diego region, and so they have opened up three public “scoping meetings.”

Public comment can be sent to www.nepa.navy.mil/northisland-CVNs/ or by mail, postmarked no later than July 24, 2023, to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command, Atlantic, Attn: EV21, CVN SEIS Project Manager, 6506 Hampton Blvd, Building A, Norfolk, VA 23508

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SPORTS

Athletes compete on biggest stage for men’s lacrosse

Coronado’s Joe Walsh and Ryan Richters represented Ireland and Latvia, respectively, in 2023 World Championship

By JEREMY ZWICK
The Coronado News

Coronado locals Joe Walsh and Ryan Richters represented teams Ireland and Latvia, respectively, as goalies in the 2023 Men’s Lacrosse World Championship that kicked off in late June in San Diego.

The tournament included 30 nations from Hong Kong to Uganda that gathered at San Diego State University to take their shot at the title, with team USA defending its 2018 victory against Canada.

Walsh’s Ireland squad was seeded ninth after pool play but lost to Israel in the first round of the playoff bracket. The squad ultimately finished twelfth.

Richters’ Latvia team finished 19th after pool play but lost to France in the first round of the placement bracket and eventually played for 21st place.

Coronado, of course, is certainly no stranger to lacrosse.

With origins reaching back into the 1980s, Coronado High School has become a dynamic force in the sport.

Walsh, the son of a Sailor, has been playing for Coronado teams all his life.

The 22-year-old has deep family ties to Ireland with great-grandparents from Cork and Connemara: He even received his dual citizenship to help him connect more deeply to his roots.

However, Walsh cites his time in Coronado as being foundational to his lacrosse career.

Though he graduated from Coronado High school in 2019, he cites the coaching staff as a continuing influence on the sport.

“Most of the coaches around here were former goalies and they know a



Coronado's Ryan Richters, playing for Latvia in the 2023 World Lacrosse Men's Championship. Photo courtesy of Richters.

great deal about playing the position,” he said, referring to current Varsity Coach Alex Cade as a particular help on his lacrosse journey.

Recently, Walsh has been joined on the field by a newcomer, 21-year-old Ryan Richters.

Though Richters has only called Coronado home for the past seven months, he has been playing with teams in the San Diego area for years.

Richters similarly has deep ties to both Latvia and athletics.

The small Baltic country of Latvia has become internationally famous for its volleyball, hockey, and basketball talent.

“On Memorial Day, the Latvian hockey team won the bronze medal game vs. USA... on Tuesday the country took off work to celebrate,” said Richters, showing the deep athletic culture in Latvia. Lacrosse is up and coming in Latvia with Richters saying that players will drive hours for a chance to play at the nearest field.

Richters hails from an athletic Latvian dynasty himself, with his family

escaping during World War II, and eventually playing at the highest level all across the country.

Walsh and Richters have been taking shots from professional lacrosse players at Coronado Middle and High schools in anticipation of the international tournament, taking advantage of any field they can find on the island.

The two Coronado residents went head to head on June 24 in a nailbiter match that took Latvia and Ireland into double overtime.

“Usually in Lacrosse overtime games are one or two possessions,” Walsh said. “But, it was possession after possession going back and forth. Ryan and I were both making saves in overtime and keeping the game going.”

Team Ireland eventually pulled out on top in a 8-7 victory.

Walsh called it “one of the most exciting games I’ve ever been a part of.”

Though the competition on the field is stiff, it hasn’t stopped the competitors from making some lasting international friendships.

Richters, for example, said he has



Joe Walsh was a star player at Coronado High School prior to playing in the 2023 World Lacrosse Men's Championship. Photo courtesy of Walsh.

become acquainted with many of the players on teams Uganda, Philippines, and South Korea; and though he says that his connections haven’t affected his tenacity on the field, he is grateful for the friendships he has made.

The international experience isn’t always sunshine and rainbows, however.

