Todos Santos Gets Its Music Back
New 10 day concert series takes over the old one

BY MARLA KING

Music lovers are in for a treat with the Tropic of Cancer Concert Series to be held from January 10th to the 20th. The event is a welcome relief for live concert enthusiasts after the sudden demise of the Todos Santos Music Festival in 2016, when Peter Buck suddenly went off the reservation while on stage and unleashed a diatribe against local officials – who were in the audience. Buck and his festival seed money beat a hasty retreat and we were left in silence. However, in recent weeks he’s back and he’s performing again.

During the 10 day Tropic of Cancer series, there will be two concerts each day featuring multiple artists and bands at venues in and around Todos Santos and El Pescadero. Early evening concerts will be held at Hotel California, Cafe La Esquina, and Cafelix, while late night shows take place at La Morena and Jardin Alquimia.

Joe Firstman is the front man for the host band Cordovas and one of the primary organizers of the intensive concert series. “We have been living here since 2006, playing music, inviting friends and organizing small shows. The festival was an obvious progression for us,” he says.

More than 37 international acts, ranging from Latin rock and southern blues to Americana and

Let’s All Go To Mag Bay!
Oh boy! Beat you to the car!

BY EDGAR GONZALEZ

Fishing enthusiasts know about Magdalena Bay, because for them it is a place with unending possibilities for year round sport fishing; in the bay, inshore, offshore, and fly fishing, and for a huge variety of species. They fish from a panga, kayak, beach or even wade and beach fish. They catch marlin, dorado, yellow fin, tuna, and wahoo, among others. Magdalena Bay is best known to the general public for being

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Ariel view of mangroves. Best to hang a flag of toilet paper every time you turn a corner or you might never find your way back.
Liga MAC regroups. The first 20 years of the grass roots charity held together by women from Mexico, U.S., and Canada have slowly imploded. After all these years, new volunteer leadership coming in managed to drive away most of the volunteers so Liga MAC was no longer capable of attending to so many community needs. They had raised tens of thousands of dollars, spending it wisely on three programs: basic needs, medical aid and student scholarships.

Now, those left of them have re-trenched, focusing only on scholarships. Liga MAC was the tent pole holding up the shelter over those who needed help the most. They will be missed by many.

Message from Cabo. U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin tried to calm consumers by consulting with executives of the nation’s six largest banks after markets reached disastrous lows, in part due to President Trump thrashing around out there trying to figure out how to fire Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell.

Sipping a margarita while sitting under a palapa in a resort in Cabo San Lucas, the treasury secretary released a statement claiming that each bank had “ample liquidity” to lend to consumers and boasted of “strong economic growth in the US economy.”

But this is what torque’s our jaw; The US press kept talking about Stevie Boy being in a “Mexican resort”. Hellooooo…. our name isn’t Mexican resort, it’s Cabo San Lucas and it’s fine with us if that’s what you call us all over the United States.


It’s a cocktail reception with little cracker food, then dinner with live entertainment and dancing, finishing up with live auction and raffles, all on Saturday January 12, from 7:00 to 11:00 pm. Donations in US dollars per person are $125, or at the door: $150. VIP table for 10: $2,000. Tickets are available via the Eclectic Array trinket store behind Tanga Tanga in Cabo, in San Jose at the Montage resort, and Flora’s Farm. The mission of Sarahuaro is to help women and feed children in the most impoverished areas of Los Cabos. They foster change to women’s behavior, self-esteem, health and financial status, life skills, and work skills training. The group also operates The Children’s Kitchen Program since 2013, when they took over the Colonia Gastelum elementary school’s kitchen that was about to be closed and would leave hundreds of children with no food during their entire school day. (Like they can’t pack a taco?)

Over the years the program has expanded and now has a far greater reach - currently Sarahuaro provides a healthy meal to more than 300 children every day.

Millions for Cabo San Lucas. The federal government will pitch $34 million as part of an emergency support program to help 15 Mexican cities.

The dinner, said lady Mayor Armida Castro, will be used in the barrios to bring them drinking water, sewage, pavement and land titles. She also announced that she will work to obtain more federal funding to continue with a second phase. We think Armida needs a lesson in city management. You don’t bring them sewage, Honey, you take it away.

Look sharp. A tad before Christmas, our state’s tourism department invited two groups of professional travel agents from the door: $150. VIP table for 10: $2,000. Tickets are available via the Eclectic Array trinket store behind Tanga Tanga in Cabo, San Jose at the Montage resort, and Flora’s Farm. The mission of Sarahuaro is to help women and feed children in the most impoverished areas of Los Cabos. They foster change to women’s behavior, self-esteem, health and financial status, life skills, and work skills training. The group also operates The Children’s Kitchen Program since 2013, when they took over the Colonia Gastelum elementary school’s kitchen that was about to be closed and would leave hundreds of children with no food during their entire school day. (Like they can’t pack a taco?)

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Los Cabos today is known for its world class golf courses, but it wasn’t always that way.

It all started when Fonatur, the federal agency that jump started us as a tourist destination, built the first golf course in Los Cabos. This was a nine hole rather featureless course, but that was all we had in 1984. Its name was changed a few years ago to Weiskopf. That course is currently in the process of being totally screwed up by canibalizing some holes to build rental homes on. Then of course the next several holes are screwed up too, because that’s where they’re trying to cram in the missing holes.

The second course built that year is the Cabo San Lucas Country club, what many people believe is the most difficult course in Los Cabos. The original design was started by Roy Dye and completed by his son Matt after Roy’s death. Only a few years ago we lucked into new owners from Mexico City who started putting big bucks into it, bringing it back to good shape, fixing infrastructure, and even lighting the driving range for night time play. A massive and beautiful clubhouse was designed and dirt was being pushed around for it. And then Lydia struck, washing seven holes out to sea. For all last year we got to pay reduced rates to play 18 holes on what was really 11 holes. The path was altered to guide us back around, and some of us less aware players thought some of the later holes looked only vaguely familiar.

The third course opened that year is the 18 hole Cabo Real, a creation of Robert Trent Jones Jr. that is considered by many to be the first world class course in Los Cabos. This gem has been host to two PGA Senior Slam events (1996, 1999). Three courses have been possible thanks to the vision and investment of Eduardo Sanchez Navarro, heir to the Corona beer company, and head of Grupo Quersto, our largest developer. Grupo Quersto golf holdings include Puerto Los Cabos, Club Campestre, and Cabo Real. In 1999 Jack Nicklaus strikes again, this time by designing three courses with the Mayan Golf course when that timeshare bought it, and now it’s known as Vidanta Golf course because the Cryin’ Mayan has changed its name to Vidanta. It is still one of the locals’ favorites mainly because it’s the cheapest, and one of the few public courses in the area.

Five years later the golf course at Palmilla was opened, an 18 hole course designed by Jack Nicklaus, his first of many in Los Cabos. The man behind this project was Don Kohl, a Southern California developer who bought the Palmilla hotel in 1986. This was the starting point for the golf arms race that has defined the area ever since.

In 1994 Los Cabos witnessed the birth of three courses starting with the Cabo del Sol course designed by Nicklaus and Tom Weiskopf. That course is currently in the process of being totally screwed up by canibalizing some holes to build rental homes on. Then of course the next several holes are screwed up too, because that’s where they’re trying to cram in the missing holes.

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Uncle Sam to the rescue. The U.S. government is pledging $10.6 billion in public and private funds toward economic development in Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras, in an attempt to address the causes of migration from the region, the U.S. State Department has announced.

The investment will include partnerships with the private sector and $4.8 billion will be spent in Mexico and $5.8 billion in northern Central America through 2024, according to a joint statement from the State Department and Mexico’s Foreign Relations Ministry. Mexico is pledging $25 billion in the region over the same period, the statement said.

Much of the U.S. funds had been set aside since 2017, but the Trump administration will request approval from Congress for an additional $180 million for assistance to Mexico.

“Overall, this is very good news for Mexico,” said Mexican Foreign Relations Secretary Marcelo Ebrard in a joint statement. Well, no kidding.

Mexico to the rescue. Over the next five years, the Mexican government plans to pitch in $30 billion to Central American development. Their goal is to keep illegal aliens from heading north towards the United States border, and trampling through Mexico to get it done.

BTW, close observers, (like us), noted that Mexico tried very hard to stop the migrant caravan from swarming into Mexico. Their forces were simply overwhelmed by young men leading the charge with Molotov cocktails, sticks, and stones. Is it any wonder that these migrants, who can barely read even Spanish, and don’t know what’s going on in the States, thought they could storm through the U.S. border, also? They were mislead by their so called leaders who call themselves human rights workers.

wall grief. The White House border wall is more expensive because of our slapping tariffs on steel imports. That allowed domestic steel plants to raise their domestic prices by the same 25%.

Todos Santos’ cash in jeopardy. Mexico’s 121 so called magical towns might not receive any federal money in 2019 because the program that funds them has been cancelled. Our own Todos Santos is one of those magic towns. The average magic town gets about $240,000 U.S. per year, depending on how good a deal they swung when they first were dusted with the magic pixy dust.

Tourism Secretary Miguel Torruco confirmed the end to funding for the program, along with chopping the entire federal tourism budget down to nada. Our new President wants to spend the entire bag of money on his 1000 mile tourist train through the jungles of the Yucatan.

So where does Todos Santos’ magic money go? Who knows, certainly not the public, but a clue would be it was sucked up by La Paz. Todos Santos is governed by La Paz and La Paz is so broke City Hall got their electricity shut off. They are sucking whatever money they can from their outlying towns like Todos Santos and Los Barilles, not returning more than scraps to the towns that are required by law to turn over most revenue they collect.

Fake news in Baja. A criminal gang is targeting business owners in Baja with an extortion that threatens to spread fake news about them if they refuse to pony up. More than 100 business owners as well as professionals such as doctors and lawyers have been targeted.

The demands come with the threat that if they don’t pay, false information will be spread about them online. Stuff like they have criminal records for drug trafficking, weapons offenses, robbery or other crimes.

Last week the suspected leader was arrested. He had allegedly posted phony information about their targets from social media.

