Neat Mining Museum

In the quaint mining town of El Triunfo, an hour and half drive away

BY MALIA DURBANO

A short detour off the main road between Todos Santos and La Paz or Cabo, will take you to the quaint but notable town of El Triunfo. A new museum, called Museo Ruta de Plata, (silver route), highlighting the mining history of the region, just opened last month after years of planning, construction and creation of the historical exhibits.

The idea to preserve the history of the region came from an American named Christy Walton. Yes, that Walton family. The daughter of Sam lives in La Paz. While visiting El Triunfo, she observed a group of school children on an excursion, running and playing near the old chimneys that were part of the factory that extracted the gold and silver from the raw ore. She wondered if they knew about the prior importance of those chimneys so she decided to create the museum to document the significance of El Triunfo and its contribution to the early economy in the Cape region.

The tiny town with a current population of about 300 was once a thriving mining town of approximately 4000 residents when it was booming in the 1880’s. Baja California’s cape played a significant role in the development of the region and was part of the global economy. Workers came from all over the globe in search of opportunity and prosperity.

The museum’s interactive, bilingual exhibits are dedicated to preserving and interpreting the rich mining history and CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Star Offers Cheapest TV Option

And it comes straight from the sky, no need for cable or phone lines

BY ANDY FRIESE

In 2015, Star TV launched its satellite television service that began in the Mexican state of Zacatecas, where production of the hardware takes place, and then expanded to other states of the country where SKY and Dish are not readily available. That is their niche: Underserved areas, which, believe it or not, includes Los Cabos.

Satellite television is a service that delivers television programming to viewers by relaying it from a communications satellite CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

Look for the yellow dish and you will know it’s Star. All the providers have different colors uglying up the neighborhoods, but nobody offers cheaper TV than Star
Milliseconds to promote Los Cabos. Well, $11 million. That’s the amount of money that the Los Cabos tourist fund will spend in 2019 to promote us all over the world, by attending worldwide tourist pow wows, tourist fairs, and any other event they can find. In addition to ads and spots in airline magazines, they buy billboards and TV commercials.

Just this month, Mexico’s new president Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, known as AMLO, announced the dissolution of Mexico’s tourist promotion council, leaving all states abandoned and on their own. Small tourist towns will suffer, but we won’t so much, as our hotel and time share developers are rich, smart, and aggressive and won’t let AMLO stop their promotional efforts.

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Discourage! Discourage! Los Cabos city council approved the property tax discounts for 2019. 20 percent if paid in January, 15% if paid in March, and only 5% discount for those who pay in April. Hurry like it matters. Property tax here is so low it’s a joke. Which may help to explain the lack of city services.

Fundraiser. Local foundation announces gala dinner. The Sarahuaro foundation will hold its 1st annual dinner fundraiser, which they’re calling Let’s Make Magic. It will be Saturday, January 12, at the Montage Los Cabos resort from 7:00 to 11:00. PM. But you knew that.

Sarahuaro feeds more than 350 needy children every day and offers training for better life opportunities to more than 100 women in impoverished areas of Cabo San Lucas. Join them for a fancy reception and gourmet dinner, with live entertainment and dancing, and then have some fun with auctions and raffles! Costs are: Early bird pass: $100 (if bought in December). Single regular pass: $125. At the door: $150. VIP table for 10: $2,000. Tickets are avail-

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**Bike Adventure Along The Coast**

Put this in the extreme adventure category

**By Cathy Watkins**

Now you can enjoy an ecological bike adventure in the desert, on the edge of the Sea of Cortez. Cabo Cycle just opened its Adventure Park on 460 acres of woodsy land between the Holiday Inn and the Thompson Hotel on the Cabo Corridor. The terrain has amazing views of the iconic arch of Cabo and the bay and plenty of cactus.

Cabo Cycle uses modern electric bicycles that are environmentally friendly and sort of easy to handle. They’re made by Fat Bike in Mexico and have five speeds and front and back brakes. Brakes are very important, as the bike accelerates with a throttle just like a motorcycle. You can also pedal to help accelerate your speed on the uphills.

As you travel up and down the terrain, the guide will instruct you when to accelerate as you go uphill and brake on the downhill. Don’t laugh, of course you will think to do that, but you may not do these things in time. Do as your guide cues, or you’ll find you run out of steam on the uphills, and will plop over, and well, you know what happens if you lose control of the damn thing on these rather serious downhill.

The guide then gives a general description about the tour and route, which is three miles long. It’s a long three miles.

Next, the guides help you put on lots and lots of safety equipment consisting of a helmet, knee pads and elbow pads, and wrist braces. At this point, it dawns on you that this is going to be more than just a leisurely peddle through the tundra but no, we did not catch on to it that early. It does say “Extreme Adventure” in the ad, yet we still didn’t catch on to the extremeness of this adventure.

The guides give instructions on how to operate the bike and a run-through of their signals, which will be in Spanish, but there’s only like two commands, so you can do this. Basically it’s “peddle like hell”, and “get ready to go when to operate the bike and a run-through of their signals, which will be in Spanish, but there’s only like two commands, so you can do this. Basically it’s “peddle like hell”, and “get ready to go when to go.”

The type of people who stick their tongue out at the photographer is the same type who cackles when you fall. Unfortunately this person never fell herself. My friend, a pretty old Gringa but very experienced bicycler and motorcyclist, never crashed but I am not so experienced and I plopped over about three times, never getting hurt at all. Well, my.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12
Do we have enough docs? Yes, if you’re a foreigner. Our head of the health department has announced the average is one doctor for every thousand inhabitants, 1 nurse for every doctor and 1.5 beds per 1,000 inhabitants. But, in our state there are 2.5 doctors per 1,000 inhabitants, 1.2 nurses for each doctor and 1.5 beds per 1,000 inhabitants, which exceeds the statistical data at the national level, as confirmed with information from the OECD.

In this country there is an average of 3.8 hospitals per 100,000 inhabitants and in BCS there are 4.9 hospitals per 100,000 inhabitants. In this state there are 19 public hospitals and 22 private hospitals. In the city of Los Cabos alone there are 3 public hospitals and 15 private hospitals. Read “private” as expecting cash paying foreigners to keep them afloat. Is it any wonder when a lot of these hospitals get a foreigner, they stick an IV in him or her, and hold the patient hostage?

Is this a failed state? No, not BCS, we’re fine here, but the country has no-go areas where even the police and soldiers fear to tread. Two new self-defense forces have emerged in two municipalities in the state of Guerrero in response to ongoing violence and insecurity while another may soon be required in a third municipality. These so called self defense forces are citizens who are arming themselves and patrolling their city. This is how Mexico gets such a bad reputation. Stay out of the state of Guerrero. That region includes Acapulco which no foreign tourists go to anymore. When they closed their convention center, they turned it into a national guard armory. What does that tell us? No go, that’s what.

The problem with the vigilante groups trying to guard their homes and towns, is they so often turn bad themselves. There’s just something about a man with a gun…

Not on AMLO’s watch. There will be no fracking for natural gas according to the new president. He doesn’t care Mexico has to import 80% of the natural gas we use. But he did bulldoze down a whole bunch of mangroves for a new refinery. Oops, forgot to get a permit to do that. Not important, says he, we need the $8 billion refinery. Says the President, “We don’t gotta show you no stinkin permits”. Well, we paraphrase.

López Obrador has pledged that the new refinery, which would be the nation’s seventh, will help Mexico to become self-sufficient in energy and boost the economy of southeastern states. Which justifies no stinkin permits required, right?

So, back to those fracking permits, is anyone sure we need those more than we need to be self sufficient in natural gas?

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14
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Cabo Fire Department Enjoys Support

BY CAM PAYNE

The Cabo San Lucas Firefighters (Bomberos) was first established in 1982, when Gildardo Payan, originally from Sinaloa, began the volunteer group with simple buckets of water, walkie talkies and using his own beat up vehicle to answer the calls. Now the local fire fighting brigade has 60 active volunteers and a roster of about 130 that contribute whenever they can, a group of young men who are considered “floaters”.

The Cabo San Lucas firefighters say they are a public service totally dependent on fundraising efforts from donations and whatever money they make from their firefighters’ T-shirt store, which is adjacent to the firehouse, behind the McDonald’s on the main drag coming into town. The store generates a “good amount”, (undisclosed) of money during high season and little to none during the slow months of August and September. The fire department receives funding from the city of Los Cabos government offices which pays for the upper management salaries, telephone service, gas for the trucks, and the building’s electric bill. The volunteer man power, which is in no shortage, adds the rest. The donated money goes to unspecified needs.

Los Bomberos currently has 11 red fire trucks and one green truck sitting at their facilities. They have so many fire trucks they can’t even cram them into their fire house, so they sit across the street, leaning up against McDonald’s. “We have four of them that are not working, because we need U.S. made parts, along with a mechanic who knows how to put them into fire trucks,” said Commander in Chief, Jose Carbajal.

Los Bomberos have shared or donated trucks and equipment to the Baja California Sur neighbor towns. Los Barriles has a pickup camper it uses as an ambulance, (totally unstocked with any equipment or medicine), but what it really needs is gasoline to fire it up and get victims to hospitals in La Paz.

Los Barriles is relatively prosperous, due to all the tax money they collect is mandatory.

In the past couple of months, due to corruption and mismanagement, La Paz City Hall has had its electricity cut off, forcing them to bring in a generator, and then its copiers and printers were rolled away. La Paz is desperate for money and sees outlying towns as their cash cow.