Many players travel across the world to compete, and though energy is high for the visiting nations, some struggle to find funding for what can be an expensive sport.

Richters stated that team Latvia is relying on help from American-Latvian organizations as well as public contributions in order to compete at the tournament.

However, for the two goalies it’s about giving back to the communities, the countries, and the sport that has given them so much.

“We’re all trying to represent Ireland the best we can and grow the game out there and make it more popular,” Walsh said.

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SPORTS

“Gentle Giant” leaves CHS as star student, athlete

The three-sport letter winner finished high school with a 4.33 grade point average and will attend UCLA this fall.

By SAM DATIN
The Coronado News

Saxton Sylvester has become known to his school and others in Coronado as the “Gentle Giant” for the heart and passion he regularly exudes.

His cultivated mindset has given him the drive to accomplish his goals.

Sylvester was a three-sport letterman athlete at Coronado High School, competing in track and captaining his football and rugby teams.

He did all this while maintaining a 4.33 grade point average.

“Heart is putting your heart into something, whether it’s school or whether it’s a sport, continuing to push yourself and continuing to do it even when you hate it,” said Sylvester.

He believes that a strict regimen of school sponsored year-long sports kept his academic pursuits focused while keeping his body active.

“Not only did I enjoy playing the sports, but it helped me stay disciplined in my schoolwork and college applications by having a strict schedule all year and not just during one season,” said Sylvester.

Sylvester will attend The University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) this fall and will play collegiate rugby. He also hopes to join the club track team. He also received a congressional nomination to the United States Air Force Academy.

Sylvester has received high praise from many of his coaches, including track coach Donna Yee.

“He is just absolutely amazing. He’s



Saxton Sylvester, at right in above photo, has become known to his school and others in Coronado as the "Gentle Giant" for the heart and passion he regularly exudes. Photo courtesy of George Green.

a leader. He’s kind; he’s friendly. He helps competitors as well,” said Yee.

As is the case when he preps for competition.

“He would talk to throwers from other schools. He’d ask them how they’re doing and what their techniques are. He makes friends wherever he goes,” said Yee. “It’s not an I’m going to use this against you kind of thing. It’s like, ‘We should all help each other because we’re all trying to be better.’”

Assistant track coach Scott Young believes Sylvester will lead others in every avenue of his life.

“Wherever he goes, he’s going to be leading somebody. He’s going to be a leader. He’s going to be a gentle giant in whatever he does, but that’s how he gets people invested,” said Young.

He is determined and will stop at nothing to achieve his objectives, coaches said.

Look no further than to his response to an ankle injury he suffered, putting him in doubt of competing in the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) finals.

Sylvester ended up placing fourth in the boys discus, with a throw of 117 feet even. This was his second time



“Not only did I enjoy playing the sports, but it helped me stay disciplined in my schoolwork and college applications by having a strict schedule all year and not just during one season.”

— Saxton Sylvester

qualifying for CIF (first time making the Final).

Young said Sylvester told him: “I don’t care if I have to get lifted into the ring and throw one time. I want to do it. I earned this spot, and I want to be there.”

