Our Zoo Closes
This is a good thing

BY ANNA CONDA

We have a pretty sad zoo in Santiago, a small town less than an hour north of San Jose. It’s sad because it is tended by keepers of animals who don’t understand their needs nor have the resources to feed and keep them healthy and happy.

Many good hearted people have tried to improve the situation out there, appealing to the government to let them go, suggesting giving or even selling them to a better place. But they were always thwarted by the city government, which for whatever reason, saw hosting a zoo a must have for our municipality.

Finally, after a year and a half, and after enlisting other like minded animal lovers, Christine Duts succeeded. The animals were finally sprung loose after enlisting the aid of the federal bureau of ecology, meetings with Profepe delegates, and even complaints to the federal office of Profepe in Mexico City. Christine and her supporters took pictures documenting the conditions the animals were enduring, sending them everywhere they thought they could get a little support. When she received the notice the zoo would be shut down, it became imperative to quickly find homes for 37 chronically mismanaged animals. Most of them are transitioning through the University of La Paz (UABCS) at the zoology department where they are well taken care of. This department has a rehab and release program. A few animals, (some foxes, raccoons, and a bird of prey), have already been released into their natural habitat.

The zoo will eventually be

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Tres Santos Development Picketed
Trouble in the paradise called Todos Santos

BY SHARON SHELDON

Tres Santos, a new master planned community currently under development in and around the town of Todos Santos, is scaring the beejesus out of the small town’s residents. They say it hogs scarce water, and it is so big that it will overwhelm the current residents, and the current infrastructure.

The developers say, awe, c’mon, it’s not going to be as big as it looks on paper, and we will eventually be using water we have desalinated at our expense, and anyway our new residents will contribute more than their share of taxes to increase the town’s infrastructure.

The developers say, awe, c’mon, it’s not going to be as big as it looks on paper, and we will eventually be using water we have desalinated at our expense, and anyway our new residents will contribute more than their share of taxes to increase the town’s infrastructure.

But the locals point out that so far the developers are taking water from the aquifer, and no matter how much the new residents pay for the new infrastructure, they simply do not want all that growth going on in their sleepy little village.

The developers shoot back that everything they plan on doing is sustainable, that they are as green as the Jolly Green Giant, and the townsfolk should feel lucky it is Mira backed by Black Creek money that has bought the land and is developing it. Mira is the Mexican builder hired by the Black Creek people who are from Colorado.

Throw in the picketers who have tried to block the construc-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4
Que Pasa in Cabo?

BY DAVID FLORES

Los Cabos on top. Mexico’s secretary of tourism Enrique de la Madrid, revealed last week that people stay here an average of five nights per trip. Although de la Madrid did not provide figures, he also stated that Los Cabos has the second highest average room rate in the country.

The whales are here! And they are early, as they usually arrive about the third week of November. Whale sightings have been received. The official whale watching season begins December 15.

Chileno Bay improvements. Mayor Arturo de la Rosa announced with great fanfare that the Chileno Bay developers will begin improvements to the bay shortly, building a parking lot for 135 vehicles. The developers will also build an Olympic pool with grandstands and locker rooms in a barrio in Los Cabos, as part of their developers fees they were supposed to pay when they picked up the fourlane and moved it back from their development several years ago.

Cultural center up in smoke. To add to the rain damage endured by the Cabo Cultural Center, a section of the Cultural Pavilion caught on fire last week. The fire department reported that the fire was behind curtains at the open air theater, and was caused by an electrical short circuit. The movie projection equipment was damaged.

Another new resort. The Ohana Real Estate Investors who will develop the Montage Los Cabos Hotel and Residences in Cabo San Lucas have announced they will break ground in December.

The Irvine based Montage will open before the 2017-2018 fall and winter season, and will be 122 rooms, 52 residences and amenities including a two level, 20,000 square foot pool. It’s adjacent to the 39 acre residential project called Maravilla Los Cabos on Santa Maria Bay, some 15 minutes out of Cabo on the road to San Jose. Both are part of a 1,400 acre master planned community by Ohana, an investment group funded by Lucas, who says, “whose ass am I kicking, Babe?”