The little beach town of Los Barriles, an hour and half of twisty miles from La Paz, and one hour north of San Jose, is being raped by La Paz. Tax money flows from Los Barriles to La Paz, but never comes back in expenditures for the town. Los Barriles is relatively prosperous, due to all the tax money they collect is mandatory.

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CONTINUED ON PAGE 20
Sargassum is a seaweed. An ugly brown stinky seaweed. Huge quantities of the crap have washed up on beaches around Cancun and parts of the Caribbean this season, which has cost millions of dollars to haul away. It has also negatively impacted tourism, as you can't sit on the beach alongside the awful stuff because of the stinko, and it is in some places so high, it towers over peoples’ heads.

But now one guy has found a use for it, a use that might even pay somewhat towards its removal. He has pressed it into bricks, dried it out, and built a house out of it. It really doesn’t stink very much once its dry, he says. Really.

In another town nine-year-old school student from Cozumel, Quintana Roo, has come up with an innovative use for sargassum: she’s making paper out of it. Victoria Curiel told the newspaper El Financiero she came up with the idea to use the smelly brown seaweed as part of a paper-making process while walking her dog and seeing discarded notebooks in the sargassum on the beach.

After a few unsuccessful attempts, Curiel did some online research and realized that she needed to mix cellulose from the nopal cactus or the maguey plant with the sargassum in order for it to be turned into paper.

The process she ended up with involves collecting the seaweed and letting it dry in order to get rid of any microorganisms it is carrying. This helps damp down the stink, too. The sargassum is hydrated again using a water solution containing salt and other additives which eliminate the rest of the stink.

The next step is to turn the seaweed into a paste into which recycled paper from the discarded notebooks is mixed. Finally, Curiel turns the mixture into paper, which she uses to create new notebooks featuring her own designs. She is now selling them at local artisans' markets for between 10 and 80 pesos each.

"Here on the island I live with my mom but my mom has a back injury that prevents her from working so I had been very worried about our economic situation and my future university studies," she said. "I want to keep growing [my business] and helping the planet so why not create my own notebook and paper production company worldwide?," she added.

Curiel is now planning on using another unlikely material to produce paper: cigarette butts. There are plenty of those on the island made famous by hosting thousands of cruise ship passengers every year.
As you get older three things happen. The first is your memory goes, and the I can’t remember the other two.

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The director of Spa Cielo, Cathy Dammann, a registered nurse back in the real world, knows this very expensive piece of equipment to be used by local autistic children for no charge, as hyperbaric concentration of oxygen has been proven to be very beneficial for these kids. She has pictures of brain scans before and after treatment that shows parts of the brain actually normalizing, and more than that, the improvement in these kids’ behavior is dramatic. So why can’t we get plenty of benefit from it as well? We can.

The increased concentration of oxygen in our blood, our organs, and our brain has been proven to result in better health, better feeling of well-being and probably better longevity.

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 Award of Excellence” from TripAdvisor 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.

So, if you would like a complimentary session in the hyperbaric chamber, call Cathy Dammann at Spa Cielo in San Jose. 624 105 2209. Go to www.spa-cielo-cabo.com.

Rated with five stars on Trip Advisor.
STAR OFFERS CHEAPEST TV... continued from page 1

orbiting the Earth directly to the viewer’s location. With no telephone lines, no cable. The signals are received via an outdoor dish hanging off the home or commercial business.

Parent company Eutelsat is a European satellite operator with corporate offices in Paris, France and providing service for the entire European continent, the Middle East, Africa, Asia and the Americas. This is no small potatoes, Eutelsat, founded in 1977, is the world’s third largest satellite operator and one of the most experienced and popular communication satellite operators on the planet. Star TV distributes its contents from three satellites owned by Teléfono, Eutelsat and EchoStar.

Star TV’s lowest basic Nova package costs about $8 per month, and includes 56 channels. The 72 channel Supernova package costs $11 while the Cosmo package is priced at $14 for 84 channels. Yes, we’re talking dollars here. These are very good prices.

The highest priced packages consists of the 76 channel Star premium package, ($18), which includes all the bells and whistles along with the 87 channel Cosmo Plus ($20) that features the same HBO family of HBO2, and Max. And of course, there’s the 95 channel Universal package available at $25. The same packages for an additional household television is priced at $3.50 plus tax; and you can have as many as three TV’s per home.

Comparatively, a Mega cable service with internet costs $30. US. With Telmex, the price of service with just internet of 10 megs is $17 with 20 megs offered at $20. These prices explain why Star is growing so fast.

The exceptional power levels of the satellite allow for the shared use by clients that offer Direct Television Home services. The satellite orbiting earth was strengthened during 2016 after launching another satellite co-located with Eutelsat to support growth in the Americas.

"Thanks to the Telecommunications Reform that has been carried out by the Mexican government, and the spirit of the Federal Institute of Telecommunications to promote competition, there is an opportunity to provide an alternative service of satellite television," said Julio Di-Bella, CEO of Star Group.

Star TV has been looking to grow in an industry currently dominated by Sky (Televisa and AT&T) and Dish (MVS and Echostar). There are 38 - 40% Mexican households who lack a paid TV subscription in this country, and that’s where Star is looking. In 2014 Star TV announced an agreement with EKT, a designer and manufacturer of set-top-boxes and SmartTVs, and began to manufacture equipment in Zacatecas, in order to offer a more cost effective alternative to cable, and satellite TV.

Richard Smith, CEO of EKT, added that, “although it is never easy to transfer production from one side of the world to the other, we believe that the local facilities in Zacatecas; along with the support of the Star TV team and our local engineers in place, will allow us to build without any production problems in Mexico.’

The Sky TV company publicly announced their move into the Los Cabos market this past Sep-

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Go to page 21
according to Los Cabos Mayor Armida Castro, the San Jose city theater that has been rebuilt following suffering extensive damage by hurricane Odile in 2014, might have to be demolished and started over. Nearly a million dollars have been invested in the fixup before anyone suggested it was futile. That money cannot be recovered completely, as the bond the construction company was required to produce only covers 300 grand.

The city government has summoned the two construction companies involved in the work and they have agreed to allowing a third party to inspect the site and give us a prognosis, whether to bring it down or just fix construction failures.

Other cultural city buildings with construction and repairs badly done: the house of culture in downtown San Jose, and the tour-badly done: the house of culture in with construction and repairs failures. That money cannot be recovered any one suggested it was futile. Nearly a million dollars have been invested in the fixup before anyone suggested it was futile.

Another attention center in Cabo San Lucas. Not to mention the Cabo San Lucas’ cultural pavilion, built by the Gravi construction group, led by Luis Cano. The tiles on that façade are falling down and raining down on passers by, and the entire building leaks like a colander during any rain. Not only that, but the red carpet in the hallways does not hide the undulations in the floor. It’s like a fun house floor; roly poly. The upholstered theater chairs have been soaked so many times they must be a hot house of mold by now. Nothing a little Glade sprayed before events won’t gloss over.

New restaurant in town. Well, kind of. Reaction has been good, and the place is doing good business. It’s called Chubby Noodle, and is a sister restaurant to the same name in San Francisco. Owners by San Franciscan Pete Mrabe, the owner of the North Beach hangout Pete’s and the restaurants Don Pisto and Chubby Noodle has been visiting Cabo for the past eight years. What Mrabe loves most about Cabo, is: “Everything. It’s two and a half hours from San Francisco. You got the best of both worlds here. You could go camping or you could be into the nightlife, there are a lot of activities going on here.

Just in time for the holiday crowds, the popular Asian noodle joint is now open in Cabo across the street from the entrance of the Marina Fiesta Hotel. Park in the mall garage and walk out the back door, and boom! You’re there. The downside? It’s quite small and very, very noisy.

More UBER news. Can you stand it? The head of Los Cabos police announced they will arrest any taxi owner who blocks an Uber driver, for “altering the public order.” They will be taken to the local jail and will have to pay a $300 USD fine.

On the same subject, he said the police will continue stopping

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22

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A big mama leatherback who just laid her eggs. If this big mama stayed around to guard them, there isn’t anybody who’s going to mess with them. But she doesn’t, she abandons the eggs and the resulting two inch creatures are lucky if they make it to adulthood.

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Big Mama

A big mama leatherback who just laid her eggs. If this big mama stayed around to guard them, there isn’t anybody who’s going to mess with them. But she doesn’t, she abandons the eggs and the resulting two inch creatures are lucky if they make it to adulthood.
Thinking Outside The Box

O Christmas Tree! O Coca Cola!

BY SANTA CLAUS

Fresca, Coca-Cola, Fanta – the sugary powerhouse of consumerism, and apparently synonymous with the Christmas spirit. The city tree on the Malecón in La Paz is adorned with advertisements for the various soft drinks of the Coca-Cola Company, Femsa.

The tree doesn't exactly exude feelings of joy, peace, love, and hope to all. Forgive me, but this is my first holiday season in La Paz. I thought Christmas was sacred in Mexico, especially after seeing pilgrims on the roadside for weeks leading up to the Day of Our Virgin de Guadalupe. Also, Catholicism is the dominant religion in this country. But, the tree appears more like a beacon for consumerism. The city had to crumble to this exploit because Coca-Cola provided the tree, as it has for the past few years and it probably won't be the last. After all, the city of La Paz is bankrupt, having their electricity to City Hall cut off this month. Also, they got their copiers and printers rolled away by the leasing company. Maybe they have to sell their soul to provide a Christmas tree. Local reactions include everything from horror to sarcasm to indifference. One observer actually started to laugh, albeit a bit nervous and not knowing how to react. But hey, it's what we got, and so we might as well look at the bright side, the very bright side.