Preliminary investigations into the modus operandi of the extortion racket indicate that its members initially contact their targets through email, offering to sell them online advertising. The targets are left with a telephone number to call. The telephone numbers of those who call are
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La Paz, Baja California Sur, 23060
January 7th, 2019

Water World
Open Again

Owners swear this is their final answer

BY JOSEPH CURRY

Aqua World is a water park made of inflatable attractions, numbering 30 water oriented activities, 17 different dry activities like zip lines and bungee trampolines, a climbing wall, and even an artificial ice skating rink. Aqua World is also equipped with five different pool areas, some as long as 60 feet, as well as 20 water slides ranging in size from four stories high to little kiddie size. It’s all on what used to be a dusty field across from the soccer field which is across from the bull ring, at the entrance to Cabo San Lucas. This entire collection of dozens of Chinese made inflatables over the 160,000 acres are held up by individual generators constantly puffing air into them.

‘The whole shebang was open and closed last summer. Open by four naïve Gringos, on what we were trying to talk our way in, and finally opened after mostly about six months of proof of local residency, but voting card and an electric bill you will need to show your water in, and expected to be hooked up to the city water “soon”. Well, obviously that didn’t happen, as per Bodzick’s admission that they were still not using city water.

For now, until either they’re closed down again or summer arrives, Aqua World is open from 10:30 to 5:30 PM. Admission is $35 US for adults and children. (Kids under two years is $35 US for adults and children. (Kids under two years old are free, but do you really want to be in a pool with a baby in diapers?) While they haven’t announced nor promoted prices for local Los Cabos residents, this writer did witness a family entering for only $15 for adults and even less for teenagers, so beat them into a bloody stump at the box office. Supposedly you will need to show your voting card and an electric bill as proof of local residency, but again, if you want to get into this thing, try talking your way in cheaper. Or go full Mexico and just slip the ticket taker a few pesos.

Aqua World’s staff includes the employees who manage the water filtration system, which keeps the water free of toxins; or what is generally known as kids peeing in the pool. No, we did not personally see this filtration system in operation, you might want to ask to see it. Park officials are looking into installing solar panels to help with the cost of the electricity they need to keep the generators puffing air into the pump-em-ups and to heat the pools.

There is food, including soft drinks and bottled water. Looks like it’s a no on the liquor license Chavez said was coming. And it’s a definite no on bringing in your own food and drink.

“It’s pretty good exercise,” said Chavez, who also added, “The city government people were really cool, and obviously feel this project was right for Los Cabos, and good for tourism; which is why we’re finally open for good.”

“Really cool” would not be closed down for nearly six months, and to have city water, and to have a liquor license, but hey, they’re open for now, city being cool or not. Better hurry down to enjoy it, we don’t know if they’re going to run out of water, electricity, or the good will of the city.

Water World is a large collection of inflated attractions, all held together with generators constantly puffing them up.

Water World partners, Stan Bodzick. ‘Since day one, we have never used local, city municipal water, and that was a contention that city government officials wanted to investigate during the 30-days they shut us down. We used that month of down time, solidifying our number one concern for our guests, which is safety. Of our 72 full time employees—all trained in CPR and first aid—40 of them are dedicated to keeping the games safe and orderly. We have a full time paramedic and an ambulance on site, and passed the rigorous inspection of our premises and employees by the Municipal City Code and Safety Inspectors,” he said. Well, first of all it was way more than one month, it was more like six, and the owners would not talk to us while it was closed. Their local rep, Isaíis Chavez, did tell us last summer that they were trucking their water in, and expected to be hooked up to the city water “soon”. Well, obviously that didn’t happen, as per Bodzick’s admission that they were still not using city water.

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Comes through leaner, smarter, and more focused

BY MAX POWER

A humane society is a group that aims to stop human or animal suffering due to cruelty or other reasons.

Lately it seems like you can’t swing a cat without hitting another organization whose goal is to help critters. Why is that? Why can’t everyone get behind one shelter in each town? Maybe because these well-meaning people want to captain their own ship. It does get dicey, though, giving money to an upstart humane society who’s bookkeeping is not transparent, or if it is, you don’t feel like pouring over the books like you should do before giving to somebody you don’t know.

So a lot of people support the first and largest, the Cabo San Lucas humane society, which dates back to the mid 1990s. But even they have their tough moments, some of which they just came through. They lost some of their long time volunteers, some who simply aged out, some who left the area, and some who had philosophical differences.

Barbara Cooperman, one of the original organizers of this shelter came back and she’s behind a lot of changes. Many years ago she was onboard when Lucas humane society’s education, vaccination and sterilization programs. They also give free sterilization to all comers on Mondays and Wednesdays. Bring your pet in, and if you can afford it, pay what you can, but the shelter’s cost is figured by the weight. The weight of the animal, not your weight!

“The local government, through the health department gives about 200 does of rabies vaccination a year,” explains Martinez, “but we need about that many a month.” Yikes, do you still want to walk around the barrios where no dogs are on a leash, and where every dog is a potential carrier of rabies? Enter the Los Cabos humane society, which jabs every dog they can round up. And they go on regular dog round ups.

The Los Cabos humane society can always use volunteers. Maybe you can give just a few hours here or there, maybe once, or maybe you can become a regular, working a few hours every week, when you’re in town. They have got the bookkeeping back on track, saving money by prudent spending, and have expanded the services offered.

No less than three veterinarians work there, but not always for the poor critters. They also provide services for the middle class critters and even the rich critters; they use the shelter as their office, taking in paying clients. It’s a busy, barking and meowing place. It doesn’t smell like it, though, as it’s kept squeaky clean. These vets also help with the humane society’s education, vaccination and sterilization programs. They also give free sterilization to all comers on Mondays and Wednesdays. Bring your pet in, and if you can afford it, pay what you can, but the shelter’s cost is figured by the weight. The weight of the animal, not your weight!

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Mexican jazz, will play 20 concerts during the festival. Many of the artists are friends of the Cordovas band members. “We curate the bands all year long from our travels and the musicians that we encounter, and the various circuits that we run in,” Firstman explains.

One of the this year’s headliners is seven time Grammy nominated singer and songwriter Joan Osborne, who has just released an album featuring her renditions of Bob Dylan’s greatest works.

The Cordovas have also released a new record called “That Santa Fe Channel” and wrapped up a major tour through their native USA. In March and April, the band will be taking their music to Europe with shows booked in Norway, Sweden, Denmark, and Spain.

The Tropic of Cancer Music Series is a highlight for the large built-in audience in the Todos Santos area, plus it attracts many tourists during the busy winter season. The full schedule and line-up are at tropicofcancerconcerteries.mx and tickets can be purchased online through the website. Prices range from $18 US for an individual concert to $75 US for a full festival pass.

Giving back to the local community is also important to the event organizers. “We always give our door money to the Bomberos Voluntarios de Todos Santos,” Firstman says in support of the firefighters and rescue personnel who keep the region safe.

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### LET’S ALL GO TO MAG BAY...

continued from page 1

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Cathy Dammann is a Medical Aesthetics Practitioner and has certifications in Aesthetics, and Light and Laser Treatments, which specializes in the latest technologies. Cathy Dammann, Medical Aesthetics Practitioner and Owner of Spa Cielo, has built their business over the past 10 years in Los Cabos, to meet those vacationer desires.

‘People want to look better, but they don’t want to give up any time from their daily lives or vacation’ said Cathy Dammann, Medical Aesthetics Practitioner and Owner of Spa Cielo, Wellness and Weight Loss Center. “The public is demanding transformation with little pain or downtime” states Dammann.

Spa Cielo, which specializes in the latest light and laser treatments, offers a variety of treatments to meet everyone’s skin rejuvenation vacation needs.

### Spa Cielo a Laser Medical Spa

These days everybody wants to look beautiful. As 18 million “baby boomers” approach retirement, age is beginning to show. But with the fast pace of today’s aging society, people now want to fresh look without spending weeks of painful recovery. A from LED and Photo-facials, to TITAN® Skin Tightening and Lumenis AcuPulseTM Fractional CO2 Laser. With the recent addition of the award winning HydraFacial™, Voted Best Non-Laser, Non-Surgical Skin Rejuvenation 2012. Spa Cielo now has something for everyone, whether it is a bride the day before her wedding or someone who wants to go home looking five years younger.

The HydraFacial™ is the first step in skin rejuvenation for someone in their 30’s or 40’s who doesn’t really need laser or for someone who is looking to maintain their skin in their 50’s and 60’s. HydraFacial™ were even featured in InStyle magazine in 2009 as the “hottest celebrity pre-bridal facial!” All the notoriety is with good reason. The HydraFacial is the only system to vacuum extract, wet-dermabration and vortex infuse serums, following a computerized customized treatment plan based on the individual’s skin type and needs. “It is truly amazing!” exclaims Cathy.

On the other end of the spectrum, Spa Cielo offers fractional CO2 laser treatments, named “#1 in Anti-aging Skin Rejuvenation” by WebMD, which offers a superior solution for rejuvenating and resurfacing the skin. The fractional laser can be used effectively to treat fine lines, wrinkles, acne, stretch marks, acne and burn scars, skin pigmentation, discoloration, sun-damaged skin, precancerous as well as benign lesions and uneven skin texture.

This is the only laser treatment at Spa Cielo that requires any down time, typically less than 5 days.

All of the other laser treatments at Spa Cielo, including TITAN™, the non-surgical facelift, recipient of the Aesthetic Medicine Award for “Best Customer Experience and Satisfaction” can be performed the day before a media or public relations event. LifeStyle Lift Now Available at Spa Cielo. Spa Cielo offers a complimentary VISIA™ computerized complexion analysis, which allows a customized treatment program for efficient rejuvenation in shortest amount of time. Make your time here a rejuvenation vacation. Call 624-105-2209 to schedule your complimentary VISIA™

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This is a very important protected ecological sanctuary with beautiful landscapes where you can see rock formations in front of inhabited beaches with huge rising sand dune walls protecting a labyrinth of mangroves filled with life. The mangroves are so extensive, with canals naturally cutting through them, that a kayaker can get seriously lost.

The great variety of species that you can find here are attracted by several circumstances, like the dry warm climate with year round rains. Also the nutrient filled waters are a product of the cold currents coming from Alaska clashing with the warm tropical waters. This makes the bay a very productive area for commercial fishing too, with a wide spectrum of species to choose from like shrimp, lobster, clam, abalone and sardines.