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Who’s to blame:
Carrie Duncan, carrie@gringogazette.com

Sales
David Flores david@gringogazette.com
Cell (624) 121-214

Alejandra Sarachaga alejandra@gringogazette.com
Cell (624) 159-7741

Subscriptions
santiago@gringogazette.com

Distribution
Antonio Fuentes

Graphic Design
Oliver Quintero

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Journalism is publishing something that somebody doesn’t want printed.

Everything else is just public relations.
Bombs away. Bombs that exploded on four transit buses over on the mainland were the work of an anarchist group protesting "the frenzied advance of modern development" and the threat it represents to nature. Oh for god's sakes. Can't they come up with something better, like at least sterilizing boy doggies that chase girl doggies and contribute to the population problem? Or, how about, maybe a stretch here; world peace? A group calling itself the Pagan Sect of the Mountain claimed responsibility for placing the explosives, and vowed it would continue such attacks as long as civilization continues to "destroy nature."

The buses targeted were all part of the state-owned Mexibus line. We could publish their entire manifesto here, but why? We will give you the Readers Digest version. "If civilization is going to destroy nature, we will respond in the same manner. Fire and explosives against civilization continues to "destroy nature."

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And the mayor of Mexico City, as well as the Mexican police, would be replaced with a "special police force. This dishonesty has angered local activists, who are CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

TOMAS SPANGLER PHOTOGRAPHY

Tomas is currently displaying his images of Mexico at El Coral restaurant evenings from 7 to 10 pm, just across the street from his previous gallery. Corner of Marina Blvd. & Hidalgo (Restaurant Row), Downtown Cabo. Pls. Stop by and say Hi. Check out his new offerings on Canvas.

eMail: tomas@fotomas.com
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Stones will perform in Mexico City next March. There is speculation that Stones will perform in Cuba, also in March, fueled by a report that guitarist Keith Richards said the band was interested in a concert there. Well, far be it from us to be unkind, but at their advanced age, is it smart to be advertising a date so far in advance? We mean, even if they're still alive, they could be undergoing hip surgery or some damn thing.

The opening four minutes of the movie shows James Bond at Mexico City's Day of the Dead festival. The producers agreed to portray that the film's assassin was not Mexican, but instead an "international figurehead."

The Mexi-can government is under fire after it was revealed they have paid the makers of the latest James Bond movie $28 million to portray Mexico City in a flattering light. Hacked Sony emails in March revealed that producers were offered tax rebates and financial incentives from local government and tourism agencies to change the script of the new film Spectre that's just out, to omit mention of Mexican drug lords and corrupt police. Well, what would be left of that movie then? The opening four minutes of the movie shows James Bond at Mexico City's Day of the Dead festival. The producers agreed to portray that the film's assassin was not Mexican, but instead an "international figurehead."

If you would like to buy a calendar and support the shelter, go to www.bajasafe.com or email et.safe@hotmail.com. I don't know how much it costs, just throw money at the shelter. Hey, you're a Gringo. Aren't all Gringos rich? Yes, I'm pretty sure about that.

Check it out! Check it out! My girlfriend Fluffy made the cover of the Baja Safe calendar for 2016! This is not a paid gig, it's for charity, helping to raise money for the animal shelter. I sent her picture into the competition so long ago I forgot about it and now she's on the cover as Miss January. Gosh, I hope being chosen to be a calendar girl doesn't go to her head, and she falls for a handsomer guy. Oh! Lucky for me there is no handsomer guy! ja ja ja! If you would like to buy a calendar and support the shelter, go to www.bajasafe.com or email et.safe@hotmail.com. I don't know how much it costs, just throw money at the shelter. Hey, you're a Gringo. Aren't all Gringos rich? Yes, I'm pretty sure about that.

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Middle Aged Kanuck Swims For Enviornment

Canadian Renate Herberger plans to swim 600 miles from Loreto to La Paz, and then if she's feeling chipper, push on to Cabo San Lucas. Chipper? People can swim 600 miles and chirp about it?

Renate plans to. She's going to offer talks along the way about the importance of protecting marine resources. Talks? Someone can still talk after inhaling 600 miles of sea water?