If you look past the tacky advertising ornaments, the neon Coca-Cola sign, and the flashing lights, a little festive spirit does wiggle out from the tree, especially when seen from a distance. It nicely complements the seasonal spasm of consuming in the nearby shopping district. It's the centerpiece on the waterfront for the holidays. Locals and tourists alike can rest assured that Christmas and consumerism will go hand in hand like every other year. Coca-Cola is part of the holiday season. Coke created the image of Santa Clause as the fat, jolly, gift-toting elf with red jacket and white fur trim as early as the 1930s. The famous polar bear ads started popping up around Christmas time earlier still, in the 1920s in France. The famous polar bear ads started popping up around Christmas time earlier still, in the 1920s in France. The polar bears got another push in 1993 for the famous, “Always Coca-Cola” campaign.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24
Pull back on the throttle and pedal like mad to make it to the top without losing so much speed you plop. See, the bike motor doesn’t have enough oomph to get you up the hills if you don’t make a run at it and peddle.

As the guide heads down the trail, he shouts “brake, brake, (Frena, frena” in Spanish). Use both brakes and keep breaking all the way down. Now here’s another secret: The brakes are backwards to what American bikers are used to. Front brake is right hand, back brake is left hand, and we’ve all been told all our lives not to stand on the front brake our you will surely go ass over tea kettle. Opposite here, got that?

As soon as you are down the hill, it's time to accelerate again for the next hill. Don't delay with that as you need speed or it's Plops Ville for you. While you keep your eyes focused on the trail and operate the bike, a little rush of adrenaline begins to creep in. No, that's not fear, call in adrenaline, because adrenaline is what you’re paying for, fear is always free.

This is more difficult, than a pedal through Central Park, but it's really a great ride. If in some parts it seems too scary, the guide will help you walk the bike down. Nothing will help you through the cracking guffaws of your friend, however, you will just have to be the bigger person than she is and deal with that.

Finally, it's time to peddle down onto the beach. The sand here is firmly packed, and it's easier to maneuver the bike. While pedaling along the beach and breathing in the salt air, the arch and the bay will always be in sight, so it's nice.

At the end of the one and a half hour tour, a light box lunch is served back at the camp. Photos that were taken along the way are available for purchase. Tips are not included, so don't forget to tip your guide.

Take sunblock, sunglasses, long sleeve shirt and long pants. And wear real shoes, don’t try this in flip flops, you may flop.

No fatties! You can’t weigh over 250 pounds. Don’t be pregnant and don’t be less than 4 feet tall because they don’t have kids’ bikes yet.

If all this sounds too scary, Cabo Cycle has now started a hiking tour. You leisurely stroll the same trail, and with a guide who points out cactus and nature stuff. You may see iguanas, and birds such as road runners, sparrows, hummingbirds, and wood peckers. The flora is extensive and even includes medicinal plants. This terrain is still pristine which is amazing since it’s so close to town.

The tour through the desert and beach is available in the morning or late afternoon for the sunset. The bike adventure costs $89 and the hiking tour costs $49. Locals will be given a generous 50% discount. Call 624-150-9451. For more information visit their website: www.cabocycle.com or send an email to info@cabocycle.com.
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What Running Your DNA Can Do For You

The short answer: Plenty

Spa Cielo has for all of its 12 years in San Jose, been forward thinking in cutting edge preservation of youth and good looks. But now owner/manager Cathy Dammann is branching into the use of recent developments in DNA technology to guide us into being as healthy and feeling as good as she has made us look.

She can guide you into how to run your DNA, and the doctor who heads her program, Dr. Joseph Dib, reviews your entire DNA report with you, interpreting it for you so you know what you’ve got cooking in your genes. But the value in knowing your DNA is, oftentimes the doctor can get into a gene that has run amuck compensate for it. It is a little scary to peek into the future and see your potentially gravely ill self, but wouldn’t it be worth that fright if it can be fixed? Or even if it can’t be fixed today, to know that technology is coming at us so fast, that it will probably be fixable in a few years, and that you will watch for that development?

You owe it to yourself to run your DNA now. Your future self, and your loved ones, will thank you.

Bob Jankovics Services Section

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Should You Use An MLS Agent?

Let us count the reasons

BY ANNA PRENTICE

When buying or selling real estate in Baja California Sur, look for the MLS symbol & enlist and hire one of those guys or gals. If you are dealing with an agent who is a non participant, ask them why and they better come up with a good answer. We can’t even think of a good answer to that one right now.

Buying real estate in a foreign country can be downright spooky. There are simply different laws and procedures, and not the standard safeguards you’re used to. That makes your agent your safeguard.

More than 300 real estate professionals organized in Baja California Sur, (this state), in 1991 to insure your success in dealing with Mexican laws and procedures. They call themselves MLS BCS, and operate a Multiple Listing Service statewide with more than 3000 available properties. They cover Los Cabos, Los Barriles, Todos Santos, La Paz and Loreto. Any affiliate broker or agent can help you locate available inventory anywhere in the state, and can quickly connect you with the properties and agents in your area of interest.

The MLS BCS agents and brokers have to subscribe to a strict set of local operating policies and procedures. These OPP’s are the result of hammering out 41 years of dealings with foreign investment on the anvil of experience. Each member also agrees to follow the code of ethics of the Mexican Association of Real Estate Professionals (AMPI), and subscribes to the Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics of the National Association of Realtors in the USA.

Don’t be confused with licensing, that has not come to Mexico yet, and that’s why your best choice in partners in this transaction is to work with an MLS agent. If for any reason you are not fully satisfied with their service you can go crying to the MLS at admin@mlsbc.com.mx and rest assured you will be listened to. Take the safe route, you’re in a foreign country.

Do This Before Listing

It will grease the ride

BY LISA WELSCH

Selling your home? Sell with integrity and ease. Make a seamless and flawless sale. Here are three easy-to-follow recommendations on how you can achieve these goals and sell your home in Baja California Sur fast and effortlessly.

1. Have a pre-home inspection. Do this you will eliminate renegotiations from the buyer based on pending items within your home. Prior to listing your property, you will have the advantage to disclose any flaws or problems and/or decide which repairs you will take care of and which ones you will disclose to the buyer by stating that the home is being sold in its current condition.

By having a pre-home inspection you are letting your prospective buyers know that you have integrity and can demonstrate that the home is in good working order, well maintained and priced correctly. You will be eliminating any surprises for both you and the buyer for a smoother closing process.

2. Obtain a title report – mostly applicable to residential/commercial lots. You will find out if there will be any legal issues or clouds with respect to the chain and links of the title and if the sub-division is properly recorded. If your property was formerly Ejido Land, you can determine if there was compliance with the Agrarian laws affecting it.

By obtaining the title report you will once again remove any obstacles and proceed to an easy closing. It is well worth your time and money to demonstrate to prospective buyers that there are no clouds on title. A buyer may elect to update the title report and if so the contingency period will be shorter and you will be confident that the report will prove that the title is clear.

3. Obtain a survey and clearly mark the parameters of the property. It is an easy way to specify its perimeter, which will make it easier for your agent to show it and will give confidence to the buyers that what they see is what they get.

Each of the above is complimentary to your listing and can be done when applicable; nonetheless, each one can help you sell your property faster, with less stress and more bargaining power on a well-established price.

For more information about todosantoslifestyle.com, Real Estate e-news, send Lisa an email to lwelsch@chriveras.com or give her a call to our Todos Santos Office 52.612.145.0118.
Cerritos: Still A Ground Floor Opportunity

Real estate is still affordable and best of all, there’s no traffic

BY CYNDI WILLIAMS

Someone let the cat out of the bag and Cerritos beach is not a secret anymore. There seems to be a continuous influx of locals and tourists heading up the Pacific coast to the once tranquil area known for its expansive swimmable beach and beginners surf break. The area once hosting only RV travelers and beach campers has grown into the hottest destination in southern Baja, with plenty of places to stay.

It all started about 13 years ago with a little bar and restaurant attracting people with music and events in an attempt to get people to know the area. Developers dreamed up visions of condos, hotels and timeshare resorts dancing in their heads. Real estate sales people

tels are springing up in all directions. Restaurants, bars and small markets have sprang up over the last year and the developers are buying up the large parcels of land that are left.

Electricity is available in some of the areas, water still has to be trucked in, everyone has access to internet, and let’s face it, who really needs cable TV anymore?

Housing and land are still relatively inexpensive, (well, relative to Cabo), and beachfront lots are still available for those who want to be living the dream. Construction prices are reasonable and the cost of living is so much less than other international resort areas. You can still buy a 1/2 acre lots starting at $25,000 USD and one bedroom condos start at $99,000. Many new condo projects have recently broken

ground with two and three bedroom units starting in the low $200s. They offer full amenities such as pools, firepits, parking, storage areas, concierge services and rental programs. Current vacation rental demand is far greater than the market supply, leading to nightly rental rates in excess of $250 per night. Investors are flocking to the area and purchasing multiple units before construction has even begun.

Don’t let all this activity deter you from considering the Cerritos area, because even with the growth spurt

the beaches are still uncrowded, the traffic, well there is no traffic, and housing density is still sparse with miles and miles of vacant parcels. We figure we have a good 10 plus years of the kicked back, non stressed Baja lifestyle we all came here to enjoy before the rest of the world finds this paradise and we take our profits and head for a less developed place. There is still time to get in on the bottom floor before the prices have caught up with the new demand. But shake a leg.

Chileno Bay is building hotels, villas, restaurants, and full ownership residences

Happy Holidays to all and Best Wishes for 2019!