Unfortunately, we have seen the carcasses of thousands of sharks that have been killed by cutting off their fins. The fins are packed into waiting wooden crates with salt in them, and picked up by Japanese boats. The sharks are left to sink to the bottom and die and you can see them in the shallow clear water. When questioned about this practice, the fishermen clump up and pretend they can’t understand Spanish. Why is there...
France and Italy to visit our state. Actually, they are invited to Los Cabos and La Paz, the Espiritu Santo island and Todos Santos. They also were invited to swim with whale sharks, enjoy the sun- set sailing around Cabo’s famous arch, and visit several hotels and restaurants that cater to groups and conventions. We’ll tell you when they get here so you can roll out your welcome smile.

The agents were chosen through the Meca Group, one of the biggest tour operators selling Mexico as a tourist destination in France, Italy and the U.K.

Competition announced. This January 16 to 20, the La Ventana Classic tournament will take place in all three East Cape villages known as La Ventana, El Sargento and Los Planes, near La Paz. The competition includes kiteboarding, windsurfing and SUP events to raise money for the local school children. This isn’t a huge prize money event, although the competition can be fierce. It’s a charity event to raise money for local kids so they can go to school. The serious kites aren’t come here anymore, they go to school. The serious kiters raise money for local kids so they can go to school. The serious kiters raise money for local kids so they can go to school.

Kardashian visit. News that rattled around the supermarket tabloids was the December visit of Kourtney Kardashian who came to Cabo with her ex, Scott Disick and his new girlfriend Sofia Richie and Scott’s kid. The threesome was photographed sunbathing together in a Christmas boat cruise with the Los Cabos Tomatoes on board the Cabo Wave. They’re renting a condo from a Tomato member.

Now You See It, Now You Don’t. Plans for the new desalination plant are back on. Our new mayor, Armida Castro, tried to kill the deal that was cooked before she took office, but it would not die because there were too many commitments already in place. So now she’s getting out in front of this and owning it. Reports that her name is going up on the building are premature. But, she warns, it’s not going to put water in your pila tomorrow. That’s going to take work on our worn out water delivery system. No word on what’s she’s going to do about that, just that one day 3,000 families are going to benefit by the desalted water she tried her best to kill.

They’re Trying, We’ll Give Them That. The owners of the airport, with the major stock- holder being our major developer, is trying to cope with a 15% increase in passengers over year. We now have 41 direct destinations, and twice as many seats as seven years ago when we all still thought the airport was awesome.

With $17.5 million dollars invested this year, airport man-

Contiuned on page 14
Pickleball Is The Happening Sport
Friendly to retirees, and cheap to play

BY CHARLIE PRESTON

“It’s the fastest growing sport in the world!” I’ve heard this claim from numerous new, and longtime enthusiasts of the sport of pickleball. Whether or not that stat is true, it seems to be growing in the Los Barriles area where a number of new courts, including the Tres Palapas Pickleball Resort, have sprung up in recent years. Los Barriles is a small beach community about an hour north of San Jose, and is dominated by Canadians and Americans.

Pickleball is played on a shrunken tennis-court-like arena in one-on-one matches, or teams of two. The game resembles a cross between tennis and ping-pong, if you were standing on top of a ping pong table. Players use wooden paddles to bat the ball, which is similar to a whiffle ball. The net is waist high and you can only allow the ball to bounce once or not at all, before returning the volley.

Interested in this new trend, my girlfriend and I recently ventured up to Tres Palapas, located just north of Los Barries, in the suburbs, if Los Barries were big enough to have a suburb. There we watched an exhibition match between what was described as the world’s best pickleballers. The facility at Tres Palapas has a country club atmosphere with two bars and a restaurant on the premises, flanking the courts, and surrounded by a high cement wall. There are also massage and yoga facilities. In the middle is a tall viewing platform, a good place to watch the action from with drink in hand. I couldn’t help but notice the age of the majority of the patrons, being mostly of the baby boomer generation, which lent itself to the country club feel. Tres Palapas is so popular with this set that some people have moved to Mexico as winter residents, just because of this place.

The sport itself is nearly 60 years old. Its creation is attributed to a former politician of Washington state, Joel Pritchard, who created the game out of leftovers of other crews. Others like the legend that the game was named for a dog named Pickles who would run off with the ball.

Pickleball is a sport made for baby boomers.
Here are two companies that do it well

BY SARA VEYSA

We are going to talk about two local beer brewing companies with similar names, so hang on and pay close attention. One is called Todos Santos Brewing and one is Baja Brewing. You may know the Baja Brewing folks by their donkey mascot. Todos Santos Brewing has no donkey, just some quirky waves, which may be beer foam. Todos Santos Brewing is represented by the Mitchells, while the donkey folks are fronted by Jordan Gardenhire. OK, ready?

According to Cerveza Mexico statistics, there were 55 beer brewers nationwide in 2014. That number has now exploded to 630. This massive increase can be attributed to the exponential growth of craft brewing. While only making up 0.1% of the Mexican market, compared to 18% of the US market, the industry has directly created over 6,800 jobs in this country. The beer industry started to change rapidly in the early 2010s as small batch brewing took off in Tijuana and Ensenada, and then gained traction on the mainland in Mexico City and Monterrey.

That was a soft opening background stroll, now here we go. “Todos Santos Brewing exists thanks to a bad tequila hangover. It was September 2016, a hot day, and we just wanted something different. “It was September 2016, a hot day, and we just wanted some-where we could get a nice craft beer and burger in air conditioning,” explains co-founder Ted Mitchell. “But we couldn’t find one, and I realized there was an opportunity here.” Ted and his wife Liz were visiting Cerritos Beach before. “I was one of the first manufacturers of anything in the region,” Gardenhire explains. “The infrastructure wasn’t here for equipment and supplies. No one in Mexico was even selling bottled beers are now sold in parts of North America, Australia, and South Africa.

The Mitchells, (back to the people with the waves of beer foam), credit Gardenhire, (donkey), for establishing the local craft beer scene and smoothing the path for them. Instead of seeing each other as competition, Gardenhire feels the more microbrews that grow, the more people will be educated about craft beer and will want to try something different.

“Before I started the company, I went to a craft beer conference in the US and met so many established brewers,” Gardenhire explains. “They gave unlimited advice, there were no secrets, they just all wanted to help. It was such an authentic, collaborative environment and I wanted to bring that attitude to Baja.”

Gardenhire and the Mitchells collaborated on a recipe for Todos Santos Brewing, and he has recently worked with Cru Cru in Mexico City on a special edition “Christmas on the Beach” lager mixed with the tropical fruits of traditional Mexican ponche. We’re told this is one of the main reasons craft brewing has become so popular – it affords the ability to experiment with ingredients and aromas to create one-of-a-kind tastes.

In order for Todos Santos Brewing to craft a large range of flavors within a nano-sized operation, the Mitchells invented a unique system of brewing 100 liters at a time and fermenting in a small temperature-controlled room. While the ingredients come from around the globe, the Mitchells are able to source all the main ingredients in Mexico.

Todossantos.com

Tel: 624 129 9232

Email: info@todosantos.com

Todos Santos Brewing, Cabo San Lucas, Mexico

Gardenhire and the Mitchells

 CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

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4,400 sf, 5 bedrooms, 4 baths, office, maid’s quarters, $745,000 USD. Cash sale, Realtor cooperation. lizzieart@sti.net, 001.559.281.7956

Also added was a very nice club house, replacing the trailer on the gravel lot that’s been servicing us these past 11 years. There are two free food stands on this course but they spring an extra $20 pay.

They milked that one in their advertising for years and it is pretty cool when the wind isn’t blowing, and they have two great free food stands. We golfers call them soup kitchens because they’re free and they offer great soup. The carts sport tundra tires and the cart path is made of railroad ties. It’s quite enough.

In 2014 Quivira presented the Nicklaus designed 18 hole course with unbelievable views of the Pacific and was voted in 2015 by a golf magazine as the Best International New Golf Course. To play this you need to be staying there or pretending to be interested in a timeshare or know somebody.

Not to be left behind, that same year Diamante presented its new family member: The Tiger Woods designed El Cardonal. It’s actually pretty dull, especially when compared to the Dunes course. Again, you need to be a buyer in Diamante or pretend to want a timeshare there. Don’t bother, it’s not worth sitting through the presentation unless you can get onto the Dunes course. That’s worth the timeshare hassle.

Two years ago, in 2016, Tiger presented his new creation, the 12 hole par 3 Oasis short course, also in Diamante. What can be said about 12 little bitty holes? Ho hum.

And now the new Twin Dolphins’ Todd Eckenrode designed course has opened. It will be available for play to owners within the Twin Dolphin community which is currently under development by Ohana Real Estate Investors. This includes 52 homes in Montage, as well as homesites for sale in the adjoining Maravilla. Guests at the Montage hotel will also qualify to play.

As you read this, the new Greg Norman course is under construction in Rancho San Lucas, north of the three courses in Diamante, and the one course at Quivira, on the frequently windy Pacific Ocean. They’re promising it will be ready in 2019, but that’s the official word from their official timeshare sales people, so don’t take that info to the bank. It’s a Solmar property and far, far out of town but very, very nice.

There are more courses coming in the near future: The four seasons at Costa Palmas has planned a Robert Trent Jones III course, but that is pretty far out in the future because the water table is going down and there aren’t enough people out there to generate enough waste water for a course.

There are also plans to build a golf course on the East Cape Vidanta project, (used to be called the Cryin’ Mayan), but all we have at the moment is that promise. And finally, Quivira is also planning to add a second course to their catalog, the plan is to start building on 2019.

Is that enough golf for you? It’s all pretty crazy, figuring out which one you qualify to play on, but not as crazy expensive as it used to be.

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Is that enough golf for you? It’s all pretty crazy, figuring out which one you qualify to play on, but not as crazy expensive as it used to be.

Continued from page 4

For natural gas, Mexico’s most vital source of energy, falling production has meant soaring prices. For Mexico’s most powerful gas buyer, Mexico is the fastest growing OECD energy user. Expected economic growth is a solid 3-5% per year, and oil and gas supply is only 85% of the country’s needs.

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WHAT'S GOING ON IN THIS...
continued from page 4
Rancho San Lucas... The Best Address in Cabo

Long beach-walks, sultry sunsets, modern comforts surrounded by the charm and tradition of Baja’s premiere destination.

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- Exclusive beachside estate homes and high-rise residences
- Ocean and golf view Villas starting in the low $600's

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Magdalena Bay, four hours up the peninsula, is huge and full of life connected to the sea by a huge mouth and a channel. The southeast zone or Almejas bay that connects to open sea via a shallow mouth. It also connects to the central zone by a channel.

