So, Who Are Those People Camping On The Sidewalk?
And they're camping on sofas?

BY BITSY LYLE

Sarah flew in from Chicago, Jim and Sue are here from Maryland. They’re all on the sidewalk in front of Cabo Wabo. They met at the Sammy Hagar show four years ago and today, as they have for the past four years, they’re camped out on the sidewalk, side by side, outside the concert venue, Cabo Wabo. They’re not alone there are a hundred or so fans who didn’t make the cut who have gone home empty-handed, while 50 fans who earned their lucky red ticket are pleased as punch to have made the cut. Maybe next year. Sammy is here for his three birthday concerts, performances he gives at the club he owns, every year on his birthday. The police asked him not to give out tickets willy nilly for free to whoever shows up because the crowds clogged up the streets. And nowadays with the internet, it's just easier for everyone to get their tickets online. But he still sells 50 tickets each day to first come, first served. That would be the first 50 in line.

These fans, (that word comes from the word fanatics for a reason), are determined and prepared. Take Cindy from Iowa and Greg and Deb Kelly, from Alaska, who together snagged the first place in line this year. They’ve been hunkered down (with a trusty air mattress) for 28 hours and have a few more...CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Uber Is Finally Legal
So says the Supreme Court. That’s the good news

BY DUSTY RODES

Uber has been knocking on our door for a long time now, finally breaking through in La Paz a few months ago, although the taxistas there are still fighting it. But Uber hasn’t had success in breaking into Cabo or San Jose because the taxi cartel is just too politically connected here. But now the transportation honcho for our state has announced that the Supreme Court of Mexico has ruled that “mobility” as they call it, (we would call it transportation), can not be held by anyone as a monopoly. So the governor announced he will stop opposing it. That’s the good news.

The bad news is, he’s vowing...CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Celebrate the Patron Saint of Cabo San Lucas on his, (St Luke’s) day.
Wednesday Oct 17 to Sunday Oct 21

At the delegation building, near the firehouse and Red Cross barn on the road to Todos Santos. Officially called León Cota Collins Plaza.

There will be food booths, carny rides and games, native handicrafts, and nightly entertainment by Mexican bands. There will be volleyball, softball and soccer tournaments. This will be a cultural event of some significance and should be interesting and a good photo op.
Did you see that monster cruise ship out in our bay a couple days ago? They just keep building them bigger, it seems.

I have a rather checkered history with cruise ships. I should just learn from my history and stay off the damn things.

The first time, (not to worry, there were only two, this will be quick,) I begged to go. I had never been on a cruise ship, so how was I to know I was not well suited to sitting around and doing almost nothing for five days? Five very long days. We went from Los Angeles to Mazatlán, Puerto Vallarta, Cabo, and back to Los Angeles. First bad decision was going over Thanksgiving weekend, when school was out. I don’t do kids well under the best of circumstances, and these were not optimal conditions cooped up with a bunch of rug rats on a boat. Kids were running everywhere, up and down the halls, under foot, yelling and screaming, I needed to be on an adults only boat.

And even then, I wouldn’t have had a good time. How long can you sit and do nothing? Well, I’ll tell you how long I can sit and do nothing: Maybe 20 minutes, and then only if I have a bad case of the flu and can’t get out of bed. I can’t imagine why anyone would want to sit and look at a horizon of blue on blue. I can’t even sit at the beach, I need to be swimming or kayaking or at the very least, walking. Maybe I have ants in my pants, maybe I’m just normal and the rest of the people on the boat were fuddy duddies. Or runners or screamers. I move a lot but I don’t scream.

I got so bored I even attended napkin folding class. That’s a near death experience for anyone who’s not Martha Stewart.

But finally they had an activity for me: Golf lessons. I’m a golfer but could always stand to take another lesson. I showed up, but they didn’t have any left handed clubs and the clubs they did have were all taken by the damn kids. I did stand there and watch, because it was something to do. Even I realized how forlorn I looked.

By the time we got to Cabo, I absolutely would have jumped ship and flown home but didn’t feel right about leaving my friend who had warned me I would hate it. He didn’t want to spend five days on a boat with me when I was bound to be bored and whiny. I don’t think I was whiny, but yeah, he assured me I was pretty whiny. Boredom brings on the whiney. I don’t think I was whiny, but I wasn’t whiny. Boredom brings on the whiney. Boredom brings on the whiney. Boredom brings on the whiney.

So why didn’t I learn my lesson? Because I had a chance to cruise the Baltic Sea! How cool is that? I would be cruising all the way to Russia where I would be visiting a Russian journalist in his Russian apartment! I got the Russia part all right, and it was great, but I earned it. Turns out blue on blue horizon on the Baltic Sea is pretty much the same as blue on blue horizon on the Pacific Ocean.

Except this ship had almost 4,000 passengers, 600 Americans, and the rest about evenly divided between Muslims and Asians. By American cultural norms Asians are pushy, as we’re all experienced. Turns out Muslims aren’t much different, and they get right up in your personal space when they talk, not that I needed to talk to them about a damn thing. This cruise was a week of pushing and shoving and off the elevators and in the chew lines. Sure, we could have gone to a posh restaurant onboard, but I like buffets. All the waffles you can eat for breakfast, all the cheese sandwiches for lunch, and dinner was wall to wall fried chicken and assorted delicacies. But each meal was a long line of pushy in your face people.

The corker was getting on and off the ship at the stops. Imagine 4,000 people in two lines. These big ships just don’t have doors big enough to move people fast enough. Security was tight, because of what’s called a soft target. A soft target is an American in our own country. On our cruise ship dock here in Cabo, where the tendrers come in, security is tight because we have so many soft target Americans. I remember before 9/11 when I could walk down that pier and jump in the tender and putt-putt out to the big ship. Now, there is very tight security, and you better be ready to show your ship ID or you will be flying home, not cruising home.

Because of those 600 Americans out of the total 4,000 people I have a rather checkered history with cruise ships. I should just learn from my history and stay off the damn things.

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Because of those 600 Americans out of the total 4,000 people
This is a cliff hanger

BY GAIL COLLINS

The rest of the world has suddenly caught up with the sad story that has been followed in Baja California for many years and it has taken the shy little vaquita porpoise to become the most endangered marine animal in the world to bring it to everyone’s attention. You may well ask how in today’s modern world of wisdom and conservation awareness, we are now accountable for the rapid demise of this unassuming porpoise. It’s a story that began back in 1958 when the vaquita was first recorded as a species in the Journal of Mammalogy. It was first listed as a species in the year later listed as vulnerable and in 1985 the totoaba, every year. In 1985 the vaquita was listed under the U.S. Carta...
Did you lose your gun? You know how when you go to the bathroom and you take out your phone and set it on the back of the toilet so it doesn’t fall on the floor? Well, some people have a gun in their pants. And this guy set it on the back of the toilet in the bathroom in Soriana. And then forgot it. One would think it was a ticking bomb the way the police surrounded the place. We would have quietly waited behind a bush, (or a toilet) and waited for the guy to return. You think he’s going to tap a policeman on the shoulder and ask for his gun back? Didn’t happen. The gun was never claimed, so if you’re missing yours and you’re pretty stupid, go down and claim it at the state police lost and found.

Clock time! Daylight savings time ends in Southern Baja and most of the rest of Mexico on Oct 28. Set your clocks back one hour and enjoy an extra hour of sleep. Daylight savings time ends Nov. 4 in the U.S., Canada and cities in areas of Mexico that border the U.S.

Like you’re going to remember that, right? For those of you who subscribe to our almost daily news briefings via email, we will remind you closer to the day. Those of you who don’t subscribe, why not? It’s free.

Ultra-Marathon announced. The organizer of the Cabo San Lucas’ Sunday Ciclovía holds other competitions and athletic events for fun here and there. This year, Mario Meave is organizing a 50 km walk, run, or stumble event, crossing the sierra at Los Naranjos, starting from Km. 54.5 on the road near Buenavista on the East Cape. It ends at km 73 on the road from Cabo to Todos Santos. It’s a tough terrain, popular with drivers of Jeep and 4x4 vehicles, with a gorgeous view of the mountains. There will be several categories for lone individuals and teams, with a maximum finish time of 12 hours. There will be prizes for the first three winners of each category if 100 runners/walkers/stumblers participate.

The race will take place on Sunday, December 16. Inscription cost is 500 pesos per person. For information email: ultramaratonloscabos@gmail.com, Call Cell 624-125-5674 or look up CiclovíaCabo on Facebook.

Millions to repair road. Well, about $1.5 million is being invested in repairing our beloved four lane to La Paz, at the Km. 75 mark. That’s the area that had a major landslide during the Lidia storm last summer – yes, one year ago, and which hasn’t been repaired yet.

While we suffer driving a smooth but curvy detour, the SCT, Mexico’s transportation ministry, which oversees our federal roads, has been working on it, bringing down lots of rocks in an effort to eliminate the part of the mountain that keeps crumbling down. Once they finish that part and find more stable terrain, they will proceed to seal it somehow with some sort of retaining wall.

Food fest announced. The little pueblo of El Triunfo, north of San Jose amid the mountains, will hold its 3rd Gastronomic Festival on Saturday November 24 with a food and booze tasting that starts at 2:00 pm, followed CONTINUED ON PAGE 12
Pipeline taps. Petroleum theft, committed by gangs of thieves known as *huachicoleros*, costs Pemex US $1.6 billion a year, and is just getting worse. Officials blame this trend on Pemex workers in cahoots, and because people living nearby protect and often join in the effort. They see the theft not as theft so much as it is getting back at Pemex for rising gasoline prices. The seventh annual used tire collection drive in Cuernavaca, in the state of Morelos, collected 46 tons of old tossed around tires from streets, homes and businesses.

Known as Llantatón, the event was run by the local Sustainable Development Secretariat (SDS) and the Japanese tire maker Bridgestone. Yup, believe it or not, Bridgestone had always been a Jap company. It’s the English version of the word in Japanese for bridge stone The problem is rainwater collects in used tires left around, becoming breeding grounds for mosquitoes. The collection drive was designed to remove the hazard. They also kept the tires from reaching rivers, ravines, streets or open air dumps.