We wish you good times, health and success. Thank you for your business and your support. We look forward to serving you for many more years.

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By Cyndi Williams, is broker/ owner of Cabo Premiere Investment & Real Estate and is a California Licensed Real Estate Broker. Her offices are downtown Cabo in Tesoro, street side, and in Pescadora on the highway across from Oasis bar and restaurant. Mx cell 624-158-8650, www.cabopremiererealestate.com. Cyndi is possibly the last person on Earth to still use AOL, but hey, we’re not saying she’s old and stodgy. Cyndicbree@aol.com
Arbitration
Because the courts are about as helpful as the taxistas

BY DON D. NELSON

The Courts in Baja Sur have a huge backlog of pending lawsuits, and it can easily take five to ten years for a decision to be handed down. This inertia has made the justice system in Baja Sur totally dysfunctional, and many people with valid disputes involving large or small sums of money never bother to file with the courts due to the barely functioning legal system here.

But Mexico has good laws supporting arbitration. When the parties to a disagreement cannot negotiate and resolution or successfully mediate, arbitration is the solution to avoid the long and expensive court litigation procedures. You should consider insist on putting in an arbitration and mediation provision in your next business, real estate, or construction contract so you’re ready for potential problems from the get go. You can automatically provide for arbitration should a dispute occur later. God forbid.

You can also, with the agreement of the disputing party, agree to arbitrate even though there is no such paragraph in your written agreement or even if you are already mired in the court system.

When the parties agree to arbitrate through an arbitration service, the entire process usually takes from 10 months to 22 months (for large cases). The steps involved are generally as follows:

1. Agreeing to arbitrate and each party informs others of the issues.
2. Choosing the neutral party, (attorney or expert), to hear each side and make the final decision. This can be from one to three people. They are chosen from a panel of attorneys and other experts previously vetted by the administrator.
3. Holding an initial hearing and exchanging information between the parties.
4. Holding the main hearing to hear testimony, produce evidence, and argue the law
5. Exchanging post hearing legal briefs
6. The arbitrator awards the parties

Other advantages of arbitration over litigation in court includes having oral testimony from witnesses or experts and having the arbitrator(s) decision maker be an expert in the area of law or industry involved. The arbitrators(s) can even be Americans or Canadians. That choice is up to the parties to the dispute. The governor of Baja Sur is currently working on constitutional and legislative changes which will facilitate even further mediation and arbitration in Baja Sur.

You can immediately request an arbitration or mediation to resolve your disputes by contacting the San Jose based Mediation and Arbitration Service at mediatearbitrategmail.com. You can even use this email address to get suggested arbitration and mediation clauses for you next legal document.

OPEN HOUSES

Tuesday December 11, from 2:30 – 5:30 pm, Casa Bello 12, MLS #18-838, Remodeled Home with Stunning Ocean Views from Rooftop. CSL Corridor 4bd/ 3ba. Price $330,000. Los Cabos Agent. Consuelo Galindo ph. (624) 129-7001

Wednesday December 12, from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm, Puerta Cabo Village 504 MLS #18-2605. Turnkey Ocean View Condo. 2bd/ 2ba. Price: $227,000. Los Cabos Agent. Emmanoel Rosas ph. (624) 227-5766

Thursday December 13, from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm, Casa Moderna, Beautiful Contemporary Home MLS #18-2295 Price: $265,000. Los Cabos Agent. Evy Romeike, ph. (624) 177-1752

Friday, December 14, from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm, Casa Vista de Golf, Country Club CSL. MLS #18-928. Fully Furnished plantation style home. CSL 4bd/ 3.5ba. Price: $799,000. Los Cabos Agent. Emmanoel Rosas ph. (624) 227-5766

Wednesday, Dec 26th, 12pm-4pm, Casa Schrader, Cresta del Mar, MLS #18-1679. MOTIVATED!! 4 Bdrm, 4.5 ba, 2G, Pool/ Spa/ Outdoor kitchen, 3400+ a/c SF. 6047 ttl SF. UNBLOCKABLE, PANORAMIC, OCEAN, LANDS END VIEWS & CITY! Lara, 624-129-8997, Cabo Premiere Real Estate, call me if running late.

Friday, Dec 28th, 10am-1pm. Casa Schrader, Cresta del Mar, MLS #18-1679. MOTIVATED!! 4 Bdrm, 4.5 ba, 2G, Pool/ Spa/ Outdoor kitchen, 3400+ a/c SF. 6047 ttl SF. UNBLOCKABLE, PANORAMIC, OCEAN, LANDS END VIEWS & CITY! Lara, 624-129-8997, Cabo Premiere Real Estate, call me if running late.

Saturday, Dec 29th, 11am-3pm. Casa Schrader, Cresta del Mar, MLS #18-1679. MOTIVATED!! 4 Bdrm, 4.5 ba, 2G, Pool/ Spa/ Outdoor kitchen, 3400+ a/c SF. 6047 ttl SF. UNBLOCKABLE, PANORAMIC, OCEAN, LANDS END VIEWS & CITY! Lara, 624-129-8997, Cabo Premiere Real Estate, call me if running late.

SOLDS

Maranata 14, MLS #18-1567. Three Bedroom House, Located at Casa Corridor, $218,000.00, Consuelo Galindo, Los Cabos Agent.

Casa Bonita, MLS #17-1419, Two Bedroom, Magisterial, San Jose del Cabo, $315,000.00 Jeffrey Schmidt, Los Cabos Agent.

Loma Linda 502, MLS #18-1311, Two Bedroom Condo, Located in San Jose Corridor, $187,500.00, Evy Romeike, Los Cabos Agent.

Amalfi H8, MLS #18-807. Two Bedroom Condo, Cabo Corridor, Cabo San Lucas, $100,000.00, Humberto Escoto, Los Cabos Agent
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English: Cyndi Williams, Broker 624 158 8650
Spanish: David Flores, Principal 624 121 1214
Taxpayers who did not commit any tax or tax-related crimes can continue to correct past mistakes using the Streamlined Filing Compliance Procedures, delinquent FBAR submission procedures, or delinquent international information return submission procedures. These allow eligible taxpayers to clean the slate, a type of "go and sin no more". They can be less onerous in terms of penalties, preparation expense and – in another nice detail, audit is not automatic, although possible, like regularly filed returns. Putting these packages together is still a lot of work, so that needs to be considered as well, in decisions about how to comply with the tax laws. Sometimes a "regular" filing cures things just fine.

The IRS, Treasury and Justice Departments continue to prosecute folks who conceal offshore assets and income, as several new high profile cases have come to light. It’s not just Mr. Manafort’s king sized FBARs. Another enforcement priority already identified by the government is to seek those who facilitate tax schemes—consultants, bankers, accountants or attorneys. Several countries are working together to clean the slate and get peace of mind. That’s the real gift this season.

Orlando Gotay is a California licensed tax attorney (with a Master of Laws in Taxation) admitted to practice before the IRS, the U.S. Tax Court and other taxing agencies. His love of things Mexican has led him to devote part of his practice to federal and state tax matters of U.S. expats in Mexico. He can be reached at tax@orlandogotay.com or Facebook: GotayTaxLawyer. This is just a most general outline. It is informational only and not meant as legal advice.

Directory of Services
the Gringos living there, building large homes and spending large amounts of dollars, but the little town is chronically short of funds. They have no money for street maintenance, nor safety services.

And now, as if La Paz were not rapacious enough, they have just passed a law which legalizes their take from their five outlying areas from 22% to 24%. That is a somewhat silly law, however, as these days La Paz is taking almost 100%.

The most urgent part of Los Barriles’s distress is their medical/ambulance services. They aren’t as concerned about police, as nobody in Southern Baja has an adequate police force, and anyway, there isn’t enough crime there to worry about. It’s a tranquil little beach town.

The federal government takes care of the national health insurance program, used by any Mexican who pays taxes, but like most arms of that system, there is no ambulance service connected to it. Often the totally voluntary Red Cross pitches in, but in Los Barriles the local voluntary ambulance service is in crisis over something as simple as gasoline. For an ambulance, they use a pickup truck with a camper on the back. It’s a big pickup, and costs $90 US for enough gas to haul an injured person to La Paz hospitals and come back. They simply do not have this money. They have the camper truck free and clear, they have the good hearted volunteers willing to leave their jobs when called, but they simply can’t gas up to go.

You might enjoy a walk through the indigenous desert, especially now that it’s so green. The greater area is known for its bird watching and impressive collection of butterflies.

The Facts
Open Wednesday through Monday From 10 am to 5 pm.

Closed on Tuesday
Non-Residents - $5
Baja California Sur residents - $4
Students and seniors - $3
Family of two adults and two children over the age of 6 - $10
Children under 6 free.

Annual memberships are available that come with exclusive amenities.
You can make advance reservations for private historical tours of significant geological and mining sites in the region.

Location
Follow the signs on highway 19, as it’s one block to the south of that. The museum is to the right side of the municipal building, near the clock tower on the cobblestoned Atuntamiento St. between Progreso St. & Marquez de Leon St. Relax, you won’t get lost, it’s a tiny, tiny town.


dated during a Cabo Mil radio interview. The Sky TV offices, open to the public, are on the ground floor of Patio Los Cabos, on the highway leading from San Lucas towards Todos Santos.

Federico Jauregui, manager of Star TV in Baja California Sur, said during the radio interview that, “We have satellite television, the best programming at the lowest cost that exists; The advantages we have is that the service is personalized. There is no need to install and pay for an external telephone, it all comes direct from satellite.” This may be why they are concentrating their
Who Could Resist This Calendar Boy?