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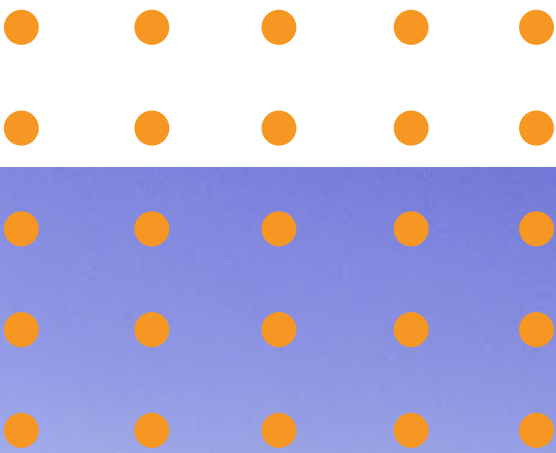
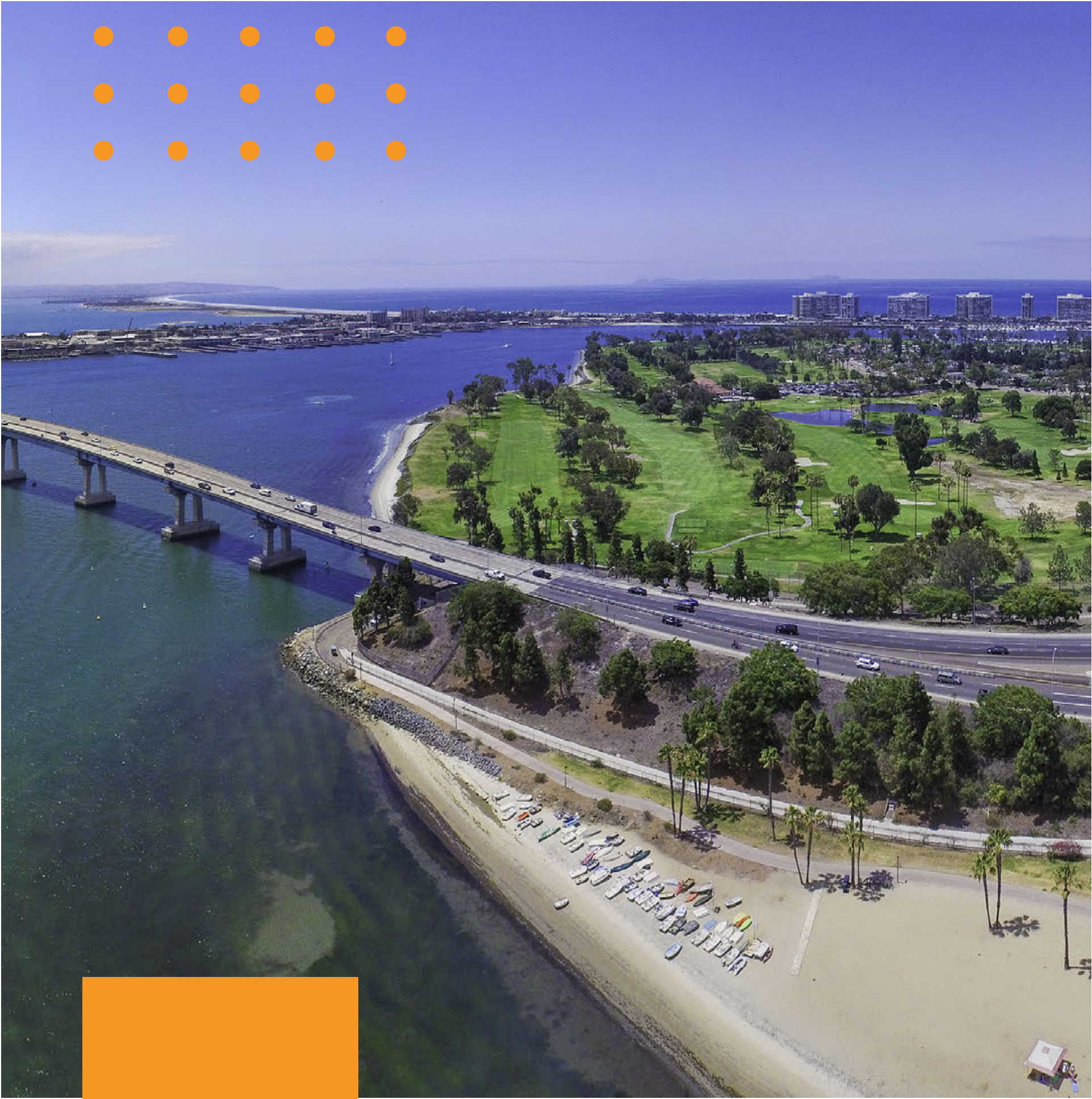


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