In the seven-year history of the tire collection marathon it has rounded up 446 tons — an estimated 46,000 tires, which have been used as an alternative fuel in the cement industry or reused as furniture parts or an asphalt ingredient.

*Raising The Price Of No Water.* City officials in La Paz are warning about raising the price of water delivered to their 104,000 homes, 70,000 of whom don’t even have a meter. Well, that’s alright, since La Paz doesn’t have water. Although delivery of water is pretty spotty, the official price of this non delivery is about 40 cents US for about 270 gallons. The average in Mexico for that much water is about $1.60.

Mayor Ruben Munoz explains, “We would like to start with the tariff update program, but first the administration needs to improve the quality of the service and once we have made the service more efficient, then I will propose the increase in tariffs.”

Well, that’s fair. We don’t mind paying for the water as long as we get it. And how about let’s start charging that 70% that don’t even have a meter? Just a guess here, but what are the odds those are the biggest whiners about having to call in a water truck when their holding tank runs dry?

*Trump hires Mexicans.* The Trump administration is moving ahead with a plan to pay Mexico $20 million to deport migrants from Central America and prevent them from reaching the U.S., even after the plan had been halted by top Democrats in Congress and so far dismissed by the Mexican government. Well, it might work better than a wall.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 18**
Fans of Sammy Hagar wait on the sidewalk for up to 30 hours for a chance to buy tickets and that’s how she spends her annual vacation. “This is old home week”, chimed in Jim (comfy in an air-pumped BarcaLounger), “these fellow Red Heads have become our chosen family!”

UBER IS FINALLY LEGAL...
continued from page 1

to regulate the living daylights out of any ride hailing app.

One rule will be users have five “trusted contacts” to share the data of each of their trips with, and another is that all responses, qualifications and feedbacks are recorded in the Uber platform and are reviewed by a team working in a “Center of Excellence” in Costa Rica. That center is supposed to solve any incidents in an average of between seven and eight minutes. Also, Uber is promising that in Latin America the company has more than 1,280 employees who work in support and help solve any problems that arise.

And further, in the case of Los Cabos, there need to be additional filters on our app, we need to use as either a rider or as a driver, that has on file an email account and a mobile phone number, which is confirmed in a message or text. However, we were able to use Uber without giving up this info and it’s likely this requirement will never come to pass unless the taxistas get a clue and pursue it. Uber has said, “Our commitment is that the driving partners and users feel safe during trips.” Translation: Uber will say anything to get a toe hold. What they will actually do, remains to be seen.

Uber has been in Mexico since 2013 and is present in 41 cities, where it has more than 8.5 million users and around 250,000 registered driver partners. It’s taken so long to arrive here in a high end tourist city because so much money is at stake. Our taxi drivers charge so much money that they’re willing to go to extremes to protect their position, and the money attracts politicians to be involved in the industry. An example of the egregious way we’re treated by taxi drivers is a ride to Cabo San Lucas from half way out on the corridor is about

SO, WHO ARE THOSE PEOPLE... continued from page 1

hours to go until noon today when they file into the club with the 47 others who will be given a red ticket. Then for $120 each, they trade those red tickets in for a small patch of floor space for the Tuesday show.

But that’s not the end: Cindy will hold their place in line so they get the red ticket for the next two shows. Mind you, there aren’t any seats. These are standing room only tickets. On the night of the shows, these same die-hard campers are admitted at 6 pm and stand there until 9:30-10 pm when Sammy charges out and they’ll remain standing and dancing for a couple more hours.

“Why do we do it”, a bemused Sarah, who flew here from Chicago and will be camped out for two more days, asked herself. “I used to drive past people like us, sitting on the sidewalk for hours, and shake my head saying I would never do that. But I met these friends, Jim and Sue, at a show four years ago and here we are every year, four years later and we wouldn’t miss it for the world.” She isn’t interested in the tourist stuff like the pool or margaritas or fishing, she wants to see Sammy, the Red Rocker, and the only rocker she goes to see and
Bob Bisbee Memorial

October 22 at 3:30 there will be a memorial service for Bob Bisbee who founded the Bisbee fishing tournaments.

It will be at sea, and there will be two vessels taking people out. They will both depart from the dock in front of Baja Cantina on the boats owned by Cabo Wild. The Cabo Escape boat is the one for the public, the other, (the Baja Cantina) for family and VIPs

3:30 pm The Baja Cantina boat will carry the Bisbee family, they will board in front of the Baja Cantina restaurant, coordinated by Wayne Bisbee.

Boats participating in the current year tournaments will be invited to follow along.

Both Cabo Wild boats will follow will go to the designated area for the memorial ceremony and the scattering of Bob Bisbee's ashes in the sea.

This ceremony will be preceded by all the boats forming a Circle of Life, with all the Bisbee closest family in the center of it. Wayne Bisbee will say a eulogy, then somebody will say a farewell in Spanish, then Silence or the melody of Wayne Bisbee's choosing will accompany the dropping of flower wreaths.

After this is done, the circle of life is broken and the Baja Cantina Boat leads a little parade to go from the Arch, then back to the marina, but detouring to pass in front of Pueblo Bonito Blanco and Rose. On Medano Beach.

5:00 pm, the cabo escape boat will return to the IGY fuel dock to offload people from the boats, the Baja Cantina boat, will offload in front of the Baja Cantina restaurant.

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THE CASE OF THE VANISHING...

continued from page 3

the meeting between Leonardo DiCaprio and Pena Nieto in May 2017 and follows the increasingly violent conflict between the Mexican drug cartels and Chinese crime gangs on one side and the Mexican government, U.S. Navy, FBI, Sea Shepherd and other wildlife activist groups on the other. Scriptwriters are no doubt hurriedly adding the latest instalment following the arrest on Thursday 13th September of an alleged drug cartel hitman with strong links to the Sinaloa cartels known as “El Parra” who was hauled in with accusations of trafficking the critically endangered totoaba fish amongst other serious charges and subsequently if not surprisingly released again a week later.

So, will the vaquita be saved? That remains in the hands of the gods, but we would be wise to remember that 14 known breeds of our wildlife have already become extinct in the 21st century, mostly due to our destruction of their habitats or hunting and do we really want the vaquita to be the 15th in our legacy?

Writer Brooke Bessesen hit the spot when she said, “I learned that conservation is a messy business”.

Subscribe!! or we’ll throw the kitty under the bus
Go to page 21

There are only about 30 of these guys left. How do they know that? Maybe there are more that don’t want to be counted. Maybe they’re being discreet, maybe they’re hiding from fish counters. Who can tell?
**Every Tuesday and Saturday.** 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. La Paz organic market. Postal Park, Constitution and Madero streets. Free.

**Every Wednesday.** 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. At La Esquina in Todos Santos. Organic eggs, honey, locally made jewelry and beauty products, traditional baskets and more! Info: marimardelmar@gmail.com, facebook.com/laes-quinats.

**Every Wednesday.** 5:00 to 10:00 pm. Art Day. Art, paint, clothing, locally made jewelry and beauty products, handicrafts, as well as furniture made with regional honey, as well as handicrafts such as gently used books, CDs, DVDs, and toys. Every Wednesday. 5:00 to 7:00 pm. At La Pescadería. Every Saturday. 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. At Marina La Paz. 7:00 to 10:00 pm. At the Puerto Paraiso mall. 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. La Paz. November 3, Saturday. 6:00 pm. Trivia at 4:30 pm. Sailing 5:00 to 7:30 pm. Tickets sold online www.tramaronline.com. Info: tramaronline@gmail.com. Free.

**Every Friday.** 7:00 pm. Drink and dance with Alexey and the Beatles. Roof deck of the Faro Beach Club & Spa in Todos Santos. 1,200 pesos. reser- vation@guaycura.com Ph +52 (612) 175 0800.

**Every Saturday.** 9:30 am to 1:30 pm. The Cinco de Mayo Fair. 1,100 pesos day of, 1,000 pesos pre-sale. Info: bajasescue.com/. 612145023, Todos Santos 23rd Annual Tiangui. To benefit the Amigos of children. Tickets available late October. For early reservations (recommended), info@padrinoconf.org, padrinoconf.org/en/, 6121780040, Todos Santos 23rd Annual Tiangui. To benefit the Amigos De Los Animales. Support spaying and neutering dogs and cats. Accepting donations in the form of gently used clothing and shoes, working appliances, tools and sporting goods. Please, no books. Drop off items at Kitty Heaven or contact Angelique Schenk (caldomina@telmex.com). Info: 612 145 0250, Todos Santos.

**December 16, Sunday.** Ultra-Marathon 50 Kms. Walk or run race, crossing the sierra mountains at Los Barriles, starting from Km. 54.5 on the road near Buenavista in the East Cape, to end at Km. 73 other side of the mountain, on road from Cabo to Todos Santos. Organized by the Cabo San Lucas Marathon. Info: 612 145 0250, Todos Santos 23rd Annual Tiangui. To benefit the Amigos of children. Tickets available late October. For early reservations (recommended), info@padrinoconf.org, padrinoconf.org/en/, 6121780040, Todos Santos.
Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, and Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 8 p.m. On permanent display. Man, Nature and Culture. A permanent photography show of cultural identity of Baja California Sur. Video also. Text is in English and Spanish. Free. CODEX Peninsula salon at The Centro Cultural La Paz. The old city hall on 16 de Septiembre at the corner of Belisario Dominguez, across from the Sears store. Downtown La Paz.

**Everyday. 5:00 to 8:00 pm.** Live music. Spanish with some help in English. At Macondo bookstore, Cabo San Lucas, Hidalgo St., half a block up from the Tesoro hotel. The building with a ship's bow coming out of it.

**Every Tuesday, 5:00 pm.** Literature reading sometimes with the author, sometimes with special guests. Spanish with some help in English. At Macondo bookstore, Cabo San Lucas, Hidalgo St., half a block up from the Tesoro hotel. The building with a ship's bow coming out of it.