This lagoon system is protected by a series of islands and sand bars parallel to the coast.

There are tours through the lagoons, where you can see red, white and black mangroves that provide shelter and serve as an anchor for the colorful vegetation endemic to the area. These tours can be and afternoon or up to three days long. This is a fabulous bay for kayaking, with miles and miles of narrow passageways, many canopied by thick vegetation.

To get there you can drive north to the tiny towns of Puerto San Carlos or Puerto Mateos and hire a small boat called a panga to scoot around the bay. Bargain tough here, they start out quoting prices they will be happy to cut in half if you counter. From the peninsula highway, about 30 minutes before Constitucion, there is a big left turn at a roundabout, with a statue of some guy at the center. Can’t miss it. It’s a big turn and a big statue. We don’t know who the guy is, but if you send us a picture of you standing in front of it, holding a copy of the paper, we’ll send you a free copy of the paper. You don’t have to tell us the name of the guy, we won’t know him anyway.

Right now and though early March it’s a bit windy, spring and fall are more tranquil. But now is when the whales are there waiting for you to pet them, so tie your hat down and go. October and November are when the water temperatures are 80 to 85 degrees and visibility is up to 80 feet. Right now is a good time to see the desert green and in bloom. Also now the water temperature is in the mid 60’s, brrrr. The air temperature gets into the 80s most days.

After a rainy season you can get a lot of mosquitoes, no-see ums and gnats, so bring your Bug Off if you go in October or November. March, April and May are usually bug free.

The Carl’s Jr. Is just going to the bathroom, which will have a bunch of spiffy buses to haul us to the plane when there are not enough gates.

The departure lounge has become unmanageable, as often all chairs are taken and people are standing.

The Carl’s Jr. Is just going to have to try and keep up, because the trauma of that line is worse than standing, and, marginally worse than going hungry. People are standing around waiting to pounce on any chair vacated by some poor bastard who has to go to the bathroom, which will have an even longer line than Starbucks’ or Carl’s Jr. There’s even a long line for the check in kiosks, although there are helpful and nice attendants floating around, trying to keep it moving.

This is just one example of how infrastructure is struggling to keep up with all the new building of tourist facilities on the Corridor. Do you want to ask again where are the people who will fill all those hotels?

"If they build it they will come", seems to work just fine. Mom & Dad Are Quarreling. And we Uber riders are caught in the middle.

The Governor, a member of the Pan party, is trying to get the ride hailing law recently mandated by the supreme court regularized by our state congress, but congress is controlled by the Moreno party. Twice the congress has put the vote off, once because ironically, the congressmen couldn’t get to the state house because of a taxi strike going on.

Meanwhile our mayor, a member of the Morena party, swears up and down she is not OK with the taxistas who are ambushing the Uber drivers. This, after saying, "I don’t know why people are surprised I’m against Uber, I ran on that platform."

Through all this we’re all taking Uber and loving it.

Twin Dolphins golf course opens. It’s called the Twin Dolphins because it sits on land that once has the famous hotel on it. Gone now, sigh. The new surrounding development, created by Ohana Real Estate Investors, includes Maravilla Los Cabos, a private residential community; Montage Los Cabos, a deluxe 122 room beachfront hotel opened June 1; and Montage Residences, totaling 52 two and three bedroom turnkey units.
Should You Get A Home Inspection?
Absolutely, positively, always

BY MARSHA MELLOW

A home inspection is an objective, professionally done visual examination of the structure and systems of a house, from the roof to the foundation. You go to the doctor for physical exam and take your car in for checkups, why not do the same for your house?

A professional home inspection is an examination of the current condition of a house. It is not an appraisal, which determines market value. It is not a municipal inspection, which verifies local code compliance. A home inspector, therefore, will do the same for your house?

A home inspection is an examination of the structure and systems of a house, from the roof to the foundation. You go to the doctor for physical exam and take your car in for checkups, why not do the same for your house?

If you are selling, get your own inspector before you put your home on the market. The last thing you want is to have a contract on the table, only to hear the inspector has found dry rot. If you know in advance, you can take care of it. If a home inspection turns out well, it is likely the buyers will feel good about their purchase and not ask for costly fixes or concessions. If you call for the inspection yourself, and not wait for the buyer to do it, time is on your side. You can fix problems on your terms for far less than you will likely spend if you’re rushed for time. Think of it like a physical that will only keep your home healthy and more valuable.

And if you call your own inspection, getting a clean bill of health, it helps you make decisions. You can pick your home projects and spend your money with confidence.

The standard home inspector’s report will cover the condition of the home’s heating system; central air conditioning system, interior plumbing, and electrical systems; the roof, attic and visible insulation; walls, ceilings, floors, windows and doors; And don’t forget the foundation, basement and structural components.

The American Society of Home Inspectors (ASHI) publishes a Standards of Practice Code of Ethics outlines what you should expect to be covered in your home inspection report. In the United States it will be difficult to get a mortgage without a home inspection, here no. And here there are no standards here, never seen the telltale termite poop before.

Buying a home could be the largest single investment you will ever make. To minimize bad surprises, you’ll want to learn as much as you can about the newly constructed or existing house before you buy it. A home inspection may identify the need for major repairs or builder oversights, as well as the need for maintenance to keep it in good shape. After the inspection, you will know more about the house, which will al-
5 Cheap Ways To Goose Your Home Value

Concentrate on the kitchen, of course, but here’s how

BY AL FRESCO

Applying a more colorful design to your kitchen is a great way to brighten one of the most important rooms in your home. Here are a few simple ways to spice up your kitchen space.

Paint the walls. Enhance your entire kitchen with a new paint color. Or, add a bold color to one wall to give the room some contrast and create a dramatic focal point.

Coat the cabinetry. Your cabinets don’t have to be wood stained. Give them some drama with a bright color. Even softer tones can add life to your kitchen décor.

Buy decorative cookware and appliances. Try filling your space with colorful cooking gear. Appliances, like mixers and toasters are sold in an array of eye popping colors. You may even consider displaying vibrant dishware in glass cabinets which is practical and stylish.

Adorn with rugs and linens. Use colorful dish towels, rugs, and tablecloths to accent your kitchen décor. Linens come in a variety of patterns and colors, making them an easy way to give your kitchen some personality. You may even replace them throughout the year for seasonal and holiday themes.

SHOULD YOU GET A HOME... continued from page 15

if he fails your home he will never get another job from that person. While it’s not required that you be present for the inspection, it is highly recommended because you will be able to observe the inspector and ask questions as you learn about the condition of your home and how to maintain it. No house is perfect. If the inspector identifies problems, it doesn’t mean you should or shouldn’t buy the house, only that you will know in advance what to expect. If your budget is tight, or if you don’t want to become involved in future repair work, this information will be important to you. If major problems are found, a seller may agree to make repairs. Say the inspector found nothing wrong, have I wasted my money? No, now you can complete your home purchase with confidence, and you’ll have learned many things about your new home from the inspector’s written report, and will have that information for future reference.

A community inspired by nature /

Reserve your new home from 15% down payment.
Carlene Lokey
Broker Homes and Land of Baja

Carlene has been the top selling real estate agent in Buena Vista/Los Barriles area every year for the last ten years.

Carlene didn't know it at the time, but when she moved to Los Barriles from Vail Colorado in 1998 she was preparing for a real estate career to last a lifetime. She taught the first ever PE class to Mexican school girls. She joined Rotary when it started up in Los Barriles. She joined the women’s book club. She windsurfs and kites. You see her every year in her green dune buggy in the Mardi Gras parade. She met the whole town just for a real estate career to last a lifetime.

Contact Carlene: Baja cell 624 125-2986 US cell 541-399-0425 Contact Carlene: Baja cell 624 125-2986 US cell 541-399-0425

SOLDS

Casa Ascendente #12, Ladera San José, MLS #18-2919 Pre construction priced, sold. 3BD-3.5BA, pool, Short walk to Koral Center, $435,000.00 USD, Marco Klein (624) 147 0242

Casa Ascendente #29, Ladera San José, MLS #18-2920, Pre construction- house. 3BD-3.5BA, Short walk to Koral Center, $445,900.00 USD, Marco Klein (624) 147 0242

Condos Tower A, Building 1 A #507 Ladera San José, MLS #18-2574, Ladera San José, Pre sale Under construction 2BD-2BA, Short walk to Koral Center & Hospital H+ , $184,300.00 USD, Marco Klein (624) 147 0242

Here Are Just Some Of Our Listings, We Can Show You More

Cabo San Lucas Houses/Condos
1. Casa Donovon 2bd 2bth, every upgrade, rooftop living. $99,500
2. Tesoro Condo 56 2bd 2bth over 2,000 sq ft, large terrace $150,000
3. Casa Angela Great starter home on 17,000 sq ft commercial lot $135,000
4. Casa del Sol One of a kind penhouse unit. 3 bd, Lots of amenities $249,500
5. Casa Andre 4 bd house in gated community, El Tezal, Cabo Corridor $329,000
6. Casa Monique Ex lg duplex w/pool, private compound, Cabo Corridor $675,000
7. Casa Miraflores Pedregal Steal - Home w/pool, views and extra lot inc. $689,000
8. Casa Shrader Million dollar views, lrg 4 bed home, Cresta del Mar $1,000,000

Commercial/Business
1. GG Edificio Over 9,000 sq ft of commercial/office/restaurant space includes parking lot and separate private managers residence. Turn Key. Open tomorrow, possible owner financing. $1,231,000
2. Landmark restaurant/bar - a bit of Cabo history. Turnkey operation includes property and additional land. $1,600,000.00
3. RV Park - 22 spaces, main house, pool, secure, money maker in sought after Pescadero/ Cerritos area. Turnkey operation. $1,350,000
4. Cabo Kennels - perfect live work opportunity. Fully operational business and private residence. $299,000
5. Donnie’s place 1,700 sq ft commercial building, seller financing CSL $59,500

Pacific Side
1. Casa Keene 3/4 acre beachfront, 3 bd private estate, San Cristobal Developer lot $3,999,999
2. Rancho Tracey 4,000 sq ft private, walled estate on 2,500 m2-unobstructed ocean views. $549,000
3. Pescadero Paradise - 3 bd 3 bth lg home or duplex, immaculate, fully upgraded/furnished 1,500 sq mt lot $299,000
4. Hacienda del Sol - 3bd 5 bt, over 3,500 sq ft- private, gated community. Ocean views, steps to secluded beach. $429,000
5. Casa Here and Now - 3 bd, 2 bth, Pescadero Heights, Views of forever, mountains/ocean. $149,000.
6. Cerritos/Pescadero homesites - lots starting at 50,000 USD up to 2,000+ m2
7. Elias Calles homesites - lots starting at $39,000 for 10,000 m2- amazing ocean views.