The cost for these calendars with 12 different cuties on it is $30 USD as a donation toward San Jose del Cabo Humane Society. Flora Farm sells the calendar and people can also contact the calendar kids on the website. Well, contact Isabelle Ann Tiberghien who is President of Baja Safe Humane Society www.bajasafe.com www.icfdn.org

Mexican Christmas cod

I'm hoping your history classes have stuck to you a little bit, at least so you can pick up on this issue's story is quite amazing but ties a lot of things together in Mexican culture which may make a clicking sound in your head... as you all know, Christmas is not something all cultures celebrate. Most civilizations guided themselves through the sun, the moon, the seasons and harvests, it was only in the 313th year we started celebrating the birthday of a ghost. Ha, my mom's going to kill me if she reads this.

Anyway, Mexico, one of the ethnic groups that is ancestor of Mexicans celebrated a thing called “Panquetzaliztli”, honoring the God of War, Huitzilopochtli. This festivity happened on the fifteenth month of the Aztec calendar, around December 21st to be a little more precise. Mexicans thought their god was upset and that is why the sun was taking longer to rise and the days had become shorter, Winter, we call it nowadays. They also made the party to thank the gods for the good harvests of the year in hopes of being blessed for the year to come.

Mexicas, or Aztecs (pretty much the same thing, okay?) painted the town red with the birth of Huitzilopochtli, who they also called the southern hummingbird or the left hummingbird. Day and night every house had a party, where guests were indulged with hearty food and small statues or idols made of blue corn, amaranth and black maguey honey.

The celebration was kicked off with a race. The fastest person in town would run carrying in his arms a figure of Huitzilopochtli, while wearing a blue flag on their head. This all happened in the valley of what is now Mexico City. Teocalli was the big house of the sun, and the whole town followed the runner through Tacubaya, Coyocacán, and Churubusco, about 13 miles and lasted around four hours. All the runners had fasted and prepared themselves for this event.

December 21st, or winter solstice was characterized for being the day the sun died, entered the place of the dead and shape shifted into a hummingbird to return home. Then, coincidentally on December 24th, the sun re-emerged from Malinalco -where the Mexican head of state is currently- with dances, rituals and celebrations. At the same time, the Aztecs would tie fruits and treats to every tree, and on the day of the party, they would cut them off and eat them. This is where the posada candy is believed to come from.

What did they eat, anyway? They did not fast as in starve, you know? Not red meats, that's for sure. This celebration was one of the most important of the year, so fasting was encouraged, and protein had to be “light mood” as in, no meat that could turn you aggressive. Guajolote was one of the most preferred animals to them, since its meat was not considered red, it was tasty and there was lots of it. Fish also, for the same reasons.

Now, of course the Spaniards adapted these festivities to their Christian agenda and now Christmas is what it is, snowmen included. Even though it doesn't snow in Mexico except in extreme cases.

The Christianization began in 1587, in the village of San Agustín Acoclan, 25 miles from Teotihuacan, when Fray Diego de Soria obtained a permit issued by the then Pope Sixtus V in which consolidated the celebration in New Spain Masses of Christmas. These celebrations that served to evangelize the Indians took place from 16 to 24 December in the courts of the temples. These ceremonies are used to merge passages and scenes representing the Nativity. Using the inclusion of the Nativity, they continued to use the old traditions, dancing and eating the old foods.

Continued on Page 25
Some of our current local listings. Call for an immediate viewing

2017 Boston Whaler 420 Outrage $999,000 USD. Fully loaded, one of a kind, SEAKEEPER, tower with joystick piloting station. Mercury Engines 350 HP

2005 Rodriguez 80 Widebody, $999,000 USD. Beautiful pleasure yacht, built in Sarzana, Italy. Twin CAT 3402E Engines.

2000 Princess V50 Express $256,000 USD. Beautiful express cruiser, lots of lounge space, excellent open water performance. Sleeps 4, CAT Engines.

2018 Viking 37 Billfish $999,000 USD. Featuring SEAKEEPER, Full electronics package, LED interchangeable color lighting, upgraded soft furnishings. Twin Cummins Engines QSV 6.7L 550 HP each.

2008 Cabo 52 Express, $988,000 USD. Incredible sportfish yacht with all the upgrades, including SEAKEEPER. Sleeps 6, Manor 550 Engines, 2000 hour service recently completed.

2013 Viking 42 Convertible $825,000 USD. Cummins diesel engines, elegantly styled like the larger Vikings, Custom Fighting Chair, upgraded Helm Chairs, and all Garmin electronics.

1978 Bertram 58 Convertible, $140,000 USD. Sturdy, reliable, fun. Detroit Engines.

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December 24th, 2018
Cabo San Lucas
Numbers at a glance: Billfish 68%, tuna 32%, dorado 21%, other species 10%.

The amazing Finger Bank action continues! Marlin that were being found closer to Cabo between the Old Lighthouse and the Margarita's area are a bit more scarce, showing up in good numbers at the Golden Gate Bank instead. Up to seven marlin were caught by Pisces 35-foot Valerie, with an average of two to three per boat.

Tuna numbers have risen slightly, although captains are still going quite a distance to find them. Dorado, wahoo and smaller gamefish (including grouper) are around but only a few roosterfish.

Out of 63 boats, 61 were catching fish! Over 270 marlin were caught and released and 193 tuna caught, with releases as well when anglers reached limits.

Our top release boat at the Finger Bank was the Pisces 72-foot Tag Team, who has yet to get in on the Finger Bank frenzy but settled right in releasing 46 striped marlin weighing about 100-pounds each on ballyhoo. They also released the only blue marlin, also about 100 pounds.

On another run to the Finger Bank, 35 striped marlin were released, this time on mackerel and ballyhoo. Baby brother, a 37-foot Tag Team III, also headed to the Finger releasing 13 striped marlin one day, 4 on another day, though slightly closer to home between San Jaime and Golden Gate area. The marlin hit on mackerel and a black/green lure.

Inshore fishing has continued to produce nice catches of smaller dorado and schools of skipjack with Sierra showing in increasing numbers from Solmar to El Arco. Roosterfish are showing in the surf from Solmar to around the point at the Lighthouse as well as in the Palmilla area.

Cabo Climate: Warm, partly cloudy. Some light wind on a few days, but overall good conditions.

Sea Conditions: Seas have been relatively calm in the mornings throughout the area with some swells and chop showing up in the afternoons. Forecast is for more of the same with winds in the 6- to 9- mph range from the WSW and shifting to the WNW by the end of the month. Sea temps were closer to 79- to 81°F, cooling to 73- to 75°F after a couple of weeks.

Best Fishing Areas: Finger Bank, Golden Gate Bank, San Jaime, Migrino, 210 Spot.

Favorite Bait: Trolled smoke trail lures along with live caballito or mackerel were the favorite for the marlin. Soaking live bait around the Finger Bank produced successful multiple stripe catches. Everything seemed to work for the dorado from trolled lures to drifted bait. Hoochies were by far the preferred and most productive lures for the sierra.

Bait Supply: Live bait is available at the $3.00 per bait upon exit from the harbor. Mackerel, when available, are popular with the captains.

Puerto Los Cabos
Still no signs of a new resource for sardina; caballito continue to be netted in the marina channel. Bait options for anglers have included strips of squid and ballyhoo. Local sportfishing fleets are searching out the fishing grounds from Chileno to Vinorama with the most consistent action being found from Iman to Vinorama. The problem is that this is where the wind has been blowing the gounds out of shape and making it more difficult to drift fish for the yellowfin tuna.

Anglers were doing well to land two or three yellowfin tuna, ranging in sizes from 10- to 80-pounds — most being in the 10- to 20-pound class. The highlight catch was the super-cow-sized tuna brought in by a team of local anglers. This yellowfin tuna weighed in at 313-pounds and was hooked onto a 10-pounds tackle off the Gordo Banks on a piece of squid — quite an impressive tuna for this late in the season! It took the team close to an hour and a half to bring the monster to gaff.

Besides the sporadic bite for tuna, the dorado and wahoo proved to be even more elusive. Only a scattering of these gamefish were caught. Hard to say what the coming weeks will bring, cooler, off-colored greenish ocean conditions. It’s seasonal transition time. Should start to see schools of mackerel and sardineta moving in; this migration usually brings in more fish.

Not normally the known season for these fish, the off-the-shoreline-charter were doing well for roosterfish, particularly in front of the San Jose del Cabo hotel zone. Most of these roosterfish are smaller-sized juveniles, under ten pounds, with an occasional larger specimen in the mix. Please remember: always release these prized fighting gamefish! They are known more for trophy fish — not known for their eating quality. Take a photo and release!

Not much bottom action with the swift currents and dominance of triggerfish being the main cause. We did have one nice California sheephead, as well as island jack, some pargo and a couple of amberjack and bonito.

Billionfish is mainly going on in the Pacific now, with very little marlin action off San Jose del Cabo. When their food source moves in this direction, the marlin will follow. Whale migration is now moving in with more of these mammals being seen daily.

Cape
‘Tis the season and the north winds and cooler temperatures are here. For the early risers, there is always a chance for a few “quickie”
CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

Monday to Saturday. 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Ranch market in Todos Santos. Featuring homemade products from rural areas. Artisanal cheeses, organic chicken and eggs, liqueurs and virgin honey, as well as handicrafts such as furniture made with regional woods, leather goods and clay pottery all made by ranch hands. The Mercado (market), Todos Santos on Calle Morelos between Rangel and Cauahtemoc inside the San Diego Feed Store.