**Every Thursday, 5:00 pm.** Trova and Bohemian Latin-American music. Spanish with some help in English. At Macondo bookstore, Cabo San Lucas, Hidalgo St., half a block up from the Tesoro hotel. The building with a ship's bow coming out of it.

**Every Thursday, 8:30 pm.** Vagabond Movie Club. Various movies in their original languages with Spanish subtitles. Short films and art videos before the movie. Free. Rana Vegana. Playa Migrito St. up from Miguel A. Herrera St. Turn right 2 blocks before the gas station (Pueblo Bonito Sunset area). San Lucas.

**Every Other Thursday during in October. 8:30 pm.** Vagabond Movie Club. A different movie in the original languages with Spanish subtitles. Short films and art videos before the movie. Free. At El Merkado, upstairs. Tourist corridor at Cerro Colorado, San Jose.

**Every Friday, 7:30 pm.** Rock Bands Encounter. Different rock groups playing together, sometimes a real battle of the bands. Spanish with some help in English. At Macondo bookstore, Cabo San Lucas, Hidalgo St., half a block up from the Tesoro hotel. The building with a ship's bow coming out of it.

**Every Saturday, 8:00 pm.** Jazz Night. Spanish with some help in English. At Macondo bookstore, Cabo San Lucas, Hidalgo St., half a block up from the Tesoro hotel. The building with a ship's bow coming out of it.

**Every Saturday, 6:00 pm.** Hermanitas de Ysabela Reading Lounge. At Cultural Pavilion's Cinema lobby; Cabo San Lucas downtown next to the marina.

**Every Sunday. Vagabond Movie Club presents a different artsy movie in the original languages with Spanish subtitles. Free.** More info: 624-156-8522. Casa Roots. Corner of Mayas and Cuitlahuac in the 4th of Marzo neighborhood, Cabo San Lucas. (Only for adventurous people.)

**Every Sunday, 8:00 pm.** Kinesis Gym. Live music. Kinesis Lugares. Lesposos street and Jozef Olechowski from Poland. As part of the 9th International Concert Festival. La Paz Concert Mall. 1055 Morelos St. And Marcelo Rubio St. Downtown La Paz. Spanish and some help in English. 100 pesos.

**October 19, 8:00 pm.** American Rock music for piano and cello. With Wojciech Nycz (Poland) and Asaf Kolerstein (Israel). As part of the 9th International Concert Music Festival. La Paz Concert Mall. 1055 Morelos St. And Marcelo Rubio St. Downtown La Paz. Entrance fee 100 pesos.

**October 25, 6:30 PM.** Magic Night with Luna Izel. You will be transported to old Mexico through music, dance, and songs from the heart of the Mexican culture. The Mango Grove @ Flora’s Farm 6:30 – 9:00 pm VIP $75.00 USD (Includes preferred seating & gift bag) General Admission $50 USD 6:30 - 7:30 Welcome mariachi & light appetizers 7:30 – 8:30. Raffle and silent auction. Cash bar. Tickets at: Pez Gordo Gallery (in the Palmilla area) and at Tienda 17, Centenario Blvd. Downtown San Jose.

**November 3, 8:00 PM.** Germinatio Painting Exhibition by Karla Antuna. Sudcaliforniano Bookhouse Gallery. Altamirano St. And 5 de Mayo St. Downtown La Paz. Free. City Theater. Downtown La Paz.

**November 12 to 17. Different hours.** Pali LaCalle Urban Scenic Arts Festival 5th Anniversary. Dance workshops, Master classes, and Video-Dance workshop with Tomas Gaulan from the National Contemporary Dance Company Of Cuba, John Fandiño from Colombia, Ximena Monroy from Mexico and more. Free. In Spanish. Various locations in Cabo San Lucas and San Jose. For more information call: 624 782 3208.

**November 20 to 25. Different surprising hours.** Pali LaCalle, Urban Scenic Arts Festival. The flash mob is back with a lot of activities as Dance, Clown, Puppeteers, Story Tellers, Music and much fun. Streets, Malls, Markets and Plazas of San Lucas, San Jose and rural areas of Los Cabos. Spanish mostly. Free.

**November 17, 6:00 pm.** Carmina Burana, from Carl Orff. Presented by Rotary club. To Benefit The Moreno Cota Children’s Shelter in Todos Santos. Spanish.
Cross Country Running Trails

Here’s a guide to running on dirt and without cars

BY FERNANDO BALDERAS RODRIGUEZ

When healthy physical fitness enthusiasts travel anywhere in the world, many of them continue their running and training regime, no matter what city they’re in. While visiting Cabo San Lucas and San Jose del Cabo, guests to this magical beach paradise tend to hit the road and get their morning or late afternoon runs, traversing over concrete roads when there are wonderful desert terrain trails they can readily enjoy, if they only knew where to go and how to get there.

As a former USA Top 12 nationally ranked high school miler (4:15) and two mile champion (9:13) along with finishing 10th at the California JC State Championships and winning the Nor-Cal 10,000 Meters in 1988 with San Jose City College (30:58), I have enjoyed thealong off road trails in Cabo San Lucas and San Jose.

In Cabo San Lucas, visitors to any of the Medano Beach area resort hotels can enjoy the safe, sandy, dirt terrain, that is located behind Cabo Fitness and Office Max.

I once led an Ohio family court judge along that trail and crossed over at Costco, where a pedestrian bridge would be ideal and is badly needed. Once across the highway, the trail resumes one block up from Latitude 22 Restaurant and continues its ascent behind Costco.

The running journey continues for roughly four miles as far up as the Communication Tower hill, which consists of a few challenging uphill switchbacks. From Villas del Palmar, where the trail begins, all the way to the top of the communications satellite towers is roughly a 4 mile run. Making the complete round trip a total of 8 miles.

There is now a new trail, actually built for bicycles, that goes along the beach from the Holiday Inn to the Thompson Cape hotel. It’s a nice dirt track and very scenic.

The countryside rural area above Costco is an ideal place to choose a variety of dirt, sandy trails that wind and weave their way next to the paved street that leads back towards the hills along the gated condominium and home communities located there. Trails that will take any and every fit person through a desert-like landscape; void of pavement and congested automobile traffic. Not that there’s any traffic in Cabo. This vacation city is still bumper to bumper free, even during rush hour mornings and early evenings.

With a rental car or even by jumping on the Desierto SuburbCabO bus for less than $3 dollars, guests of Los Cabos can ride out to El Tule and hit the canyon trail deep into the eastern mountainous horizon for an easy 6 to 8 mile run.

In San Jose, the changes the city has taken as host of the Los Cabos International Ironman competition, now in its 6th year, have been runner and cycling friendly. Securing a bike and running path which serve the modest, quiet sister city of Los Cabos. Providing a nice haven that has been specifically zoned for runners and cyclists alike.

At Costa Azul, which is about a mile away from the furthest resort located near the Estuary of the Hotel Zone, there is a 3-mile trail that begins under the bridge and heads east.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

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If Your Competition is Doing it, Why Aren’t You?

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Did You Blow through Canadian Thanksgiving Again?

That may be why you don’t have any Canadian friends

BY DON PARTIE

The second Monday in October is Canada’s Thanksgiving. Canadians celebrate it by stuffing themselves with turkey, pumpkin pie and all the usual suspects that go along with turkey.

Although the official holiday is Monday, and most people have the day off work, many families have their big meal on Sunday. Monday they watch a special double header of football and eat leftovers.

The origins of Canadian Thanksgiving are more closely connected to the traditions of Europe than of the United States. Long before Europeans settled in North America, festivals of thanks and celebrations of harvest took place in Europe in the month of October.

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PRMEDICA Inc. specializes in regenerative medicine and has achieved significant results in anti-aging protocols and facial rejuvenation treatments without surgery. We have recently introduced two new stem cell protocols focused on wellness and beauty which are available at our new clinic on the second level above Blue Net Hospital in Cabo San Lucas.

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The very first Thanksgiving celebration in North America took place in Canada when Martin Frobisher, an explorer from England, arrived in Newfoundland in 1578. He wanted to give thanks for his safe arrival to the New World. That means the first Thanksgiving in Canada was celebrated 43 years before the pilgrims landed in Plymouth, Massachusetts!
on the Baltic Sea cruise, security was very tight, with ship IDs that were electronically scanned as our faces were scanned. Hats off, sunglasses off. They might not have given a rat’s ass about the Americans, but those cruise ship people were pretty hinky about getting their boat blown up.

So we’re standing in the line to get back on, and this Muslim woman all decked out in full Muslim regalia, turns to me and says, “This long line is your fault you know.” (How does everyone all over the world, even in the Scandinavian countries, always peg me for a Gringo? I don’t get it. I try very hard to blend in. Peg me for a Gringo? I don’t get it.)

However, that boat out in our Cabo harbor last week did look nice and they have a lot of stuff to do, like go cart racing and a nine hole golf course. Probably small course, though, with windmills and cheesey green carpeting in place of grass, and no left handed clubs. And the go carts probably have a speed governor on them just so we don’t hurtle off the side of the ship. Cheesy green carpeting and speed governors. I’ll give it a pass.

So this Muslim woman is blaming Americans for tight security against Muslims? How is that for profiling? The best that can be said for what happened next is that after we were separated by security, I got to go right to the head of the line and was on the ship and ready for the buffet line in record time. And that’s the last cruise ship I’m ever going to go on.

Carmen

QUE PASA IN CABO?

continued from page 4

Que PASA IN CABO?

continued from page 4

Carmen

with a live show and salsa dance with Alexey and the Triplets starting at 5:00.

with a live show and salsa dance with Alexey and the Triplets starting at 5:00.

Tickets are available at La Pintada restaurant in Cabo San Lucas, Villa Valentina in San Jose, Saz Boutique in Palmilla and at Marina La Paz. The price is 950 pesos on pre-sale, 1,100 pesos at the door. Kids are half price.