East Cape
1. Sunset Villas Condos - Los Barriles Studio and 1 bd condos, one block to beach, walking distance to everything starting at $89,000
2. Casa Sierra y Mar - La Ventana - brand new construction. 3 bd, 3 bth, Large sunset deck, views of everything. $285,000
3. Beachfront - Buena Vista - 1,841 m2 located on the pristine Buena Vista beach, close to town $450,000
4. Lighthouse Point lots - from $39,500 third row to $180,000 beachfront. Clubhouse and pool.

Developer parcels
1. El Tule - Love it Ranch - 12 hectares, CFE, water, blue water views $499,000
2. Cerritos - Beachfront, 50 meters of beachfront, over 5,900 m2, all enviro permits complete. $795,000 USD.
3. Cerritos - Rancho del Mar - 12 hectares, level parcel nestled in the foothills, 5 mins to beach, 5 mins to mountains, 3 minutes to highway. Legal well. Easy access. $1,200,000
4. Elias Calles - Ponchos 29 hectares, adjacent to waterfalls, easy access, 5 minutes off the highway. Incredible views $580,000
5. Just now released - pre construction prices!
6. Cerritos Surf Residences- Cerritos Beach brand new 2 bd, 2 bth condos, full amenities, simply elegant interiors. Starting at $239,000. Hurry, going fast!

We’re Everywhere!
Cabos San Lucas, Inside Tesoro Resort, Street Side
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La Ventana, East Cape, Corredor Isla Cerralvo

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Or if you already know how, surf your trunks off

BY SANDI SHORES

San Jose resident David has surfed all through the Baja, and says there is nowhere else to be right now but on the Pacific side. “The East Cape and the Corridor are like lakes at this time of year,” he explains before heading into the waves at San Pedrito beach, ten minutes south of Todos Santos. The waters around Todos Santos, El Pescadero and Cerritos are good for surfing year round, but enjoy their busiest season December through March while the shores around Cabo are calm. And Pescadero Surf Camp and Mario Surf School are for one of their busiest years yet. Both Pescadero based businesses say they have seen steady but manageable increases in visitors since they were founded, as Todos Santos and its surrounding area matures into a world class tourist destination. “I think it will become like Malibu is to Los Angeles,” says Jaime Dobies, owner of Pescadero Surf Camp, comparing that region to Cabo San Lucas. Mario Becerril, founder of his namesake surf school, agrees. “The area is growing at a decent pace, slow enough to still make it organized,” he explains. “People around here love the vibe of the rural environment and want to keep it that way,” Dobies founded the Surf Camp in 1995. When El Pescadero was little more than open fields. Last month, he completed a remodel of the hotel with new paint, landscaping, and new beds in all the rooms. While winter is their busiest time, he notes that they tend to have a lot of European visitors in the summer. “At one point this year we had 14 different nationalities staying here,” he told us. Dobies estimates over a third of those who visit the Surf Camp are repeat customers, and about half aren’t even surfers but explorers of the region. Ten years ago Becerril was one of the main instructors with the camp when Dobies encouraged him to start his own surf school, and since then the camp contracts all its surf instruction through Mario’s School. Despite being based in such a small community, the company is now one of the largest surfing instruction in the state. They teach between 6 and 10 new surfers each day. Becerril attributes the popularity of his school to the unique combination of elements at Cerritos beach. “I’ve surfed all over the globe, and Cerritos is the best place to learn to surf in the world,” he states. “This is because it has a shallow sandy bottom, so it’s very safe, and you can stand to catch a wave. Most other places are too deep and you have to be floating, which is really the second step in learning.” More experienced surfers tend to head north to the breaks at San Pedrito Beach or La Pastora. Both have rocky shores and more powerful waves, so they can be dangerous for beginners. On some mornings this December, there have been more than 40 surfers crowding the waves at San Pedrito and near misses between boards have occurred with frightening regularity. “It’s definitely getting more competitive,” says Teddy, a veteran surfer who lives on the beach in Pescadero. Dobies and Becerril think Cerritos’ reputation as a beginner-only beach is unjustified.

Continued on page 22
PICKLEBALL IS THE... continued from page 10

At resorts like Tres Palapas the cost is a little higher in conjunction with the associated amenities. At Tres a daily pass costs $10, and half price play starts at 3p.m. each day. For those ready to make a greater commitment to the sport, and to the Tres Palapas Resort, a monthly membership is available for $179 and an annual membership costs $599.

Whether you’re already familiar with this rapidly growing sport, or just hearing about pickleball, Los Barriles is a hotspot for pickleball and has numerous opportunities for getting on the court. Impromptu games are springing up on courts throughout the Baja, and longtime players are eager to show newcomers the ropes. Pickleball offers players of all demographics the opportunity to get fit, challenge themselves, and be part of a rapidly growing group of enthusiasts. I’ve been warned on several occasions to beware, because pickleball can be highly addictive and once you get the itch, you’ll be hooked for life.

There are also nice pickleball courts in San Jose at PuntaAzul, they have a website, and there is pickleball in Cabo, but the Cabo people are not welcoming to newbies.

CRAFT BEER IN SOUTHERN... continued from page 11

product through a distributor in Chihuahua. Each recipe is a combination of several grains and up to a dozen different hops; for example, their popular Toucan Tropical uses five different hops added at three different stages during the brewing process.

With 22 taps, Todos Santos Brewing, (waves), has something for every palette, from easy-sipping ales to strong barley wines. Like Baja Brewing, (donkey), the menu provides the alcohol content, IBUs (international bitterness units), and color scale of each beer. “The Chuck” red ale, a malt with citrus and peach hop aromas, has proven to be one of their biggest sellers.

The Mitchells have noticed three primary markets for their unique brews: beer connoisseurs who will actually travel to Todos Santos specifically to visit them, tourists to the Los Cabos region that enjoy craft beer at home and come to Todos for a day trip, and a growing segment of young Mexican professionals who want something different than the light lagers sold ubiquitously throughout the peninsula.

If you book a Brewer’s Talk for 600 pesos, Ted (waves), will give you a tour of their facility, then take you through a full tap wall tasting and explain the genesis of each recipe. “I consider it taking the palette on a journey. Beer is not just one taste,” he says. Baja Brewing also offers private tours and tastings between noon and 5 P.M., Mondays to Fridays, for $20 US. Donkey rides not available.

Thanks to the municipality’s innovative artisanal brewing license program, La Paz also has an emerging nano-brewing scene and recently held the city’s annual Beer Fest. Craft brewers Pinshi Paceha operate their popular pub at 165 Calle Arriola St.

For more information, visit bajabrewingcompany.com, to-dossantosbrewing.mx, or Cerveceria Paceha on Facebook.

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CRAFT BEER IN SOUTHERN...

Christmas Didn’t Come For These Dogs

TONIC is a small Terrier mix male 10 pounds. We picked up Tonic in an Arroyo near the airport on Christmas Eve. It was a lucky day for this little dog who would not have survived long out there by himself.

PENELOPE is a female found a few months ago, skinny and mangy waiting to die. She was too sick to be put on the adoption list but now she’s recovered nicely and is ready to go. Penelope is very shy and it will take a special person to adopt her, someone with lots of patience, who we know is out there. She is a doll and only 7 months old, medium size.
Buñuelos

December in Mexico is about eating, sharing and caring. One of the most important things about Mexican food is dessert, and even though I don’t write much about it, I think it’s a good opportunity now, calorie counting being tossed to the winds and all.

Buñuelos is a recipe as old as colonized Mexico. One of the oldest known recipe books belongs to Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, a poet, dramatist, scholar and nun who was born around 1651. Her mother was a creole, and her father Spanish, but they did not have a large income. From when she was a little girl, she was hungry for knowledge, mostly self-taught from burying her nose in whatever book she could find. She also taught herself to read when she was three years old, or so the story goes. This was a time when girls were not allowed to go to school. Her mother knew she was bright, so she sent Inés to Mexico City to live with relatives. She was called to be a lady-in-waiting in the court of the viceroy’s wife.

A few years later, she was at the point where she either married or became a nun. So, she became the latter. We don’t know what was going on with her boyfriends front, but apparently not much. She joined the barefoot carmelitas but only stayed there four months, because she became sick. After recovering, her stark room at her new convent became the meeting point for intellectuals and poets, and Luísa Manrique, another viceroy’s wife (who, rumor has it, had a huge crush on María Inés).

In her room, she also performed scientific experiments and had an amazing collection of books. Sor Juana was well known for many things, most of those controversial. Most men who were in the same niche as her would publish “pseudonymous” letters trying to convince her to stick to her religious duty rather than using her brain. She wrote mostly poetry, about love, erotism, (She’s a nun, what does she know? Possibly her reason for going into the convent should be looked into.) She also wrote about morals and psychology. (One of her most important poems is written in tiny mice type on the 200 peso note, along with her portrait, which we’re hoping was taken on an unusually bad day).

But today we’re talking about this iconic woman because along with her other talents, she was a great cook. Her recipes were perfectly aligned with poetry, and delicious. Her culinary

Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, woman with too many names was a poet, a dramatist, a scholar and a nun who invented buñuelos, which got her on the 200 peso note. But didn’t get her a husband, which oversight got her into a convent.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 21
Pemex woes. Mexico’s military has taken control over key fuel installations. 37 facilities will be protected by the Army and Navy: six refineries, 39 storage terminals, and 12 pumping stations. New President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, who has vowed to fight corruption and fuel theft within and outside government run energy company Pemex. According to Pemex’s own estimates, the losses from fuel theft over the past three years have reached US $7.5 billion. “This is the theft of national assets, of public funds, of money that belongs to all Mexicans,” Lopez Obrador said. On Friday, the Mexican army swooped in but unionized workers were blocking access to some of the sites. Three Pemex officials, suspected of having facilitated fuel theft, had already been arrested for the alleged crimes. The three Pemex officials have been sacked with brutality alongside possible criminal charges. Mexico’s Attorney General Alejandro Gertz Manero said at Lopez Obrador’s press conference on Thursday. Ha ha. These accusations will be swept under the rug at the end of this news cycle when nobody is looking. Illegal, amateur taps on Mexican pipelines jumped by 45 percent annually between January and October 2018. Apart from rampant fuel theft, Pemex also has to cope with declining domestic oil production, which in October is one of the lowest monthly production rates since 1990 when records began.