Every Tuesday. 8:00 am. Rotary Club at the Sheraton Hacienda del Mar resort. In the Chapel. RSVP. 172-0009 or 172-0010

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/laesquinas.

Every Wednesday. 5:00 to 10:00 pm. Art Day. Art, paintings, books, live music. At El Merkado, in the Koral Center in Cerro Colorado.

Every Wednesday. 5:00 to 6:00 pm. Art classes at the Palapa Society campus in Todos Santos. Every Wednesday. Classes are free to children ages 6 and up, class size is limited to 16 students.

Every Thursday. November 1st to June 30th. San Jose Art Walk.

First Thursday. 8:00 am to 2:00 pm. YoReciclo sets up tents to receive clear glass bottles, metals, plastics (except Styrofoam), thick cardboard, computer equipment (except monitors), small home appliances (except TV’s of all kinds), cellphones and accessories, edible vegetable oil, ink cartridges and toners of HP, Samsung and Xerox only, please. In San Jose at Centenario corner with Ildefonso Green. In Cabo San Lucas at the parking lot of the baseball stadium. Email info@yoreciclo.org.mx for more information.

Every Thursday. 8:00 am. Rotary Club breakfast. At the Playa Grande Resort, above the Sports Bar, Cabo San Lucas.

Every Thursday. 12:00 to 8:00 pm. Artisans Market at Mako Raspado (Vegetarian restaurant). On the road to the Hacienda Beach Resort (behind the Puerto Paraiso mall), across from the Marina Fiesta hotel.

Every other Thursday. You guess which one. Los Cabos Tomatoes, ladies’ social group. All women who aspire to be a tomato are welcome. Email loscabostomatoes@gmail.com for more information.

Every Friday. 6:00 pm. Trivia Night. Todos Santos Brewing. English and Spanish with short rounds and prizes available each round. Álvaro Obregón (between Militar & Rangel). Facebook @TodosSantosBrewing. Ph 612 145-2023 or email info@todos santosbrewing.mx

Every Friday. 11:00 a.m. Al- Anon Family Group. Next to Calvary Chapel Corner of Degollado and Margarita Maza de Juarez in San Jose. Call 624-165-3333 for more information.

Every Saturday. 7:00 am to 12:30 pm. The Organic Market at Pedregal. Fresh, organic produce, coffee, fish, seafood, eggs, whole lambs, (Little Bo Peep)! pigs, (Porky? Is that you)! & handicrafts.

Every Saturday and Tuesday. 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. La Paz organic market. Postal Park, Constitution and Madero streets. Free.

Every Saturday. Starts soon. All day. The granddaddy of all markets. In addition to organic produce, there are handicrafts, books, critters to adopt, food to eat and who knows what. Behind the town of San Jose. Go to their website and study the map: www.sanjomo.com

Every Saturday. 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Children’s library open. Story tellers at 10:30 and 12:30. Looking for gently used books. theranchkids@yahoo.com, Todos Santos, Spain.

Every Sunday. 6:00 pm. Sunday Sessions Live Music. Todos Santos Brewing. Enjoy the beautiful star filled Baja sky, live acoustic music, fabulous handmade craft beers and delicious food. Álvaro Obregón street (between Militar & Rangel). Facebook @TodosSantosBrewing for more information, 612-145-2023 or email info@todos santosbrewing.mx

Every Sunday. 5:00 to 8:00 pm. Live music and paella. At El Mirador Restaurant in Todos Santos. Traditional Mexican rnatgeranue dishes, stunning ocean views and now featuring jazz pianist Bill Levine. Take Camelino al Mirador from Los Cabos-Todos Santos Highway. Information: Facebook @GuaycuraHotel Email reservation@guaycurahotel.com Ph +52 (612) 175 0800.

Every Sunday. 7:00 to 11:00 am. Bicycle, walk, skate or drag your pet around downtown Cabo. The main drag in Cabo San Lucas closes to vehicle traffic. Great opportunity to exercise and mingle with local families. Each week a different activity, like spinning, aerobics, zumba lessons. Email clubcactusbike@gmail.com for information.

Starting in January. Every Wednesday 3:00 to 5:00 pm. Los Cabos Writers Group resumes at Marina Sol club house. Cabo San Lucas. writers, poets, or dreamers. Call Adriana 624 108 2095

January 10-20. Tropic of Cancer Concert Series. Hosted by the rock band Pata Conejos. For two weeks of weekend, love, and art in the small Baja town with proceeds aiding the local fire department. Tickets now available from $20 to $80 varying with rate of exchange. So far, nearly 40 bands and artists, both local, national and international, including American singer, songwriter Joan Osborne, former member of The Dead. Mexican band La Santa Cecilia and Todos San tos singers Divier Guive and Jenelle Aubade. For more information and the complete line up look up: www.tropicofcancerconcertseries.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.

January 12. Fundraiser. The Sarahuaro foundation will hold its 1st annual dinner fundraiser, which they’re calling Let’s Make Magic. Saturday, at the Montage Los Cabos resort from 7:00 to 11:00. pm. Costs are: Early bird pass: $100 (if bought in December). Single regular pass: $125. At the door: $150. VIP table for 10: $2,000.

February 13, 2019. Artist Studio Tour of Los Barriles area. 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. Ticket sales end at 12 noon. Wander through the studios of over 15 artists, with multiple artists at each location. Great deals and prizes available each location, which they’re calling Let’s Make Magic. Cost is: $125 for 20 artists, $150 for 25 artists, $175 for 30 artists, 4 to 5 artists at each location. Information: 612-175-0800. Facebook: Todos Santos Artists.

February 15 & 16, 7th. 8:00 pm. Los Cabos resort from 7:00 to 10:00. pm. Artists selling, traditional dishes and beverages at the Delmar international school located here in El Tezal. Folk music and 200 exhibitors, including local fire department. Tickets $20 USD or 400 pesos. More info closer to performance date. For more information, please don’t shoot the messenger, this is Mexico, and every event is, well, fluid.

THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX... continued from page 11

And just like Christmas, Coca-Cola spreads joy and calories throughout the world.

We can romanticize Coke even more by tying it directly to Mexico. “Mexican Coke” sells throughout the US and Canada at grocery stores and restaurants. It has a clear glass bottle, and classic alternative to fountain machines. So when in Mexico, drink Coca-Cola, right? (Many people believe the recipe used in Mexico is different, although Coke denies this). In a far-fetched way, perhaps Coke, Fresca, and Fanta ornaments make sense for the tree in La Paz. If you use a little imagination (and exaggeration), the tree almost wishes you to forget the crazy consumerism of Christmas, head to a Baja beach, sit back, relax, and sip an ice cold Coke—not bad.

Meanwhile, down the road in Todos Santos the Christmas tree saga goes on.

Manos Magicas (Magic Hands), is a cooperative of artisans who create locally-made crafts for sale, in order to preserve their culture and provide a little income. For the past eight years, the Festival of Trees has been their largest fundraiser.

The unique flowers of the magic cactus are used to create images at www.eastcapearts.com 

For more information, please don’t shoot the messenger, this is Mexico, and every event is, well, fluid.

Subscribe!! or we’ll throw the kitty under the bus

Go to page 21
Calendar of Performing Arts

November and December.
Every Saturday. Late Night 1:30 am. Bear-Gun Band. The show must go on! 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. English and Spanish. Free.

Wednesday to Monday. From 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Ruta de Plata Museum at El Triunfo. Discover the rich mining history and settlement of the Cape Region. Enjoy exciting, interactive exhibits. Explore the complex, the gift shop, places to wine and dine, and the historic village. Spanish and English. 100 pesos entrance fee. Info: museorutadeplata.com, Ayuntamiento St. (Progreso and Márquez de León St), El Triunfo. Closed on Tuesday.

Monday Tuesday Thursday Friday. 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. On permanent display. Man, Nature and Culture. A permanent photography show of cultural identity of Baja California Sur. Video also. Text in is 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 Tuesday from 6:00 to 10:00 pm. Garden of the Arts. More than forty local artists show and sell their works, including paintings, sculptures, photography and engravings. Open area. Spanish with some English. Mijares Main Plaza in downtown San Jose. More info on Facebook: Jardín del Arte Los Cabos.

Every Tuesday. 8:00 pm. Documentary Movie Club. A different documentary every week. In the original language with Spanish subtitles. Free. Alfredo Green Cultural House Downtown San Jose.

Every Wednesday. 8:00 pm. Movie Club. Every month a different theme. In the original language with Spanish subtitles. 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 Wednesday. 5:00 to 10:00 pm. Art Day. Art, paintings, books, live music, Spanish and English. El Merkado at Koral Center, next to the H-Hospital. Kilometer 24.5 on the fourlane to San Jose.

Every Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday. 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Art Fair. Food sampling and wine tasting at the restaurants and shops in the mall. Live music and local artists showcasing their work. Plaza el Pescador across from Cabo Azul resort in the hotel zone. San Jose.

Every Thursday. 8:00 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. 7:30 pm. Cultural Pavilion’s Movie Club. The original movie club moves to The Cerro del Timbre Culture House. Behind Aramburo’s marketplace. Downtown San Lucas.

Every other 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. Plaza del Pescador near Miguel A. Herrera St. Turn right 2 blocks before the gas station (Pueblo Bonito Sunset area). San Lucas.

Every other Thursday starting 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. 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 Sunday. 1:00 pm. Movies for kids, storyteller, table games and more. 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.