Proceeds from the event go to preserve the beautiful, quaint mining town, including its old crumbling mining chimney that sticks up out of the town and can be seen for many miles.

Todos Santos Concerts. The now traditional Tropic of Cancer concert series will take place January 10-20, hosted by the rock n’ roll band Cordovas, for two weekends of music, love, and art in the small Baja town with proceeds aiding the local fire department.

Ticket prices from $20 to $80 and will vary with the rate of exchange. So far, nearly 40 bands and artists, both local, national and international form the lineup, including American singer and songwriter Joan Osborne, a former member of The Dead, favorite Mexican band La Santa Cecilia and Todos Santos singers Divier Guive and Jenelle Aubade will also perform during the festival. For more information and the complete line up look up: http://www.tropicofcancercertseries.mx/

Nine more magical towns.

No, Todos Santos is not unique. Some think there are too many. Nine new magical towns will be named later this month, increasing the total number of destinations with the designation to 120.

Future tourism secretary Miguel Torruco, who will take office December 1st, said the current federal government has announced which towns will join the Pueblos Mágicos program at the National Magical Towns Fair which took place while this paper was printed.

The program, launched in 2001, recognizes towns that have special features that are attractive to visitors and is designed to increase tourism. Like our Magic Town of Todos Santos.

But Torruco believes the number of towns that have been designated as magical is excessive and said that once the incoming government takes office, the Secretariat of Tourism...
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IN LOS CABOS, MEXICO

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DEVELOPED BY Salmar
Boutique Hotels

How does a hotel qualify for that status?

BY RON TELLESEN

Boutique. I remember first seeing the word in 1967. I was traveling on the New York City subway’s B train to Brighton Beach, reading the New York Daily News, occasionally noding off in light sleep (I was working nights at the time), and then, in a moment of drousy wakefulness, amid the plethora of advertisements in that New York Daily tabloid, I see this irlsome word, “boutique”. In the ad, Boutique with a capital B, was included in the name of a new and trendy women’s clothing store. Both the store and the ad for it were designed to appeal to the “incrowd,” a term now left behind, however, boutique we have kept, expanded upon, and now use with little discrimination. The word has been stretched and, may I say, the meaning has become elastic.

Why do I remember all of this? Because I was irritated by that word boutique. And the irritation, itself now mostly gone, left a nick in my psyche, and there is still a little bit of boutique left at that nick. The word, I immediately suspected, came to us from the French. But at that point in my life I didn’t like other countries and their languages butting in, certainly not the French, who were beginning to close to the French American who were overrunning Paris and Versailles, snapping photos everywhere.

But there is still that word boutique in all its elasticity and prissiness, Frenchy, Frenchy feel of. I say, the meaning has become with little discrimination. The word has been expanded upon, and now use with little discrimination. The word has been stretched and, may I say, the meaning has become elastic.

I also rang up Guaycura Boutique Hotel and Beach Club, another venerable name in local hospitality. Located in a 19th century red brick building in the historical district of Todos Santos, the place fairly exudes distinction and class. Their kind manager, Yolanda promised to email the information I requested. That was Monday. On Wednesday I received an email from Fernando Salas, representing the hotel. Mr. Salas wrote, among other things, that “The building is located in the heart of Todos Santos, so you can walk around art galleries and boutiques the minute you arrive.” Yes, boutiques, the minute you arrive. But the back of a slick Baja journal. In large letters the ad attests to the fact that Hacienda Cerritos is “Baja’s iconic Boutique Hotel”. Wow, not only boutique but also iconic; they’re covering a lot of area. The edifice is beautifully situated on high ground overlooking the gorgeous, blue Pacific, and a real contrast to the hodge-podge architecture and deeply rutted, mud/sand roads a stone’s throw inland. I was put through to Michelle. When I ask her what a boutique hotel is, authoritatively and without hesitation, she cheerfully replied, “not more than 14 rooms”. She put the period on it. Laid it to rest.

So, dear reader, there you have it. Not from Webster’s or the Oxford English Dictionary, but some hotelery association has decreed that a “boutique hotel” is one having not more than 14 units. Todos Santos is increasing by more souls every month, and Pescadero, too. Many will be staying in the burgeoning number of boutique hotels, boutique condos, boutique apartments, boutique B and B’s, boutiques, well, you get the picture.
What’s Going On In Cerritos?

Lots

BY MARK SHERMAN

It’s no secret Cerritos has changed a lot over the last decade. What once was an off the beaten path desolate beach known only by locals and few adventurous surfers and campers from the North is now an enjoyable destination location attracting visitors from around the world. With the completion of the new highway system Cerritos is now easily accessible from the International airport. What used to be a three hour drive on a winding two lane road is now a smooth one hour cruise on brand new roads. Visitors arrive from the airport via the toll road which connects to the beautiful and scenic four lane coastal highway. While getting here was once half the battle, getting here is now an enjoyable part of the experience.

Cerritos beach is a very special and unique place in Baja California Sur. It’s widely known as the only swimmable beach on the Pacific coast of Southern Baja. Cerritos is a family oriented beach that has something to offer to both seasoned beachgoers as well as less experienced vacationers alike. There are several features of Cerritos beach that make it so unique. To begin with Cerritos is a sand bottom beach. There are no rocks or reef present here. While many of the neighboring beaches feature cobblestone or reef bottoms, which can present an obvious danger to swimmers and beachgoers, the sand bottom at Cerritos offers a much more user friendly venue.

The second unique feature of Cerritos is the gentle slope of the beach into the ocean. This gradual transition from the beach to the ocean floor causes the incoming waves to break further from the shore. The fact that the waves break further offshore make the beach much safer for swimmers and beachgoers playing at the water’s edge. The surrounding beaches feature a much steeper shoreline that causes the waves to break directly on the beach which makes entering and exiting the water quite dangerous. The mellow slope of the beach at Cerritos results in waves great for surfers to enjoy as well as a shoreline where swimmers can safely play at the water’s edge enjoying the Pacific Ocean. These unique feature of Cerritos beach keeps old visitors returning while attracting new visitors every year.

Development here at Cerritos is still in its infancy due to the fact that up until 2005 it wasn’t possible to own property here. Many people have long considered Cerritos to be their personal hide away, the only thing that prevented them from purchasing and making a permanent home was that owning land here simply wasn’t possible. Prior to 2005 the land at Cerritos consisted of a sole parcel communally owned by the Ejido of Pescadero. (the term Ejido in Mexico refers to the original inhabitants of a pueblo, the land is set aside, kind of like United States Indian reservations). Because this zone consisted of one parcel communally held by the Ejido members it was impossible for anyone to purchase here until 2005. It was at this time when the Ejido sold their land. This resulted in the creation of approximately 1100 individual lots averaging 2000 m2 (half an acre) each. Once the titles came out people in the know began to buy up everything they could get their hands on with the knowledge that development of the area was now imminent.

Fast forward to 2018 and the real estate market here at Cerritos is on fire and the pace is accelerating. Cerritos has now garnered international attention via word of mouth on social media, as well as exposure on such fronts as HGTV’s House Hunters International and Mexico Life. Ladera San José is a residential project on the San José - Cabo corridor built to create a local community. There is a spectacular ocean view, club house and 24 hour security and is built in a modern style.

Ladera San José is still in its infancy due to the fact that up until 2005 it wasn’t possible to own property here. Many people have long considered Cerritos to be their personal hide away, the only thing that prevented them from purchasing and making a permanent home was that owning land here simply wasn’t possible. Prior to 2005 the land at Cerritos consisted of a sole parcel communally owned by the Ejido of Pescadero. (the term Ejido in Mexico refers to the original inhabitants of a pueblo, the land is set aside, kind of like United States Indian reservations). Because this zone consisted of one parcel communally held by the Ejido members it was impossible for anyone to purchase here until 2005. It was at this time when the Ejido sold their land. This resulted in the creation of approximately 1100 individual lots averaging 2000 m2 (half an acre) each. Once the titles came out people in the know began to buy up everything they could get their hands on with the knowledge that development of the area was now imminent.

Fast forward to 2018 and the real estate market here at Cerritos is on fire and the pace is accelerating. Cerritos has now garnered international attention via word of mouth on social media, as well as exposure on such fronts as HGTV’s House Hunters International and Mexico Life.

While traditionally the majority of the sales in this zone have taken place between November and April, as those are the peak months for vacationers, that rule no longer applies. These days sales remain strong and constant throughout the summer months. As a result of the increase in demand prices are on the rise.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17
Planning For The Future
We can not say it's never too late, so get on it!

BY CHERYL T. MILLER

All foreigners are required by Constitutional law to hold their residential properties in Mexico within the Restricted Zone in a Trust, which is called a Fideicomiso.

One requirement of a Fideicomiso is that the “owners”, those in first position on these trusts, must also specify a minimum of one secondary beneficiary. A secondary beneficiary is for all intents and purposes, your heir in case of your death.

This is one of the most important benefits of a Fideicomiso. The fact that you can specify your heirs in this legal, registered deed, is by far a huge advantage over a normal fee simple deed (escritura) that Mexicans hold. Heirs may not, by law, be specified in fee simple deeds and therefore, a Mexican SHOULD ALWAYS do a will. The disposition of property held by a deceased person must go to the equivalent of a probate court here in Mexico. If there is a will, however, this process is much faster and easier. But if there is not, the court must assemble the surviving family members, all of them, and determine the "split" between the survivors. It is lengthy, costly and certainly with a great deal of in-family battling and emotion. The lack of a will, in many cases has split Mexican families down the seams, fractionalizing its members and sometimes lasting decades, costing hundreds of thousands of pesos to the family. As most Mexicans view a will as morbid, instead of good estate planning, this happens many more times than it should.

But a Fideicomiso actually allows you to specify your heirs. What a relief and guarantee that your estate and investment will fall in the hands of who you specify in case of your death!