In related news. Also in the works will be construction of the Bocas refinery in Tabasco state and the cross country railroad which will connect the coastline with the interior of Mexico and give the shipper an alternative to the Panama Canal, the president said. All they have to do is unload it from the ships, load up trains, choo choo across the country, then load the stuff on a different ship. Bam! They’re there!

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2000 Princess V50 Express $250,000 USD. Beautiful express Cruiser, lots of lounge space, excellent open water performance. Sleeps 4. CAT Engines.

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.

2018 Viking 37 Billfish $899,000 USD. Featuring SEAKEEPER, Full electronics package, LED interchangeable color lighting, upgraded soft furnishings. Twin Cummins Engines G96 671 550 HP Each.

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

2008 Cabo 52 Express $988,000 USD. Incredible sport fisher yacht with all the upgrades, including SEAKEEPER. Sleeps 6, Main 1550 Engine, 2000 hour service recently completed.

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

2000 Princess V50 Express $250,000 USD. Beautiful express Cruiser, lots of lounge space, excellent open water performance. Sleeps 4. CAT Engines.

In related news.

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LEARN TO SURF...

continued from page 19

“I’ve been surfing my whole life and Cerritos is still my favorite,” Dobies says. For anyone interested in learning to surf, Dobies’ advice is to stay focused and keep at it. “Everyone should give it a try. Some do really well though they don’t seem like the type that would. It’s all about determination. Even those who don’t get up to standing on the board find they still have a lot of fun riding the waves on their knees or belly.” He is often asked how young can kids start and says it all comes down to how comfortable they are in the water. Those who think they will be natural surfers because they snowboard or skateboard might be surprised. “There is no real relatable sport to surfing. I once tried snowboarding thinking it would be easy for me, and I couldn’t go 10 feet without falling,” he laughs. A one hour lesson for one to four people costs $80. There are two, three, and five day lessons, and price includes equipment. There are stand up paddle lessons for $80 which includes 30 minutes of instruction and three hours of paddling around. You can rent an SUP board and paddle for $35 a day, a surf board for $30 a day. Wetsuits, (you will need one at this time of the year), go for $10 a day.

For more information visit pescadorfurfsurf.com or mariosesurfboards.com.
Fish Report
BY GARY GRAHAM

Cabo San Lucas

at a glance: Billfish 56%, tuna 35%, dorado 14%, other species 3%.

Recently, most of the fleet enjoyed releases of around 15 stripes on the Finger Bank, while the 52’ Free 2 Play some great action with up to striped marlin in a single day of fishing.

Although we have seen marlin and tuna numbers go down a few percentage points compared in the last few weeks, some of the tuna caught have been of great size! Most have been smaller, however, around 20-30 pound mark, but we have seen a couple over 100 pounds hitting the dock. The largest tuna recently caught, a nice 132-pound yellowfin, was aboard the 31’ Tracy Ann, taken by angler Abigale McGee from Montana.

The dorado numbers have increased and the dorado that were caught specifically targeted as they were found in different locations than the marlin and tuna. 31’ La Brisa caught dorado; they searched them out specifically at Migrino. They used black/red lures, mackerel bait and ballyhoo. The dorado all weighed between 10 and 15 pounds.

La Brisa caught several dorado the 20-pound class on ballyhoo between Golden Gate and San Jaime along with skipjacks about 15 pounds. On the same day, 32’ Bill Collector caught dorado between 10 and 20 pounds, also using ballyhoo in the Golden Gate area.

Several in the panga fleet that was fishing closer to shore for small gamefish scored; they were catching sierra mackerel up to 8 pounds which were great for ceviche, plus, they caught skipjack and bonito -- always favorites for first-time anglers.

LOCATION: Finger Bank, Golden Gate, Migrino, San Jaime Bank, 270 Spot.

WEATHER CONDITIONS: Sunny and overcast; there were a few days with calm seas, but others had strong wind and chop.

AVERAGE WATER TEMP: 74 – 77 F

BEST LURES: Live mackerel bait, and ballyhoo; varied lures like petrolero, cedar plugs, and feathers.

Puerto Los Cabos

We are seeing a fair number of families visiting for the holiday vacation. However, with continued north winds the fishing has been subpar on the local grounds out of San Jose del Cabo. Winds have been relentless since November, and conditions have turned over; the water is greenish with swift currents and water temperatures near 73 to 74 degrees.

Anglers are using a combination of caballito, slabs of squid and some ballyhoo for bait. There are now reports of mackerel showing up on the bait grounds off San Jose del Cabo; if wind and water conditions settle some, this could open up some new options and bring in gamefish species such as striped marlin.

Most local charters are fishing the grounds from Red Hill, Gordo Banks to Iman Banks.

At times there area where boats could comfortably fish is limited due to weather conditions. Air temperatures have been moderate, lows down to 55 degrees early mornings, with mid-day highs near 85 degrees. There are mainly sunny skies, with morning cloud cover burning off as soon as the sun rises.

Yellowfin tuna, dorado and wahoo action were all very scarce.

Best chances were for a tuna or two near the Iman Bank, but only a handful of yellowfin were being landed; boats were lucky to catch one at this time. Most of the tuna landed were in the 15- to 20-pound class, and they were biting strips of squid. An occasional dorado was being seen, and there were even fewer wahoo.

The more productive action recently has been for a variety of structure species -- the most common being the Pacifica bonito, ranging up to 10 pounds, striking various lures as well as bait, plus red snapper (huachinango), glass eye snapper, baqueta, triggerfish, ocean whitefish, yellow snapper, flag cabrilla and tijereta.

More billfish action is now being found on the Pacific, but some striped marlin have also been found near the 95 Spot and the 1150 Spot; now with the reports of schooling mackerel appearing off San Jose del Cabo, this should mean that larger numbers of stripped marlin should not be too far behind.

East Cape

This is the first December in many years that gamefish are still biting, although the difficulty is that we have run out of anglers who want to fish. Plus the weather has also been an issue with strong north winds blowing five days out of seven.

Many local anglers are checking out the wind conditions before they commit to fishing. If the wind line is offshore far enough, they will launch their tin boats and troll close to shore for sierra mackerel, small roosterfish and jack crevally.

La Paz

It was a bit of a windy, cold and cloudy period of time for the Christmas holidays, especially afterwards. However, being off-season, there weren’t that many folks who wanted to go out anyway to fish, specifically because of the winds and rough seas. There was even one day where it was so rough that the La Paz Port Captain closed the port prohibiting all boat traffic in, out, or even on the water.

For the sturdier folks who did brave it and go out, the fishing was about as unpredictable as the weather, but they did find some fish. And it was a nice mix. Fortunately, it was all close to shore as well, which offered more protection.

There were a few nice yellowfin tuna hooked. Surprisingly, there were also some scattered dorado. A bit unusual to have warm water species like these hanging out this late in the year. Add in some snapper, cabrilla and pargo fishing over the rocks and reefs plus nice numbers of bonito that are always good for action and fishing wasn't too bad.

The weather forecast will remain about the same with some

 CONTINUED ON PAGE PB
**January 7th, 2019**

**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 Cuauhtemoc inside the San Diego Feed Store.

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

**Every Tuesday and Saturday, 8:00 am to 1:00 pm.** La Paz organic market. Postal Park, Constitucion 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 Friday, 6:00 pm. Trivia Night. Todos Santos Brewing.** English and Spanish with short rounds and prizes available each round. Alvaro Obregón (between Militar & Rangel). Facebook: @TodosSantosBrewing. Ph: 612-1452023 or email info@todosantosbrewing.mx

**Every Friday, 11:00 am.** Al-Aran Family Group. Next to Calvary Chapel. Cabrera de 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?) and handicrafts.

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

**Every Saturday. All day.** The grandaddy 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. theranchkidz@yahoo.com, Todos Santos. Spanish.

**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. Alvaro Obregon street (between Militar & Rangel). Facebook: @TodosSantosBrewing for more information, 612-145-2023 or email info@todosantosbrewing.mx

**Every Sunday, 12 to 4pm.** A secured park like setting open to all dogs. Off leash, but be friendly please. Info/map at cabos4orral.com 624-136-2971

**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 clubactusbikie@gmail.com for information.

**January 10-20. Tropic of Cancer Concert Series.** Hosted by the rock n’ roll band Cordovas, for two weekends of music, art, and life 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 Santos singers Divier Guive and Jenelle Aubade. For more information and the complete line up look up: www.tropicofcancerconcertseries.mx

**January 12, Saturday. 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.

**January 13th 4 pm Fundraisers.** Matt Strut. Dinner, a parade of adorable dogs, raffle, silent auction. R Place in Centenario. Tickets 20 Gringo bucks. ba-jadogs.org

**January 16-20. 10th La Ventana Classic.** Kiteboarding, windsurfing and SUP events to raise money for the local school children in La Ventana, El Sargento and Los Planes. Information: www.laventanaclassic.com and in Facebook/LaVentanaClassic

**January 19. Saturday. Conquer the Mountain Marathon.** Run over the Sierra Laguna Mountains. No kidding. 42K / 21K / 8K trip. Information: Facebook/CaboSportStore at Koral Center

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

**February 13, 2019. Art Studio Tour of Los Barriles area.** 1:00 am – 4:00 pm. Ticket sales end at 12 noon. Wander through the studios of over 15 artists, with multiple artists at each location. A great day to see a variety of mediums, styles and materials and get to know your artists and neighbors. Funds to support kids’ programs on East Cape. www.todasscapearts.com

**February 15 & 16.** 5:00 to 11:00 pm. Annual San Jose Jazz weekend. At Plaza del Pescador. Information: www.sanjosejazzweekend.com

**March 8th, 9th & 10th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th Baja Shakespeare’s season presents The Sea Princess & The Frijolé 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. All shows at 7:00 pm except March 10th is 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/BajaShakespeare.