Feb 9 & 10. From 10 am to 4 pm. The 10th Annual Todos Santos Open Studio Tour will proceeds benefit children’s art programs at The Palapa Society. See working art studios, meet the artists, maybe get some real deals. Free. From 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Artist Studio Tour of Los Barriles area. Ticket sales end at 12 noon. Wander through the studios of over 15 artists, with multiple artists at each location. A great day to see a variety of mediums, styles and materials. Fund raised to support kids’ programs on East Cape. Details and where to buy tickets at www eastcapearts com. February 18 to 26. 2nd event hours all over the place. 2nd Chamber Music Festivals, 32 didactic concerts for public and private school students and 9 gala concerts for all audiences in various places. More info and registrations for musicians with Alfonso Winston, musicdeca maralos cabosfes@gmail.com. Cabo San Lucas.

March 8th, 9th & 10th & 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th. Baja Shakespeare’s 19th season presents The Sea Princess & The Frijolè at Hotel Buena Vista Beach Resort’s Convention Center in Spa Buena Vista. It’s a wacky adaptation of The Princess & The Pea by Hans Christian Andersen. Nothing to do with Shakespeare, they need to rename that thing. All shows at 7:00 pm except March 10th, a matinee at 1:30 pm. Tickets $20 USD or 400 pesos. More info closer to performance dates. For show details go to www facebook com pages Baja Shakespeare 220397878011557.

March 17, 2019. Sunday. From 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Festival de Artes at Palmas de Cortez Resort in Los Barriles. Artists selling, traditional music and dancing, lots of food and drink and the biggest St. Patrick’s Party in the Baja Sur, all starting at 10am. is one of the longest running art festivals in the Baja Sur! Details and information at www. eastcapearts com.
The Sky TV satellite coverage also beams in to the southern USA and into some South of Mexico countries like Guatemala, Honduras, Costa Rica, Panama and Cuba.

The strategy of offering services in underserved markets has allowed Star TV to get 100,000 subscriptions only two years after popping up in the business and beginning at a not so good time for the peso.

Star TV is in a market already near saturation of more than 60% by Sky of Grupo Televisa and Dish of MVS Comunicaciones via satellite and by other major brands via cable, such as Izzí division.

Telecom, and Megacable. Prices of getting TV have been increasing double-digit since September 2015, when Axxtel, followed by Megacable and the Televisa cable companies, began to raise the prices of their packages.

We focus on the south-central part of the country; in those areas difficult to access, where nobody else has been able nor wanted to go. This has been going in our favor, because we will grow even more in the Internet and we stop the service and we do not charge him for those days.” Perfect for the foreign community, or anyone who in and out.

Sky TV payments can be made at Sky TV offices are at Avenida Brisas Plaza Patio, Cabo San Lucas.

For more information please visit their website at http://start-vmexico.com.mx/call toll free 01 800 700 700 STAR (7827). In Cabo 624 688-7274. Los Cabos offices.

Megacable and the Televisa cable companies, began to raise the prices of their packages. Prices of getting TV have been increasing double-digit since September 2015, when Axxtel, followed by Megacable and the Televisa cable companies, began to raise the prices of their packages.

We focus on the south-central part of the country; in those areas difficult to access, where nobody else has been able nor wanted to go. This has been going in our favor, because we will grow even more in the Internet.

and the Mexican-owned companies, began to raise the prices of their packages.

Prices of getting TV have been increasing double-digit since September 2015, when Axxtel, followed by Megacable and the Televisa cable companies, began to raise the prices of their packages. Prices of getting TV have been increasing double-digit since September 2015, when Axxtel, followed by Megacable and the Televisa cable companies, began to raise the prices of their packages.

We focus on the south-central part of the country; in those areas difficult to access, where nobody else has been able nor wanted to go. This has been going in our favor, because we will grow even more in the Internet.
This week we asked: How much do you plan on spending on gifts this Christmas? What are you buying for your family? Your kids?

1. Raul Herrera, 26, waiter.
I am from Mexico City and will not see any of my family this year, but more than the material things, I am thankful that I have my whole family healthy and prosperous! That although we are miles away we are in each other’s mind and heart. So that is the greatest gift I can have and receive this Christmas and New Year. I have my parents, and uncles, and I have the good fortune of having a grandfather, nephews and cousins who meet every year during these special days. Thank you God for this blessing of a loving family. Wishing the best to every family in this world. Success and prosperity to all.

2. Manuel Chavez Ortiz, 45, sales.
I like to spend around $1,000 pesos on the four children that we have. They are all very happy kids and three of them like sports so I might get them something related to that of their favorite soccer teams, because for some strange reason, one of them does not like the team that his brothers are crazy about. Our little girl is the princess of our home and is very spoiled by her mother. I wish I could send something to my nephews and nieces living in California, but my brother and sister like hearing me call and say Merry Christmas to the kids, because they tell them that it is Santa Claus calling them.

We are all grown up at home now and it is just me and my younger brother. At home, we all pick our names out of my mother’s hands and last year I got my father and this year I have my brother, so I plan to spend about $500 pesos on him with clothes. Probably a nice shirt. Even though we are not children anymore, Christmas still has that magic that makes this time of a year, a happy time. I live in La Paz, and came here at the end of our semester so I could get away and look for different things to buy that are here and in Todos Santos. My mother got me and since I’m her baby daughter I know I’m going to love whatever she gets me and she know me so well.

4. Lorena Reyes, 43.
I came to Los Cabos three years ago from Acapulco, Guerrero, bought my house, and have only been home a few weeks every summer in August and September when the humidity and heat here is intense. Not as bad as Cancun, but still, hot enough and humid enough for me to go home to be with my mother and father and relatives there, and be happy. I do not have a tree at in my house and my roommates also do not celebrate Christmas. I have close girlfriends who have sweet and cute little baby girls and boys and I have two favorites that call me Tia Lorena and I will get them something because my friend; she does celebrate Christmas and they have a tree and lights at the front of their house.

5. Francisco Martinez Reyes, 61, small business owner.
I am going to buy little cars and action figure toys that my little grandchildren like a lot. I can’t really afford to spend any more than $800 pesos and I hope I can get them their little... CONTINUED ON PAGE 30
Happy Holidays!

THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX...  
continued from page 24

whimsical Christmas trees and are put up for silent auction at La Casita restaurant. This year six handmade trees were up for bidding starting at $75.

For a festive atmosphere check out the tree on the Cabo San Lucas Malecon, (marina front), at the corner of Puerto Paraiso mall. They have done a great job on their tree, and just a couple hundred yards from that Luxury Avenue has erected a modern interpolation of a Christmas tree that looks pretty nice. Then go up the escalator right there at the corner, and you will see an imaginatively decorated outdoor plaza, best experienced at night.

A couple Christmas trinkets draped on this mesh beach equipment bag could make it festive.

WHAT’S GOING ON IN THIS...  
continued from page 25

health scheme. He believes two parallel universes for the sick and injured is not cost effective. So, now, everyone goes to the same hospital and sees the same docs whether they have health insurance or not. The uninsured are those who don’t work or work under the table, about 48% of the country. Yes, that’s a shocker. It’s not called working under the table, nor is it called tax fraud, it’s called “the informal economy”.

Here we go... Again. Students at a teacher training school on the mainland hijacked eight vehicles in a protest against the state government. Masked students nabbed five trucks and three buses, ordering the drivers out and commandeering the vehicles. Aerial footage shows the eight vehicles on the school grounds, where students looted the trucks’ cargo.

A student initially denied that any vehicles were being kept on the school’s premises but then explained that the hijacking was in protest against the government for not releasing funds for the school’s maintenance and, oh yes, they wanted scholarships for 540 students.

But students in Guerrero probably hold the record for largest number of hijacked vehicles. An estimated 500 were stolen during protests there and current teachers have also engaged in the practice. In 2016, teachers had an impressive storage lot of 75 stolen vehicles in the state of Michoacán. They were among 200 that authorities believed were stolen in protests against the 2012 education reforms. And therein lies the real reason for all this, other than the fact they discovered the former President would do nothing to stop them. His “education reforms” they are protesting are competency tests and would they please consider halting the practice of selling their jobs to people who have never been trained in teaching?

They smell blood in the water as the new President has expressed sympathy for them and promised to meet their demands.

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JOHN’S PLACE
NEW YEAR’S PARTY

2019

Three course dinner
Entree: Clam Chowder or House Salad
Main Course: Lobster & Rib Eye
Dessert: Homemade Flan
Dinner includes one bottle of wine per table.

And for the party...
A glass of Champagne and traditional grape ceremony for the New Year’s Toast
Live Music

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NA Meetings

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624-114-5200
boring cities of Miraflores, Santa Anita, Santiago, Los Barriles and Las Veredas, he says. “When we have an opportunity, we always share with others,” said Comandante Carbajal.

At one point, the fire department received money from an annual chili-cook off, but that event ended when the chili cook-off organizer, Mary Bragg, owner of Pancho’s restaurant, became frustrated with the corruption that existed in the fire department at that time. For now, the only means of fundraising is the T-shirt shop and donations that have come from Gringos and from proceeds raised as part of the annual Sabor a Cabo gastronomic event. Sabor a Cabo also contributes money to the Red Cross.

The average number of emergency calls per month also fluctuates depending on the season, but a typical amount hovers around 200 - 300 calls per month, swears Comandador Carbajal. Say, what? With no wooden building in the town, they are claiming 6 to 10 calls a day! Remember, unlike in the States, the fire department here does not field ambulances. We’re talking 6 to 10 cinderblock fires a day. Or cat rescues. That could be it, maybe a lot of cats get stuck in palm trees. Firemen are very handy at cat rescues. And there are brush fires. And there are lean-tos in the barrio made from bits of wood. Too bad there’s no fire station in the barrios, the only one is in the tourist area along the coast.