However, good estate planning also means specifying your heirs correctly in your registered Fideicomiso too! First of all, if you are on title as man and wife, be sure and state that the surviving spouse will inherit the first position of the dead spouse (if that is the case), or specify that the secondary beneficiary(ies) can assume the first position upon the death of both partners in first position. Make sure and talk to your Mexican attorney or closing agent for the proper legal language to be included.

Second, the same specifications hold for unmarried partners on title in first position. Do you want your other partner(s) to assume your position, or do you want another person to be named to assume your position in case of your death?

Third, have you asked your intended heirs if they want to assume the trust in case of your death? I know it’s sensitive and people think they are being a bit morose discussing this, but it is important. In the last couple of years, I have actually had more than one experience where the secondary beneficiary did not want the property, nor the responsibility after they were informed of their inheritance. Uh-oh, now we have a mess!

Understand, that after your death, your named heir must a) notify the bank, b) pay for the change of beneficiary from the person(s) who passed away to the heir, placing them in first position, also naming a new secondary beneficiary in case of their death, and c) pay all of the inheritance taxes, d) pay a closing agent and/or Notario, e) pay for a new Foreign Relations agent permits and bank signing fees and f) pay for a translation and apostille of our death certificate(s), new appraisal and certificates of no lien or tax debt.

Understand as well, that your heirs, once placed in first position, are now responsible for your property taxes and trust fees thereafter. If you were in arrears in property taxes, HOA fees, or trust fees (and utility bills) they must also first pay those debts in order to assume your bequest.

One or more of your heirs may not want those responsibilities or have the money to pay to actually do the transfer. So, always discuss your decision to name them as secondary beneficiary before you name them in your registered Fideicomiso.

If one of your heirs chooses not to want to assume the property and trust, oh boy…we now have a real dilemma. Even if this person wants to pass on their inheritance to another person, the same steps and more need to be accomplished. The same inheritance taxes and closing costs, etc paid. But an additional step will need to be done, having the bank recognize the heirs choice to relinquish his rights to a third party and potentially a second set of inheritance taxes need to be paid. And it still requires the heir to sign documents.

By the way, inheritance taxes at this time is 1% of the new appraised value for direct family members (sons, daughters, mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers) and 2% for all others. For an expensive property, it can be a substantial sum.

So all in all, CHECK before you specify your heirs.

If you are a spouse currently in joint custody of the property, then buying a fideicomiso and your spouse passes away, be sure and IMMEDIATELY notify the bank. You cannot sell, you cannot change your beneficiaries, etc until the bank formally recognizes the death of your spouse and formalize this change on your deed before a Notario and the Public Registry. Do not forget this in your grief. It is as important as notifying your financial bank, or your insurance company.

While your intents are honorable, make sure you inform your heirs of your intended bequest and what responsibilities they will have. Be sure they want your gift before naming them on your fideicomiso.

By Cheryl T. Miller, Broker of Baja Realty and Investment, serving Los Cabos and the Pacific. Contact Cheryl for any other information or your real estate needs at 624-122-2690 or info@forsaleinbaja.com, www.forsaleinbaja.com.
Good tips to think about

Updating Wills

Recently we updated our Wills in the United States and thought this would be a good time to share my thoughts and experiences and how our USA Wills affects our assets in Mexico. Although we have Wills that cover our assets in the United States, our Wills do not cover our Mexican assets, for a probate court in the United States does not have jurisdiction in Mexico, meaning that you would have to go through probate again but in Mexico and having a Mexican Will makes it less complicated.

From what I understand, there are two ways to designate your Mexican assets to heirs:

1. The first would be to form a bank trust. If you’re a foreigner and own property in Baja California Sur, most likely you already hold title in a bank trust known as a Fideicomiso, where the owners or “main beneficiaries” have the same rights as an owner would have and may designate substitute beneficiaries in case of demise. In our case, we have designated each other as mutual main beneficiaries 50/50 so when one passes, the other inherits the other’s 50%. When we are both deceased then our substitute beneficiary will move into each other as mutual main beneficiaries 50/50 so when one passes, the other inherits the other’s 50%. When we are both deceased then our substitute beneficiary will move into number one position and inherit our estate. Keep in mind that this type of trust is only for Real Estate, if you have other assets, having a Mexican Will is recommendable.

I like to think of the Fideicomiso similar to a Living Trust in the United States, for it avoids probate and there are tax advantages. If you currently have a Fideicomiso, then most likely you have designated your substitute beneficiaries when you acquired the property. If you’re not sure, now would be a good time to review your current trust to see how it’s worded and verify your beneficiaries. What if you have changed your mind regarding substitute beneficiaries? Then you can file a declaration with a Mexican notary and notify the Trustee bank. You can be the first to designate your Mexican assets is with a Will or Testamento drafted and certified by a local notary public and registered at the public registry. In our case we have Mexican Wills that cover our personal belongings such as bank accounts, contents of house, vehicles, etc. and our Fideicomiso covers real estate assets. We have seen cases where home owners updated the heirs in their Mexican Wills, but did not update their Fideicomiso. As far as the Trustee bank is concerned, the Fideicomiso supersedes the Will, even if you’re married. Therefore, it’s important when you update your Mexican Will that you also update your Fideicomiso so both documents correspond.

Once the main beneficiaries are deceased, the substitute beneficiary presents original death certificates, the Trustee bank will initiate the process of issuing beneficial rights to heirs, and like a Living Trust in the United States, the Trust avoids probate. Now, keep in mind this information is not a substitute for legal advice. If you have questions regarding your Fideicomiso and how it’s structured, a good place to start is with your Coldwell Banker Riveras real estate advisor as he/she will be able to review your Fideicomiso and refer you to a Mexican Notary, or attorney, who specializes in estate planning.

For more information about Mexico and having a Mexican Will, please refer to Mexican Wills: How it’s worded and verify your beneficiaries. What if you have changed your mind regarding substitute beneficiaries? Then you can file a declaration with a Mexican notary and notify the Trustee bank.

WHAT’S GOING ON IN...continued from page 15

With new ground breakings taking place every week return visitors and locals alike can’t help but notice all of the changes taking place. In this zone it seems like every time you go outside you notice something new taking form. With both commercial and residential construction popping up throughout the area the transformation of Los Cerritos from an untouched jewel in the desert into a vacation destination is well underway.

Now is the time to get your foot in the door of this gorgeous and still undeveloped piece of paradise. Whether you’re looking for an ideal spot for your next vacation, a location to build the perfect beach house or an investment opportunity Cerritos beach has something to offer everyone.

By Mark Austin Sherman of Coldwell Banker Riveras, Los Cerritos Office

Contact mark at U.S. (858) 964-3716 or MX 52 (612) 143-3316

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Wow! Did You See That Giant In Our Bay?

The largest cruise ship in the Norwegian line dropped anchor in our bay for the first time on Friday, October 11. It did look big, from wherever you viewed it.

The *Norwegian Bliss* will set sail from the Port of Los Angeles for a few week long voyages to Cabo San Lucas, Mazatlán and Puerto Vallarta, before squeezing through the Panama Canal to ply the Caribbean route for the winter season.

This past summer it sailed between Seattle Washington and Alaska.

The newly built *Bliss* is Norwegian's largest cruise ship, and has an onboard go-kart race course, a water park, Broadway theater shows, and a very cool sounding laser tag arena. Some people don't like such big cruise ships, so there is a separate upscale section, called The Haven that offers quieter, more luxurious accommodations. Away from the unwashed masses, one would presume. Well, we presume.

The big boat can take up to 4,900 passengers, mostly in 170 square foot balcony rooms, but there are 2206 rooms total, in 42 categories on 11 decks. Altogether there are 20 decks It takes about 1700 crew to keep it all organized. Top speed is about 26 miles an hour, and the $920 million ship gets about 3,000 gallons an hour. That's 3000 gallons to move the ship 26 miles down the road. Sounds expensive, but with 4000 passengers, that's only about three quarters of a gallon per person per hour.
we can hope for. Kind of like the way they fill potholes with sand. "Hey, we filled them."

The Governor pointed out that in order to draft this initiative, five citizen forums were held in each of the municipalities, with a total of 300 people participating. No, you were not invited, you’re only the foreign end user, this is apparently none of your bees wax.

"We want the government to decide who will or will not be the taxi driver, who will or will not provide the transport service, and we want citizens to be those who, through well-established and regulated transparent mecha-

tion, and the respective permits on all platforms, taxis and phone apps. That new agency will also be responsible for setting the rates in Southern Baja, and for granting concessions for all transport-

Back the next day for about half that. Police are monitoring the app and tracking down people who use it, stopping them and pointing to the ride on their phone.

One final ha ha: The taxi drivers have announced they now have their own ride hailing app, and please use it. They promise more polite service at cheaper prices. When we tried it, the app was not operational.

By the time you read this, Uber will probably be working fine, and all opposition will be gone. If not, the ride hailing app Andale is a good option. It has been operational here for months, but we’ve been reluctant to mention it much because we want to help them fly under the radar. They are out of Texas.

Governor Mendoza said in his announcement that, "The

nisms, define it," the governor said. Finally, the initiative was
given to the State Congress so the local deputies could "legislate in favor of society".

And now for how this is working out so far: Not too well, initially. Yes, we were able to go for a ride using our US based app, and it was good, and fast, and cheap and even polite and smiley; which no taxi driver will ever be polite and smiley. We tipped lavishly, more than the ride cost, because the ride was a pittance.

However, the first weekend our mayor, who ran on the platform of not allowing any ride

hailing services, ever, sent city police to stop any Ubers they could find within hours after the governor announced he was dropping his opposition. Four drivers were detained, their cus-
tomers told to get out, and the car confiscated. The fine is officially about $300 but they got their cars

now available from $20 to $80 varying with rate of exchange. So far, nearly 40 bands and artists, both local, national and inter-
national, including American

singer, songwriter Joan Osborne, former member of The Dead, Mexican band La Santa Cecilia and Todos Santos singers Di-
vier Guive and Jenelle Aubade. For more information and the complete line up look up: www.
tropicoofcancercertseries.mx/

Feb 9 & 10. From 10 am to 4 pm. The 10th Annual Todos Santos Open Studio Tour. all proceeds benefit children’s art programs at The Palapa Society

See working art studios, meet the artists, maybe get some real deals.