**March 17, 2019. Festival de Artes at Palmas de Cortez Resort in Los Barriles. 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. Artists selling, traditional dishes and drinks, lots of food and drink and the biggest St. Patrick’s Party in the Baja Sur, all starting at 10am!!!! This is one of the longest running art festival in the Baja Sur. Details and information at www.caztacaarts.com

**June 1 – 4. The Proboembex Mezcal Fest.** Mexico (Lato’s taste Mexico) national congress of Gastronomy and culture. A food fest with recipes of the 32 states of Mexico, featuring 32 traditional female chefs who will prepare the most iconic meal of their state. The lady chefs will present more than 192 traditional dishes and beverages at the Delmar international school located here in El Tule. Folk music and 200 exhibitors selling Mexican traditional products, workshops, conferences and shows.

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

**Wednesday to Monday. From 10am to 5pm:** Baja California 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: museoerutadeplata.com, Ayuntamiento St. (Progreso y Marquez de León St.), El Triunfo. Closed on Tuesday.

**Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.:** Baja California 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: museoerutadeplata.com, Ayuntamiento St. (Progreso y Marquez de León St.), El Triunfo. Closed on Tuesday.

**January 7th, 2019**

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**Community Reading Lounges**

**At AMELIA WILKES PLAZA**

*Every Saturday from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.* Hermanita de Ysabela Reading club has a different book to read and comment. Saturdays starting April 9. Spanish mostly. Book donations are welcome. More info and special activities with Nixania email: todossomoselotro@gmail.com Free.

**At PLAZA CONCHO**

*From Monday to Friday.* From 7:00 am to 9:00 pm. Reading Club. Books available to all. Lazaro Cardenas one block before to the main park in Cabo San Lucas. Spanish and some in English. Free.

**At HOLLYDANCE CAFE,** Leona Vicario St. And 12 de Octubre St., 2 Floor, downtown Cabo.

*Every Tuesday* from 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm. Trotamundos Reading Club. Spanish mostly. More info and special activities on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/saladelecturatrotamundos/timeline

**At KINESIS GYM,** El Chamizal barrio near the Convention Center.

*From Monday to Friday.* From 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm. La Maroma Reading Club. Books available. More info and special activities on Facebook: facebook.com/LaMar%C3%B3m%20-%20K%20ines%20Fabuladanza-691039797630803/timeline

**At LA CIRCO,** Libroteka Reading Club.

*From Monday to Friday.* From 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Books available and circus drama style reading on Thursdays at 7:00 pm. More info with Sara Flores on Facebook: com/laCirco-577897035553733/timeline


**January 7-11, Heaven On Earth 2019,** Sculpting the Human Figure in Clay. At the Todos Artes Studios. Learn from Donna Billick and Benito Ortega how to master portraiture, hands and body in 3D and relief. Special “Saints Alive” public art installation using ceramic figures and mosaics., www.donnabillickart.com, (562)219-5918.

**January 14 to 18 4:00 pm** to 8:00 pm. Lighting Theater Workshop. Learn how to use the light with estheticism effects and how to use them to create a poetic ambiance in a play. Spanish. Free. City Theater. Downtown La Paz. More info 612 1224795.

**January 16 Sunday 7:00 pm,** Singing for Life from the Stage. An intimate bohemian night concert at Luna Ixtel’s yard to support Valerie Renee’s medical treatment against Lyme disease. Welcome cocktail 7:00 pm, concert 8:00 pm. Casa ArteSana, Viznaga St. Corner with cabo del arco St., Higiero neighborhood. Cabo San Lucas.

**Every other Thursday, 8:30 pm,** Vagabond Movie Club. Various movies in their original languages with Spanish subtitles. Short films and video before the movie. Free. Rana Venega. Playa Migrino St. up from 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. At El Merkado, upstairs. Tourist corridor at Cerro Colorado, San Jose.

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

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

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**Add your events to the list!**

If you would like to see your event here, email her at sinaquirizo@hotmail.com

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**Community Reading Lounges**

**At AMELIA WILKES PLAZA**

*Every Saturday from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.* Hermanita de Ysabela Reading club has a different book to read and comment. Saturdays starting April 9. Spanish mostly. Book donations are welcome. More info and special activities with Nixania email: todossomoselotro@gmail.com Free.

**At PLAZA CONCHO**

*From Monday to Friday.* From 7:00 am to 9:00 pm. Reading Club. Books available to all. Lazaro Cardenas one block before to the main park in Cabo San Lucas. Spanish and some in English. Free.

**At HOLLYDANCE CAFE,** Leona Vicario St. And 12 de Octubre St., 2 Floor, downtown Cabo.

*Every Tuesday* from 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm. Trotamundos Reading Club. Spanish mostly. More info and special activities on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/saladelecturatrotamundos/timeline

**At KINESIS GYM,** El Chamizal barrio near the Convention Center.

*From Monday to Friday.* From 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm. La Maroma Reading Club. Books available. More info and special activities on Facebook: facebook.com/LaMar%C3%B3m%20-%20K%20ines%20Fabuladanza-691039797630803/timeline

**At LA CIRCO,** Libroteka Reading Club.

*From Monday to Friday.* From 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Books available and circus drama style reading on Thursdays at 7:00 pm. More info with Sara Flores on Facebook: com/laCirco-577897035553733/timeline

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East Cape High School Partners Up With Monterey Bay Aquarium

And the winner is at both ends. They could use some help, though.

BY JOY STOCKE

If you live in, or have visited Los Cabos, it’s clear that we are in the midst of unprecedented growth. And, 2019 is shaping up to be one of the busiest years on record. Hotel construction continues apace and vacationers are spending more time traveling from Los Cabos up the East Cape to destinations such as Santiago with its waterfall and hot springs—home to the region’s major aquifer—and Cabo Pulmo, a UNESCO World Heritage site, whose marine park is one of the world’s most sought-after diving destinations in the world. If that’s not enough, the world’s scientists have classified Los Cabos and the Eastern Cape—where the Sierra Laguna Mountains meet desert and sea—as one of the most biodiverse in the world. Yet, we are in danger of losing our paradise.

Anyone who has lived through recent storms has dealt with flooded arroyos sending construction debris and assorted waste into the sea, damaged and destroyed homes, and our power grids that have gone down for weeks. As growth continues, we’re faced with the prospect that without foresight, planning and education regarding development, we are not only vulnerable to storm damage, but we also run the risk that our aquifers will run dry. This last fact is crucial for the families who live in villages, ranchos, and towns and who work the land, build the resorts, or provide municipal and social services.

“The question on everyone’s mind is not that we are in the midst of a development boom, but how do we develop the East Cape sustainably? Who better to become experts than the children growing up in our region?”

Baja Coastal Institute, (BCI), based in Cabo Pulmo, contacted the Monterey Bay Aquarium in central California (MBA) to help with providing answers.

In collaboration, they started a groundbreaking new program, Education to Action. Education to Action works directly with the two main high schools in the region between San Jose and La Paz serving 750 students from 24 communities of 10,000 residents in small, rural communities and ranches. The students will soon become active voters and leaders and their activities and opinions will affect the knowledge and attitudes of their communities.

Under the leadership of the Baja Coastal Institute Program Director Deb Godoy, (a marine biologist from the Universidad Autónoma de Baja California Sur), educators, teachers and students are building a personal connection, and a hands-on relationship with the land and sea.

As part of the program, the Monterey Bay Aquarium in its 35th year of Action education, welcomed to the Aquarium six teachers and two principals from the Eastern Cape where they joined 26 U.S. teachers to participate in its Project-Based Science Teacher Institute. Monterey Bay Aquarium has trained nearly 30,000 teachers in their teacher institutes and worked with more than 2.5 million students in their school programs.

This group also attended a four day experience at the outdoors fellowship program of Ecology Project International (EPI), on Espiritu Santo Island and attended a one day workshop with the Center of Biological Research of the Northwest, so the teachers could acquire new skills to bring into the classroom. All these organizations are recognized for their successful track records running specialized environmental training programs.

In our efforts to inspire young conservation leaders, we have been proud and excited to collaborate with the Education to Action team as they integrate best practices in science teaching and project-based learning. We hope to continue to work with these dedicated teachers to support their students in recognizing opportunities to act for conservation and engage as agents of change in the world around them.

Beth Callaghan, Teacher Programs Supervisor, Monterey Bay Aquarium

“The program has already seen some success. ‘At Los Planes and Santiago high school,’” says Godoy, “teachers from math, biology and communications learned about how to teach in a way that is not conventional. Now, they are using projects that are based on the needs of their local region to teach their subjects. One of the projects is to measure the water quantity and quality, and to map the wells in our region to see how they are connected to the watershed. In both schools, they started science clubs and started a garden in which to grow vegetables and flowers sustainably.”

The students and teachers have learned useful tools to determine what research needs to be done and to recognize that the dynamics of living in a desert region, (that also relies on farming and fishing), requires analytical as well as hands-on research.

The most effective projects will be shown at science fairs and on a three city tour. In the meantime, teachers and students from...
We Get Another Hospital Option
We’re not hurting for good hospitals

BY FLO NIGHTENGALE

We have another new hospital option, this one a purpose built sprawling building just outside of Cabo in front of the Wal-Mart. The modern center has 18 hospital rooms, more than six equipped with everything needed for intensive care, an area that includes a special area for isolated patients, two operating rooms, 10 emergency cubicles, 11 doctor’s offices, a delivery room, hemodynamics room, radiodiagnostics with magnetic resonance, computerized axial tomography, 3D-4D ultrasound, X-rays, a cathlab, two dialysis beds, and a fully equipped lab. We know this because we went to their recent open house where the mayor herself cut the ribbon. They also have doctor’s offices right on the premises.

Among the services offered by the new hospital are: the department of anesthesiology and resuscitation, system, cardiology, interventional cardiology, general and digestive surgery, oral and maxillofacial surgery, orthopedic surgery and traumatology, plastic surgery, reconstructive and aesthetic, dermatology, diagnostic imaging, laboratory, microbiology and pathology, intensive medicine, internal medicine, neurosurgery, neurology, obstetrics and gynecology, otolaryngology, pediatrics, psychiatry, urgencies, urology and intensive care unit. Truly your one stop get well center for whatever ails you. And if there is something they’re challenged to fix, they trade personnel and equipment with their equally well equipped hospital in San Jose.