Every Saturday from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm, the fire department fiddles around at their fire house. They hold try outs of potential recruits, along with drills for a youth rescue team, outdoor physical exercises, and general rescue drills. They hold try outs of potential recruits, along with drills for a youth rescue team, outdoor physical exercises, and general rescue drills.

**FISH REPORT...**

above...

Bad. It was just cold (by our La Paz standards)! Tourists were still running around in shorts, while locals donned long pants and jackets! Likewise, winds laid down long enough to get boats out and fortunately for our type of fishing, no one really had to go out very far.

There are still some schools of dorado around with some nicer 15 to 20 pounders mixed in -- very surprising given the time of year. And along with the dorado, some pinnacles in front of the jetty at Costa Palmas Marina.

Either/or but don’t linger out too long or it may be a bumpy ride back to shore as the winds pick up mid-morning.

Most of the operations are kicking back, getting into the holiday spirit and only going out if asked.

**La Paz**

The weather hasn’t been too bad. It was just cold (by our La Paz standards)! Tourists were still running around in shorts, while locals donned long pants and jackets! Likewise, winds laid down long enough to get boats out and fortunately for our type of fishing, no one really had to go out very far.

There are still some schools of dorado around with some nicer 15 to 20 pounders mixed in -- very surprising given the time of year. And along with the dorado, some...


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HELP WANTED Writers, work for the Gringo Gazette, get paid, work your own hours, and have fun doing it carrie@gringogazette.com (TF)

FOR SALE BY OWNER: San Jose Del Cabo, Single Story 1850 Sq Ft Home on a 6,458 Sq. Ft. Lot. 3 Bdrm, 2 ½ Bath. UV Water Disinfection System Throughout The House, 10,000 Litre Pila, Hurricane Shutters, Pool, Grid Tie Solar, Large Work Shop, Large Outside Patio/Kitchen, And Much More. Asking $369,000 USD. Call Ted: Mexico Cell: 624-165-0222, US: 253-235-2546, Canada: 403-800-1449 (TF)

HONDA M/C ST 1300 2004 US plated 4K USD. 624-104-3038

ASK A MEXICAN... continued from page 27

hot wheels cars and toys for even much less. Business has been a little slow but it has been getting better. I am from Oxaca, where we do not celebrate Christmas. What we celebrate is El Dia de Los Magos (The Day of the Kings). And it is on that day, January 6, that we exchange gifts. But we have been here so long that our grandchildren expect to celebrate Christmas, like everybody else they know at school and in our neighborhood. So we too, know what to expect every Christmas and we set a little aside to buy them things.

6. Miguel Sandoval, 21, restaurant manager.
I'm from Mazatlan, Sinaloa, but grew up in Los Angeles and I used to always love Christmas. And I still do, but I have been in Cabo for a year and a half all by myself, so I don't have anyone to buy any Christmas presents for. Plus, I have to keep working right now when we have been getting busier at work, and cannot go back home to spend this holiday with my parents in Mazatlan. They know I am doing good here and we talk all of the time once or two times a week, but I definitely won't be with family this Christmas or New Year’s. But hey, I am in beautiful Cabo.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Dine With A View Of The City
Come Enjoy Your Holidays With Us

High on the side of the Pedregal hill, the La Vista private residence is serving lunch and dinner, giving you a bird’s eye view of Cabo San Lucas from day or night. Which is more fun, picking out landmarks at lunch or watching the twinkly city lights at night? You decide.

You can hike up the hill or take a taxi, just ask for La Vista Private Residences.

Lunch includes salads and sandwiches, and for dinner seafood and steaks at around $25 an entree. Full bar, FREE parking! Drive down the main drag of Cabo turning right up the hill on Hidalgo, Cabo’s restaurant row. About one block up from the park, you will see the La Vista Residences sign on your left. Drive in, up the hill. The security guard will tell you where to park.

Reservations: Office 624 143 5575 & Cell 624 164 3696. Open 8:00 AM - 10:00 PM. Facebook: La Vista Restaurant.

Questions? Call the office in Cabo at 14 30865. U.S. number is 562 714 6735
December 24th, 2018

QUE PASA IN CABO?...
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migratory bird species.

Mangroves contribute to fisheries to the tune of $37,500 dollars per hectare annually. Every year Mexico is losing about 20,000 hectares of these nice looking trees. Mining and large-scale tourism are the biggest threat to them.

Pronatura Noroeste, through the GlobalGiving platform, seeks to collect $5,000 by the end of this month in order to start a project that will produce workshops and training for Bahia Magdalena locals, who will be the guardians, monitoring and protecting the ecosystem that preserves the environment.

Donations can be made online (Paypal is enabled) and are tax-deductible for users who declare in the United States. If interested, please look up: bit.ly/SMangroveGuardians

Canucks impressed. Our very own Balandra beach in La Paz was listed among the best 17 beaches in the world by readers of the Canadian FlightNetwork magazine. According to 1,200 journalists, editors, bloggers and travel agencies, Balandra was chosen for its pristine beauty and quality of water and sand. Add to that the number of sunny days and average temperature, and there you have it; one of the best in the world.

Balandra has been under heavy pressure recently by a sudden influx of local people and local vendors. Everyone is fighting over the small parking lot, picking up trash, and even for a patch on the beach to unfurl your beach towel. It is a gorgeous beach that has just been discovered by the locals.

FISH REPORT...
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tuna were also hooked and a wahoo did bite one of the lines but came unbuttoned – an encouraging sign (that bit, not that it came off)! Add in the usual bonito and way too many needlefish and all-in-all, it wasn’t too bad.

Then the winds came up again and the waters changed, resulting in more restricted fishing with colder-water species like sierra, jack crevalle, cabrilla and snapper biting. Hard to know when not that many folks are fishing. Most of the visitors to town are snowbirds just looking for sunshine and an escape from even colder places and the locals are all getting ready for Christmas.

Cabo San Lucas
Tracy Ehrenberg www.piscesportfishing.com
Larry Edwards www.cor-techtarters.com
San Jose del Cabo
East Cape
Jen Wren Sportfishing www.thjenwren.com
East Cape Tackle Cindy Kirkwood, www.eastcapetackle.com
La Paz

New Year’s Resolutions For Us All

So, you’re going to drop 20 pounds by Valentine’s Day, finally master Spanish and take up ballroom dancing. Really, that’s your plan for the new year?

But Us? We’re thinking this is the year for New Year’s resolutions people can actually keep. Here are a few we suggest, all on the theme of helping animals (of course, because we are animal helpers).

Volunteer

The Los Cabos Humane Society quite literally relies on the help of volunteers to help us save lives. Walking dogs, cuddling cats, running events to raise funds and awareness; you name it, and volunteers are essential to it.

Adopt

When someone like us asks you “how many animals do you have?” we are prone to respond to the answer with “is that it?” Seriously, we respect that everyone has limits to how many pets he or she can accommodate but always hope they will make room in their home, heart, and budget for one more.

Donate

Most of our support comes as small gifts, and it’s the total of those many small donations which combined allows us to do all that we do. Many people bring us bulk pet food and supplies which are most helpful. If you can, a financial contribution of any size is always welcome. You can do this in person at the shelter, or online at www.loscaboshumanesociety.com. Do note you can donate one time, direct your gift towards spay or, donate in the name of family or friends, and receive an official tax receipt for any of the above.

Speaking of spay and neuter, we now offer free spay and neuter service at the shelter on Mondays and Wednesdays. This program is in addition to the weekly free mobile clinics in the community.

Educate

Our education program about the humane treatment of animals is presented at all levels in local schools. We also preach at businesses and at the adoption center. At these, children and adults alike learn how to care for their pets properly and how to respect animals. Many also attended the “Protect Your Pets” conference held recently in Cabo. LCHS, Simparica and veterinarian Tomas Reyes invited the public to a free conference on the care and prevention of diseases transmitted by insects, (ticks, fleas, mosquitoes). This summer the ticks, were busy, and attendees appreciated the useful information.

This past year was also a milestone for LCHS, as we were able to initiate and see through the prosecution of the first case of animal abuse taken to court in Los Cabos. This ultimately successful effort required a considerable amount of effort by Board of Directors’ Superhero Armando Martinez and represented the ultimate education in the consequences of animal abuse.

Policy

In the past, the LCHS never turned down animals brought to the shelter, which led to severe overcrowding, and some animals, often severely injured or diseased, had to be euthanized. We have changed this policy, and now if our shelter is full, we take the name of the person bringing us the animal and put them on a waiting list to let their animal in. The rescuer is asked to foster until there’s space. The wait time usually is about one week, and with this new system, we have found that very many people have a change of heart and keep the critter. In this way we are providing a promising future for the strays and a way to encourage the community to become more involved in the welfare of animals. This policy is just one of the successful new initiatives at our no-kill animal center.

Be Kind

Be kind to your pets at home, those you see around you, and especially those in need.

The Beatles told us love is all you need, and we think animals knew this long before John Lennon and Paul McCartney told the rest of the world.

Los Cabos Humane Society

Every Monday and Wednesday the Los Cabos Humane Society performs free spay and neuter. Plus regular mobile clinics in the community which are also free. But this does cost money. So if you believe in the concept of spay and neuter, you can help by giving a donation. Every little bit helps. LCHS is a private organization funded solely by donations. Help us spay and neuter...

www.loscaboshumanesociety.com

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

No one can do everything, but EVERYONE can do something!

Los Cabos Humanesociety
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