To get your event listed here, email the details to david@
gringogazette.com. There is no charge. And, if an event we list here does not go off when stated, please don’t shoot the messenger, this is Mexico, and every event is, well, fluid.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS... continued from page 8

love, and art in the small Baja
town with proceeds aiding the local fire department. Tickets
into the canyon for a complete 6-mile run round trip. What is memorable and sweet is the waterfall that flows at the end of the canyon trail. Halfway towards the water fall, there’s an uphill trail that isn’t as challenging as the steep one in San Lucas above Costco, but a mountainous climb nonetheless, and isn’t for the timid new beginners.

For more information or a running guide tour, you can contact me, Fernando Balderas Rodriguez, at aztecofthecity@yahoo.com.

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CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING...
continued from page 10

Que Paso in Cabo?...
continued from page 12

(Sectur) will conduct a review of the program to establish whether the pueblos mágicos are complying with the rules and obligations.

Decisions about which destinations receive the “magical towns” designation come down to negotiations between state governors and federal authorities and money is the main motivator. Of course.

Flea market for doggies and kitties. The Todos Santos 23rd Annual Tianguis will take place Sunday, December 9 at 10:00 a.m. to benefit the Amigos De Los Animales organization. You can support their work of spaying and neutering dogs and cats. The group will be accepting donations of household goods, gently used clothing and shoes, working appliances, tools and sporting goods. Please, no books. Drop off items at Kitty Heaven or contact Angelique Schornstein, bajakitties@yahoo.com, bajarescue.org, 612 145-0250, Todos Santos.

No more mosquitoes? La Paz will be Mexico’s first city to try the Wolbachia method, created by the World Mosquito Program (WMP) and proven successful in Australia in eliminating dengue and malaria mosquito transmission.

The Wolbachia is a bacteria that can control dengue and malaria by eliminating the older insects that contain more parasites. Promoting the survival and reproduction of younger little bastards lessens selection pressure for evolution of resistance. We, personally would wipe them CONTINUED ON PAGE 22

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November 20 to 25. Different surprising hours, different surprising days. Urban Scenic Arts Festival. Prepare to be bowled over by what will appear to be spontaneous dance, clowns cruising down the street, puppeteers, and story tellers. Lots of music and dance... Keep your eyes peeled on streets, in malls, markets and plazas of San Lucas, San Jose and rural areas too. Spanish mostly, so maybe skip the story telling and look for the music and cool puppets. And clowns! Clowns transcend language. Clowns are cool.

Flashmob!

Continued from page 11...
Cooking Like a Mexican

BY ALEJANDRA BORBOLA

Oh, do I have a beautiful story for you guys. Ceremonial or sacred tortillas; traditional in the Hñahñu (nee-a-nee-oo) communities.

Tortillas are made from creole corn, and the stamp used to decorate them is made from mesquite wood. The ink used comes from beets, spinach, a medicinal herb called muicle, and cochinille. Ceremonial tortillas are not only beautiful but also healthy.

El Llanito (little plains in Spanish) is a very small community in Dolores Hidalgo, in the center of the mainland where all sorts of corn grows—black, white, purple and blue corn are some of their main crops. The process of transforming the corn has been deeply linked to the feminine chores, and the making of sacred tortillas is an inherited skill from mother to daughter, or in the worst-case scenario, the daughter in law. In both cases, the woman picked to receive such knowledge must be humble, generous, solidary and respectful of traditions. The commitment is to the family, that not only will the tortillas continue to be made in the family, but also in the community. This inheritance also includes the family stamp, which will have a religious symbol, or flowers and or animals, giving the family an identity.

Ceremonial tortillas are consumed during holidays; the tradition started with the first harvests of the season but are now used in baptisms, first communions, weddings, quinceañeras or any of those big parties where religion is involved.

The making of the tortillas is always a collective event, either just the family or including neighbors and friends. Tasks are distributed among the participants, there must be at least three women. One will make the tortilla and put it in the comal (a flat iron disk where tortillas are cooked or warmed), another woman will take the tortilla halfway through its cooking time, stamp it and put it back in the comal to finish cooking and a third woman is supervising and placing cooked and stamped tortillas in a special basket, called a taxcal.

To make the stamping ink, several insects, spices and plants can be used and give a wide range of colors. Muicle is a medicinal plant that is harvested around the corn plantation and gives a deep purple hue. Cochinille, which is a parasite in nopales (edible cacti plant) has been used since always, and gives a strong red color. Sunflowers are used for yellow; hibiscus for pink, weeds for green and mixes in between.

The Otomí people were fond of studying the origins of the universe, which was strongly tied to nature and particularly; corn. Even though Otomí people were evangelized, they kept their belief system and reorganized their religious beliefs. Being Catholic, their rituals are still indigenous and the celebrations for example, for the Holy Cross are conveniently coincidental with agricultural production cycles. Festivities start with the people asking for a good harvest and end with the people thanking the gods for the good harvest they got. This is where the sacred tortillas take the stage, as offerings.

Otomí people have a deep tie with the harvesting cycle of the corn, even the babies are taken to the corn fields, so they start to love the earth from an early stage. The elders are known to speak and communicate with corn, animals and even rocks.

Ceremonial tortillas are on the menu today
cut the cord. You will be in the dark within days after ignoring a CFE bill. And if the bill gets blown off your door knob before you get home from work, break out the candles. In Mexico City, México state and Tabasco as well as Chiapas and Veracruz, a large number of customers who refuse to pay their bills are claiming “civil resistance” against the public utility, a movement that first began in 1995.

To make CFE’s problems worse, President-elect López Obrador said in July that his government will cancel the debts owed to the CFE, but stressed that the “clean slate” applied from July 1 of this year.

Between this January and July, the CFE cut off more than 3.2 million residential customers across Mexico for failing to pay their bills. **Drink beer.** More than four million Mexico City residents will have no running water for up to five days at the end of this month due to maintenance of the capital’s main water system, and people are already wringing their hands over this. The Mexico City government advised residents to prepare by stocking up on water before it begins, adding that water tankers will be used to supply hospitals, schools, prisons and other public places. Everyone else is on their own.

Buncha whiners. We here in Southern Baja go that long without water, and don’t even get any warning. Supposedly the local water agency warns us on their website when a particular neighborhood is going to go dry, but don’t count on any accuracy there. Nor do we ever know when the water is going to come back on. Don’t see us whining like the Mexico City folks.

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COOKING LIKE A MEXICAN... continued from page 21

I will give you the recipe to make tortillas. It’s not as hard as you would think, if you follow the steps.

Corn is nixtamalized and ground into dough, eventually resulting in stacks of fresh, warm corn tortillas for less than a buck.

Ingredients:
- 2 of MASECA (corn flour) NOT CORNMEAL OR ANYTHING ELSE.
- 1/2 cup water
- 1.5 cups warm water

Procedure:
- Add the 2 cups of corn flour and 1/2 teaspoon salt to a mixing bowl.
- Add one cup of the warm water and stir until all the water is absorbed. It should look like clumpy sand.
- Start adding the rest of the warm water little by little, a couple tablespoons at a time, and stirring regularly.
- The idea is to keep adding water until the flour turns into a dough. At that point you can pick it up with your hands and knead it together.
- But there is some trial and error along the way as the exact amount of water used can vary. If the dough is sticking to your hands, there is probably too much water. You can fix it by adding some additional flour to the mixture and kneading. If the dough isn’t forming a cohesive ball you probably need to add a bit more water.
- Separate the dough into golf ball sized chunks, rolling between the hands to form a smooth ball. You’ll need something to put on either side of the dough ball to prevent it from sticking when flattening, a cut open plastic bag will work great.
- If you got the dough right, the tortilla peels off the plastic effortlessly. If it’s sticking there is probably too much water in the dough.
- And don’t worry if you don’t have a tortilla press, you can use a CONTINUED ON PAGE 26

Good Deals On Love

LUNA (dog)
My name is from the Latin word luna, meaning the moon. In both Roman and Greek mythology, there were moon goddesses who were quite impressive. The name Luna is often used for those born under the obsessively compassionate astrological sign of Cancer, which is ruled by the moon. I don’t know much about any of that, but I am obsessively compassionate and I do vow to love my new human to the moon and back!

CLEOPATRA (cat)
There are numerous quasi-attractive cat breeds out there. You’ve got your country calves, your trendy tuxedos, your posh Persians, even your racy ragdolls. And then, there is the scintillating Siamese. There is no way to resist our violet-blue eyes and chocolate and cream accents; it’s no use even trying. Why not come down to the shelter and find out if I might approve of you as my adoring human?
Walk It In
You can bring them into our office which is on the marina in Cabo San Lucas, second floor in front of the Cultural Center over Captain Tony’s. Office hours: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. Mon-Fri.

Mail It In
You can mail it to 2215 Paseo de Las Americas Suite 25-M143, San Diego, CA, 92154

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We’re skipping right to calling the baby sitter back home to see if the kids are still alive or to report your credit card has been hijacked. For local calls see phone dialing 101

For international long-distance calls to Mexico, you first dial 00, then the country code. This is 1 for both the U.S. and Canada, so you would dial 00 then 1 then your area code then the 7 digit number of your baby sitter. (BTW, are you sure you did the right thing leaving your infant with the teenager next door? Her boyfriend looks a little sketchy.)

Now let’s go through this backwards. The country code for Mexico is 52. When calling a Mexican phone number from the U.S. or Canada, you need to dial 011 plus 52 plus the area code plus the phone number here. Here’s the tricky part: If you’re calling a cell phone here, you’ll need to squeeze in a 1 after the 52 and before the area code. Here’s how that goes: 011 + 52 + 1 + area code + phone number. And how do you know if you’re calling a cell phone here? You don’t. But if a lady comes on the phone and babbles something in Spanish, chances are she’s telling you to try again and this time don’t forget the 1.