The Hospiten Group, a Spain based company, sees almost 2 million patients every year in 20 hospital centers located in major cities and tourist centers in countries such as Spain, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, Jamaica and Panama. Hospiten was started by 83 year old Dr. Cobiella Suarez, and the company is still a family business, with his grandson Francisco Cobiella Suarez, now running the day to day operations from Spain. Grandson Francisco Cobiella Suarez was in Cabo for the grand opening, and he acknowledged that Hospiten was, as he said, “late to the party” in Los Cabos because there are already a handful of hospitals catering to foreigners here. When asked how Hospiten was going to catch up he said, “We’re the only hospital that is European based, employing European technology, with European management skills honed over three generations. Not a problem for us to catch up in the demanding foreign community.”

Hospiten previously worked out of the old Amerimed facility across the street from the new hospital, and further into town. “That was a confusing temporary quarters,” acknowledged Cobiella Suarez, “because many people wrongly associated us

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Christmas In The Barrio

An elderly woman in the barrio displays her gift basket she received from generous foreigners. This sort of generosity goes a long way toward acceptance of North Americans into the community.
Whale Museum Closes

Maybe the big guys went north? No, these whales are dead

BY JORGE A. RUIZ-ESPARZA

With only a bit more than a month having passed after the closure of La Paz’s popular whale museum, we feel it’s been gone longer. We were only warned early in July or we might have copped some souvenirs. Just kidding, we don’t pick off museum pieces.

Our whale museum was recognized as the one with the largest variety of whale specimens in all of Latin America. It was perhaps deemed small for a museum in general if you’re used to going to the Smithsonian, but enormous for locals, whale-lovers, and scientists.

The mere location of the museum rendered it iconic, as 30 out of the 86 cetacean species on earth are found on this peninsula and 28 specifically in the bay of La Paz. You don’t usually find such a diverse ecosystem. But that didn’t stop the museum from closing. It was very visible right on the Malecon.

The exhibition pieces are being stored in someone’s house. Some pieces will be sent to other museums and some kept here in the state, but right now they’re sorting what goes, what goes into storage.

Opening a new museum is still in the discussion stage, or possibly already planned but they’re not telling the public. The idea of using the former desalination plant has been considered and that possibility still exists, though the distance from the historic downtown center to the former desal plant would possibly cut down on potential visitors.

The amount of cetaceans would probably be few in comparison to the original collection of 88 specimens, 48 of which were exhibited during the existence of the museum. As a result, the right to brag for being a museum with a notably large amount of whale species would be lost unless more specimens were to be bought or donated. The chances of that are increasingly slim, since no physical site exists. Either way, the director still plans for the museum to be reopened within the municipality of La Paz if possible, but by no means outside of the state of Baja California Sur.

For now each artifact is stored away in an undisclosed private residence until a new location is confirmed. The main website is still up and running though it has not had any activity or updates since the museum was closed. Their official Facebook page, on the other hand, has grown weary of this controversy and all the questions and is periodically informing followers of the entire process and of the state of the artifacts, along with information on similar museums around the country. Let’s cross our fingers and hope that BCS gets another whale museum soon.

COOKING LIKE A MEXICAN...

continued from page 21

expertise, however, started at her family’s home back when she was a little girl, before all the nonsense. (haha, see what I did here! Nun-nonsense! I’m hilarious!) The cooks at the hacienda kitchen were indigenous women from Oaxaca, so she grew up with both Spanish and indigenous cuisine.

Buñuelos de rodilla are a special buñuelo, which grandmothers used to shape with their bare knees, literally. In the olden days, buñuelos were actually called “puñuelos” because they were kneaded with the fists, called puños. The heritage form this dish comes from Iberian Christians, aka Spaniards, who had several recipes, including cheese, rice, pulque and milk.

Buñuelos were invented by the working class of the southern Spanish peninsula looking for a cheap, sweet, warm treat they could have in the winter when the economy wasn’t exactly thriving.

Every state has its own buñuelo recipe, ranging from bright orange colors, sugar coated or syrup, fried in lard or oil, served in corn husks or in paper. (Remember what I keep telling you: Mexican cooking is very CONTINUED ON PAGE 29
Mexico and the US share experiences. The first two years of the program will include the participation of these two high schools. Every year at least 150 students will be enrolled in conservation and community leadership and will be active in 24 small communities and even smaller ranches. Based on the success of this pilot, we anticipate adding one more high school in year two and for this, more funding is needed to support educational programs and curricula that will not only train our students to work in the hospitality industry, but also to work on planning boards, monitor biological changes, and develop sustainable companies.

For more information or to make a donation, visit https://bcibaja.org. Your donation will help bring the dream of successful and ecologically sustainable development to our precious region. It will help bring training and sound scientific know-how to the students who are the future of the East Cape.

Joy Stocke has had a home in Cabo Pulmo for 15 years. She is founder and Editor in Chief of the online magazine, Wild River Review. She has published fiction, nonfiction and poetry, and has written about and lectured widely on her travels, focusing on food. Her most recent publication, a cookbook is “Tree of Life: Turkish Home Cooking. She is currently writing a cookbook about the food of the Los Cabos region.  

WE GET ANOTHER HOSPITAL...  
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with Amerimed, which is completely gone from Los Cabos.” Hospiten has five other hospitals in Mexico, all in tourist areas, and Cobiella Suarez explained it is because, “Foreigners are our specialty. We understand them and how their expectations are different from Mexican’s expectations. We will gain traction here because we meet those expectations.   

Big batches are the usual when making buñuelos, because even though they are very cheap, it is very much worthier to make a lot of them at one time, because it’s not like people are going to eat just one, trust me. To compliment this recipe, I’ll give you a short, sweet drink too, which is atole de masa, a thick hot drink that is not too sweet to balance out the flavors. Atole and buñuelos go together like mash and gravy. This is a completely Mexican drink, which was made ceremoniously by the Aztecs, and some rural communities still drink it in their every day lives. Sometimes, a cup of atole is all they have throughout the day, until they come home to have a hearty meal. The main ingredient is masa, the dough that is the base for tortillas.

For the Buñuelos:  
CONTINUED ON PAGE 31
Every Monday and Wednesday the Los Cabos Humane Society performs free spay and neuters. 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 donate to this important work:

https://goo.gl/xzEov1
Baja Neighbors Are Different

After all, this is the land where anything goes

BY GEORGE JOBB

Neighbors here in the Baja can easily cross a broad spectrum of humanity. Anyone who has rented or owned down here for a few months or years undoubtedly has many stories of their neighbors.

A friend stopped by for morning coffee yesterday, standing on high up on my deck taking in the view of the adjacent neighbor’s yard. He observed that that was the largest hookah pipe he had ever seen. I gave him a hum and said I didn’t know what your was talking about. But when peeked over, I saw it wasn’t a hookah pipe, it was what I would consider a large commercial still that they had built on their terrace. It obviously had just gone up in the last couple of days, since I hadn’t seen it before. The still itself stood about six feet tall maybe seven. The girth at the bottom was about the size of a 45 gallon drum but it was round and made of copper. They also had a copper bucket with a coiled copper line for cooling and condensing. My neighbors had put some time into this, started getting flashbacks about all the movies or TV series about moonshiners and thought maybe they were doing some filming and I was just overreacting. But I don’t think so, usually things are pretty much what they appear to be. By the look of the five 25 pound propane tanks they were about to go into business.

I’m from Canada and my parents at times used a still to ferment mash leftover from making wine which was turned into pure alcohol. Usually a liter or two at a time at the most. I also used to purchase a liter of moonshine about once a month back in the days when the kids were still in diapers and I was living from paycheck to paycheck. The Serbian who sold it to me was a regular workout partner. He brought the recipe with him and his family over from the old country, a recipe made from raisins, and was quite tasty at about 70% alcohol. That’s a pretty good kick for $10 a liter.

But this still of my neighbor’s was obviously designed to produce five or 10 gallons at a time. Normally you would do this on a farm or ranch somewhere less populated. Perhaps up in the hills, because there’s usually a heavy odor given off by the process. Also if there’s a problem with the pressure release valve they tend to explode. As you’re dealing with 100% alcohol, it tends to catch on fire easily.

I prefer not to be the teller of bad news to the new tenant who appears to be a Gringa hippie girl, but a condominium in this high-density area is not the place to install a commercial still. I’m not sure at this point how this is going to turn out as I’ve only told one of the gardeners that this is probably a dangerous situation and perhaps he should let the neighbor be aware of it. Perhaps she might want to get a more rural rental house in a less developed area for her startup business. Even in the Baja you still need some common sense.

It’s been five days now and nothing happened so far, the still is still there, cooking away. Maybe I should just knock on her door and see if she’s going to have a tasting.

COOKING LIKE A MEXICAN...

continued from page 29

Ingredients:

Atole de masa

2 cups of all-purpose flour
2 cups of sunflower oil
4 oz of water
½ stick of butter
½ teaspoon of star anise
3 tablespoons of sugar
1 pinch of salt
1 pinch of cinnamon

How to:

Shift flour and sugar together, along with the salt and cinnamon.

Heat up some water in a pot, and add the star anise. This liquid will be what gives buñuelos their signature taste and fragrance.

Add the butter to the dry ingredients, preferably at room temperature and start mixing. Using your hands will be faster and easier. Wash them first.

Once the butter and flour are mixed together, start adding tablespoons of the anise water, slowly, until a firm and homogenous dough is achieved. The perfect consistency is when the dough is not sticky anymore, and is stretchy.

Leave the dough to rest for ten minutes, sprinkle with a lot of flour to prevent a crust from forming.

Once the ten minutes have passed, form little balls about the size of a lime, to make the buñuelos. (I’d recommend to slather some oil on your hands)

With the help of a rolling pin, form the buñuelos (You can try and shape them with your knees, but I don’t think you’ll make it). Once you have formed the buñuelos, and are about as thin as a folded paper, you can start frying them.

Sprinkle with sugar and cinnamon.

Buñuelos

Ingredients:

½ cup of masa, can be store bought or made from maseca.
4 ½ of warm water or milk
1 stick of cinnamon
1 teaspoon of vanilla extract
2 small cones of piloncillo or 1 cup of sugar (it’s not meant to be sweet, but you can add more to your taste)

How to:

Dissolve the masa in a cup of milk or water, depending on what you’re using.

Simmer the rest of the water or milk in a deep pot, and slowly add the dissolved masa.

Add the cinnamon, vanilla, sugar or piloncillo and bring to a gentle boil.

Los Cabos Rotary Club

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