Now you are ready to call the United States or Canada: first dial 00, then the code which for the U.S. and Canada is 1, so you would dial 00 + 1 + the area code and then your 7 digit number.

Now the tricky part. Say you want to dial a toll free number in the States or Canada. You can’t. Mexico blocks them. But we have a work around.

Dial 001, which as we told you, is the international code to call the United States. Then there is a magic number for each of your toll free numbers.

Dial 883 if your toll free number begins with 866 numbers.
Dial 881 if your toll free number begins with 888.
Dial 880 if your toll free number begins with 800.

Now dial the seven digit telephone number normally. An American operator lady will come on and remind you you’re going to have to pay for this, it’s not toll free from Mexico, but you’re going to be so relieved you finally got through to your bank or your credit card company you won’t even mind paying for the call.

Here are two more numbers to toss into the mix, but good luck with them if you don’t speak Spanish.

Dial 911 to get an emergency operator, but it would be a fluke if anyone there speaks English. And where do you think you’re going to direct the police or an ambulance when you can’t even tell Dominos where they’re going to need to deliver that pizza?

Directory assistance is 040 but it’s not like a magic number for a number you don’t know. If you don’t say 114 (who is at the other end of the line) you’re going to pay.

That saves this writer a ton of money. She promised me, her phone bill was half of what it was last year. She didn’t even have to go to customer service again. That’s our goal too. 

And where do you think you’re going to direct the police or an ambulance when you can’t even tell Dominos where they’re going to need to deliver that pizza?

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And where do you think you’re going to direct the police or an ambulance when you can’t even tell Dominos where they’re going to need to deliver that pizza?
Washing Clothes in Mexico
Way different

BY JESSE JAMES RODRIGUEZ

It’s almost comical when people in the USA and Canada say they are doing their laundry when in fact, the washing machine is doing their laundry. In Mexico, and Baja California, when people say they are doing their laundry, they actually; both literally and figuratively are doing their laundry, washing dirty clothes by hand. It is an age old tradition in Mexico, dating back to the indigenous Aztecs and Mayans and earlier civilizations since the beginning of the time.

And of course, if people are washing their clothes by hand in Los Cabos, they are not using a dryer before folding them by hand and putting them away. Almost everyone in Northern and Southern Baja California as well as mainland Mexico, dry their clothes using the almighty bright and warm, hot sizzling sun; which is free. Whether they are hanging the wet, cleaned clothes on a line in the backyard or on a rooftop, or by an open window, the natural sun is the preferred means of drying washed clothes. On a regular hot sunny day in Cabo, the clothes can get dry within an hour or two of putting them up.

Throughout the evolution of history, washing clothes in the river was pretty much the normal way of doing laundry in many less-developed parts of the world. Even in prosperous parts of early society, riverside washing continued well into the 19th century and really all that has changed is the location of water. In today’s modern world, every apartment or house built in Cabo or Mexico, has a gray concrete washing area with wash board grooves in the concrete. It’s a concrete washboard. Washing clothes by hand is still very much a common everyday practice for both the middle class and poor.

While early civilizations often found themselves washing clothes down by the local river, a rigorous yet effective method that is still practiced all over the world, especially in Mexico; the modern era has brought the water to home to every structure built, and clothes are now washed in the comforts of home. Usually in a backyard in a patio area. Garments are no longer beaten over rocks, and scrubbed with abrasive sand or stones, but still hand washed, using stiff brushes and soap.

Up to about 18 years ago we could still see Mexican senoras washing their laundry in San Jose in the estuary, at the old bridge, not the new one that goes right close to the sewage treatment plant. Still, that estuary water didn’t look that good.

Gringos are usually surprised at what a bargain taking their clothes to a local laundry is. There are few laundromats where you put your quarters into the machines and wait around for the cycle to finish, most Cabo laundries are drop off. You drop off your clothes and they wash, dry, and fold them nicely. And many of them will iron if you pay just a little bit extra. Most of the local laundries eyeball your bag of dirties and come up with a price. Like a large garbage bag is about $10 for the wash/dry/ folds.

It was actually the Romans who took this basic concept of washing clothes and turned it into a commercial industry. The shift from homespun fabrics to much cheaper clothes, called for a more frequent washing. Human urine was used, collected and then boiled to make soap.
To cook; on a comal flip the tortilla 10 seconds after putting it on the heat and then cook each side for 1-2 minutes or until brown spots appear. The idea is that those first 10 seconds will seal in some of the heat as it’s cooking. The good tortillas will puff up, but this takes practice.

WASHING CLOTHES IN...
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from public restrooms, since the pee, containing ammonia, was an important cleaning agent not only in Roman times, but Medieval Europe as well. Some people would thus, sell their urine to laundry businesses except the poor who had no pot to transport and sell their pee; hence the popular term, "they’re so poor, they don’t have a pot to piss in."

Surprisingly, whereas London was drawing its drinking water from the polluted River Thames as late as 1854, the Aztecs supplied their capitol with fresh water from the nearby hill of Chapultepec by means of their two aqueducts. The sacred importance of water was as important to the Aztecs as it is to everyone living in Cabo and all over the globe.

Aztec fathers allegedly told their daughters; “If you want your husband to love you, dress well, wash yourself and wash your clothes.” They didn’t mention deodorant and without that, we fear the worst.

Ancient Egyptians vigorously scrubbed linen with natron – a naturally occurring mixture of sodium salts – then dried laundry in the sun. The Dutch from 1,000 A.D. were laundry “experts”, who would soak dirty clothing for up to 8 weeks in a mixture of lye – water run through the ashes of a wood fire – and sour milk to get it really white. It was around 1800 A.D. when the scrub board was invented, possibly in Scandinavia.

The first motorized washing machine was built in the USA during 1851. In the 1920’s the first electric washing machines were built in America, which used an agitator or rocking action. USA spin dryers were developed during that same decade.

And while the current American administration is still trying to keep using fossil fuel, Mexico has embraced the future of solar energy with visionary enthusiasm. At a total cost of $100 million US dollars, the government of Mexico constructed a solar energy farm in 2013 at nearby La Paz. Hector Olea, president of Gauss Energy, the company that built the facility, explained its energy would be sold not to the public, but to the Federal Electricity Commission (CFE) in a contract agreement for the next 20 years. The 247 acres (100 hectares) in La Paz, contains 135 thousand solar panels which have the capacity to power 164,000 homes, or 64% of the capitol city of Baja California Sur. Further proof, there is more than enough free solar sun power to dry the hand washed clothes - cleaned by roughly 85% of Southern Baja people.
October 15th, 2018

**Fish Report**

**BY GARY GRAHAM**

Billfish 65%, tuna 16%, dorado 5%, other species 9%.

Many tuna up to 45 pounds have been around, and a few dorado were caught on the 95 Spot, in addition there have been great billfish catches with lots of striped marlin and sailfish, many blue marlin, a 450-pound black, and inshore anglers caught a large number of roosterfish and sierra.

As the season has turned to fall, some monster blues weighing 340 pounds, 290 pounds and inshore blues have been spotted in local waters now. As angling pressure increases and there's a slight gale blowing, so the coming weeks should see a few amberjack, one that was over 40 pounds. Also, one golden leopard grouper was caught.

LOCATION: Finger Bank, 11:50 Spot, 95 Spot, and inshore Golden Gate.

BEST LURES: Varied colorful lures; green, black, guacamayo, petrolero, feathers; caballito and ballyhoo bait.

Puerto Los Cabos

As we are now seeing the first wave of fall season anglers arriving, so the coming weeks should be very busy. Weather patterns are changing, and there's a slight chill now early in the mornings. It's still very humid with some intense sunshine, scattered tropical clouds and increased swells due to distant hurricanes, with relatively light winds. Ocean water temperatures have been in the 86-degree range, still very conducive for fueling storms.

As angling pressure increases we will see how supplies of sardina hold up; this has been the main baitfish being used; also, the slabs of squid make a good combination and option to have, if available. The main center of action for local fleets has been on the Iman Bank with yellowfin tuna the most common gamefish ranging in size from 10 to 70 pounds. Mixed in were various skipjack and lots of pesky triggerfish. The bite was tough. The tuna would come up but were very finicky and would strike sporadically. Most charters were doing well to land a couple of tuna while on other days anglers landed as many as five or more. Many of the yellowfin landed on these grounds averaged in the 25 to 60 pound class -- quality fish, just not in any significant numbers. These fish have been in these same areas for the entire summer and have now become wiser to the increased boat traffic, though we expect action to start spreading out some and hopefully we will see more dorado moving in; so far they have been scarce – an occasional one or two dorado in the 2 to 12 pound range.

Wahoo action has been limited. Wahoo do not often seem that active when the ocean temperature is this warm. As the cooling currents move in, we expect to have much better chances for these popular fish.

We heard of some better blue marlin action off the fishing grounds closer to Cabo San Lucas; off of San Jose a few blues over 200 pounds were reported, as well as many more sailfish have been spotted in local waters now. Sailfish up to 100 pounds were landed where the yellowfin tuna were schooling. These fish like the warmest of waters.

Not much bottom action now because of stronger currents; anglers that tried mainly had a variety of smaller-sized pargo, bonito, triggerfish, and cabrilla. We did see a few amberjack, one that was over 40 pounds. Also, one golden leopard grouper was caught.

East Cape

Water has been cooling a bit at 84 to 86 degrees. Clear and flat. Although there has been some rain, it has been very cool and pleasant on clear days. Highs are in the 80s. It's been a good year for yellowfin, with tuna taken virtually every fishable day this season. The big news was wahoo. It has been good fishing for tuna, pargo, amberjack, pempo and roosterfish.

The wahoo are a long ride south off Cerro Colorado. Anglers taking the ride are picking up two or three fish in the 20 to 50 pound class on Marauders and Rapallas. Striped marlin mixed with sails and blues are 20 to 30 miles offshore. Bait: mackerel, squid and sardina.

Laura Hernandez of San Diego had a scale aboard and this bad boy was surprisingly only 37 pounds, but a great catch! She was just off Punta Perico near Las Arenas when she hooked it in shallow water. She and her husband caught two of these big pargo

**Fish Killer Of The Week**

It's been a good year for yellowfin, with tuna taken virtually every fishable day this season. The big news was wahoo. It has been good fishing for tuna, pargo, amberjack, pempo and roosterfish.

Don't Eat Our Sport Fish!

Marlin & dorado are species reserved exclusively for sport fishing and cannot be sold commercially.

If you see them on a restaurant menu, please do not order them. It is against the law. We know they taste good but these sport fish are the foundation of our community; all business & families are linked directly or indirectly to sport fishing and without a healthy fishery we will not have a healthy economy or environment.

However, if you catch a marlin or dorado & want to have it cooked for your own personal use at a local restaurant that's fine, but it cannot be sold.
FISH REPORT...
continued from page 27

sardina. Billfish are way outside. Boats searching for porpoise holding tuna are catching and releasing stripers, sail and blues. Yellowfin tuna are very close, just 1 to 2 miles off La Ribera and Rincon with limits for all anglers. These are primarily 5 to 20 pounders with a few 30 pounders or a bit heavier. Very good tuna fishing. Big roosterfish. Not much pressure. Lots are around. If you’re looking to play some world-class tug o’ war, these roosters are right up your alley.

Big pargo, pompano and amberjack. There is very good, consistent fishing on the bottom. Two pargo last week were over 30 pounds with lots of amberjack to 50 pounds. The pompano are only 100 yards off the lighthouse.

La Paz

Yellowfin tuna that we’ve had all year, but especially the last two months took a bit of a slow-down. They’re still here and we caught quite a few, but not as many. Most were in the 10 to 30 pound class with a few 40 to 60 pounders. There were some 100+ pounders hooked at the south end of Cerralvo Island, but all those fish were lost. Still, we had to work a lot harder to find the tuna this past week whereas in other weeks, the tuna were voracious. Some days, some pangas did not get one tuna at all which have been our bread-and-butter fish most of the season.

However, remarkably, the bite was far better for our La Paz fleet which usually relies on a steady dorado bite to bend rods and fill fish boxes. However, the tuna bite was much more solid and dependable with 25 to 40 pound yellowfin taking up perhaps 50% of the catch. Whereas in normal years, we see only a handful of tuna for the La Paz fleet, this past week, our pangas were getting 2 to 10 yellowfin per panga per day! In an eye out and see if this is an on-going trend, or just a slight anomaly.

Cabo San Lucas

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October 15th, 2018

 Really?

Does this so called palm tree fool anyone?

@gringogazette_
**Ask a Mexican**

This week we asked: Do you have pets? Have you spayed and neutered them?

Alfonso Marquez, 22, student. I have two cats and they are both fixed, because I picked them up from a garbage can on the street, someone had left them in a tied-up plastic bag, they would have died! I have never really liked cats but I had to help these two and I love them, they are both male, and I neutered them because if they got a cat lady pregnant, she would have between 8 or 12 kittens, which is a lot of responsibility and most of them are going to end up on the street anyway, so I decided to break the pattern.

Griselda Lopez, 62, retired. I have my dogs at my house, and none of them have been spayed. Some of the dogs come and go and when they have puppies, either I keep them here with me or my grandkids take them to their house or give them to their friends. I don’t neuter them because they are always here in the house with me, and I don’t have a problem feeding them. I have a big piece of land for them to walk around freely, and they can eat whatever I cook them with the leftovers from lunch or something like that. Food doesn’t go to waste here.

Mario Nogal, 27, driver. I have fish because I am allergic to fur, all of it and all the kinds. But I think that we should really neuter any dogs or cats we have in our community because they can become a problem later. The dogs around my neighborhood are always breaking the garbage bags and making a mess on the street, or the cats fight and make the most horrible sounds.

Juan Gudiño, 43, manager. Yes, I have two great Danes, a male and a female. I have not spayed them because I like their puppies and can always find someone who will want them. I don’t believe we should interfere with their natural circle of life. Dogs are meant to have puppies and as long as we are responsible enough to give them to good people, everything should work accordingly. There are many species that have been hunted down to extinction, if we could have bred those species like dogs are, in a home, I think that problem could have been solved in time.

Alicia Juárez, 41, secretary. I have 14 dogs and a lot of cats. I volunteer in a rescue program and yes, all of my pets are neutered because things are getting out of control. I think it’s the greatest act of love for animals, to keep them from having a bad life and the only way we can guarantee that, is by making sure no more babies come to suffer on the streets. I spay my pets as soon as I can and even the ones I foster, there are excellent free campaigns.

Teresa Vidal, 52, merchant. I don’t have enough money to spay my pets, but when I see my dog humping other dogs, I immediately call him off. I have three dogs around the ranch and they have never had puppies. Sometimes, we make special aprons for the male, so he doesn’t hump the females, because we know we can not take another 8 dogs.

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**Twin Sisters!**

NANCY is looking for a home. She’s a little girl labrador shepard mix 7 months old. Nancy is very well behaved but she wants to be the boss.

She was found as a 2 month old puppy with her sister and brothers. She’s had her shots, she’s been spayed, she’s had her teeth cleaned, she’s learned basic commands, and she can be leash walked. NANCY is looking for a home.

FANCY is Nancy’s twin sister. Not surprisingly, Fancy is also a labrador shepard mix and is also, you guessed it, 7 months old. She was found at the same time when they were hardly 2 months old. Fancy is very sweet and follows you around. She listens very well and will make a great pet for a family with kids.

Fancy will love to stay with her sister Nancy but she understands if that’s not possible and will get over her sister pretty quick. Just to find a great home and get lots of attention is her big goal.

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What To Do With All That Fish
You can smoke it, after you build a smoker

BY TERRY BYRNS

The preservation of fish has been an integral part of every seafaring culture. Over the course of thousands of years of drying, salting, and smoking fish, the technique has developed to a point where once common food has become a delicacy.

A smoker is an oven/BBQ type of thing for cooking at low temperatures in a controlled, smoky environment. There are a lot of different types of smokers, from small electric units to large fancy store bought smokers big enough to feed an army, literally.

Fattier fish absorbs smoke better than leaner fish, but he smokes whatever he can catch. While any fish can be delicious cooked in the smoker, Terry tells us that going with tuna, salmon, sea bass, or sablefish is best for tender, moist smoked fish.

Cold smoking requires temperatures below 80 degrees F for several days. Hot smoking, however, can be done at temperatures of up to 250 degrees and only takes a few hours.

It is best to start with a salt-water brine. The way Terry does it, the brining process is quick so don’t worry about having to start out the day before. Plan on the fish being in the brine for about 15 minutes per 1/2 inch of thickness. Also, plan on 1 quart of brine per pound of fish. The brine of course, makes the difference in flavor. Some people call a brine a “cure” when smoking fish. Whatever you call it, it imparts a lot of good flavor. This process eliminates moisture from the fish, adds flavor, and helps in the preserving process.

The typical brine has three elements – sugar, salt and water. The liquid can be water, soy sauce or a dry, white wine. Mix together the sugar, salt, soy sauce, water, wine, onion and garlic powders. Pepper and Tabasco

He puts three or four chunks about the size of a baseball on top of the hot charcoal. These will smoke and create smoke inside the smoker and season the meat with that aroma. Terry believes Kingsford gives the best consistency and lasts the longest.

Cathy Dammann is a Medical Aesthetics Practitioner and has certifications in Aesthetics, and Light and Laser Therapies. She is a member of the International Association for Physicians in Aesthetic Medicine and the recent recipient of the 2012 “Successful Women of the Baja” by Baja Traveler Magazine. She has made numerous appearances on talk shows including Oprah. Spa Cielo’s physicians and staff are trained and certified in United States and Mexico and are bilingual. Spa Cielo Laser and Wellness Center holds a five star rating and received the “2013-2017 Award of Excellence” from Trip Advisor and has the experience you look for in a laser medical spa, with 10 years in Los Cabos area, 14,000 patients and over 70,000 procedures performed. Spa Cielo is your answer to skin and body rejuvenation.

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Terry Byrns, a weekend marshal at Bajamar found bonita and yellow tail off Ensenada. He caught this bad boy trolling deep swimming rapalas along the 90 feet of water from Bajamar to La Mission. He and his fellow marshals Edgar, Angel and Ivan, have taught us all how to build a smoker from an old fridge.

WHAT TO DO WITH ALL THAT...

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sauce are good too. Martha Stewart probably doesn’t brine, but it shouldn’t be hard to come up with a recipe from Google.

Hot smoking can be done in any grill or smoker, is easier and quicker than cold smoking, which may require more specialized equipment and a lot more patience. What you get is equally smoky, but isn’t dried or preserved in the same way. This does mean that hot smoked fish has a short shelf life and needs to be refrigerated or frozen.

On a final note, not only does fish make a great meal or appetizer, it also makes a great ingredient in other food. Try blending the smoked meat with some cheese, garlic, salt and pepper and you suddenly have a great spread for crackers. Many recipes call for smoked fish, from soups to salads to main courses.

Now, if you’re just not handy with an old fridge, or say you’ve flown into Cabo without your smoker, take your fish to Griselda’s Smokehouse on the marina front. They use a really great marinade and a natural wood smoke, and they make it easy on you. They clean, fillet, vacuum pack and freeze for about $1.50 per finished pound, which is half the weight of what you bring in. They will store your fish until you’re ready to leave. Small portions, typically for two, are prepared for each vacuum pack. If frozen, you will need to bring a hard or soft-sided cooler (Styrofoam won’t do). Or they will sell you a cooler. This will protect the fish for a minimum of 24 hours. Smoked fish is refrigerated when vacuum packed and will also be good for a minimum period of 24 hours, (no refrigeration needed during travel). All food products should be packed in checked luggage and you will need to declare it in customs in the arrival country, but none of their clients have had any problems with customs officials in the U.S. or Canada.

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