The tour began last week and she plans on getting here in about 25 days. Oh, well, 25 days, hell anyone could do that. Even us. Maybe. With a little help from a boat.

She's pulled this stunt before, in Costa Rica, where seven times she's made Big Swims to carry the message of environmental protection, reaching 32,000 people.

"The real goal, the reason I do this, is to call attention to marine conservation, and marine sanctuaries. If we continue as usual, by mid century the prediction is we will not have any more fish," the 60 year old woman explains.

When she washes up on our shores, best not to offer her a plate of fish n' chips.

I never dreamed of success, I worked for it

Punta Lobos has been the beach where fishermen launch and retrieve their boats. These men have been plying the waters for generations and feel, like most Mexicans, that this beach is part of what they call their patrimony. Generally, most Mexicans feel all of Mexico is for all Mexicans. As the oil in the ground is their patrimony, so are all the beaches. And, by law the beaches are for the public. But, as she says, the main thing is the more than 30 animals have been evacuated, they are being held and evaluated in a veterinary clinic, and they will be sent to appropriate homes.

The spider monkey, the snakes, the owl, macaw and badger have been shipped to sanctuaries around the country.

She did say she hit a stone wall with Peta, the International Humane Society, and Natura-Animalis who all brushed her off, before finally getting the Mexican government to act.

The tour guys from getting to their job site, and you have the entire controversy in the first 227 words. You may move on to the funnies unless you want another 800 words of he said - she said. (Actually, you might as well read this, as we lied about the funnies: they're aren't any in this paper.)

One morning two weeks ago pickup trucks belonging to the pissed off fishermen of Punta Lobos blocked the dirt road leading to one phase of the development, the part that has come along the farthest, the 32 room two story hotel on the beach and the 40 homes. They say the Tres Santos has taken the best part of the beach, pushing them to the far south end, a less desirable place due to terrain and the presence of an arroyo.

Long before Gringos arrived in Todos Santos,
Tech’ed Up House
Hard To Find Here

Because few people know how to service and install the newest technology

BY DICK FITZWELL

Anyone who has even tried to get reliable English television here knows what a challenge that modest goal is. And if you want to get your entire home smart wired? That’s even more grief. It’s because most of the locals just don’t have the background to install it, nor the contacts to import the equipment, which is invariably American.

But with the high cost of building many of these homes here, and the lousy police force we have, taking care of that home has become a challenge. Homeowners want all the technology goodies they have at home and they want the piece of mind that their investment is safe. Both of these objectives can be handled if we can only had the Geek Squad down here. Well, we do.

Mark Aucera owns Los Cabos A/V and has a retail store and offices on the fourlane right outside of Cabo at km 4, in Plaza Juan Diego. It looks kind of like a techie’s Radio Shack but it comes with a more knowledgeable guy behind the counter who also does outcall. That’s most of his business, jamming out to your house like the Geek Squad, to set up swanky home entertainment systems and wiring houses for surveillance, sound, and off site control. Much of his equipment is Honeywell, because he is a dealer for the Honeywell Total Connect Program.

After Mark is done with your house you can control everything in your house from your smartphone or computer from anywhere in the world. You can lock down your house or you can open it to certain people. You can watch videos of your dog sleeping on your bed, (you left your dog in the house while you’re in the States?), or you can hear your dog through audio equipment. Well, actually, you can even feed your dog from your smartphone. Do you want ESPN and all the networks on your TV? Mark

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14
November 16th, 2015

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**Spa Cielo Laser Center earns 2013 TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence Award**

Multiple award winning Medical Laser and Weight Loss Center, Spa Cielo, located in San Jose del Cabo, today announced that it has received a TripAdvisor® Certificate of Excellence award. The accolade, which honors service excellence, is given only to establishments that consistently achieve outstanding traveler reviews on TripAdvisor, and is extended to qualifying businesses worldwide. Only the top-performing 10 percent of businesses listed on TripAdvisor receive this prestigious award.

To qualify for a Certificate of Excellence, businesses must maintain an overall rating of four or higher, out of a possible five, as reviewed by travelers on TripAdvisor, and must have been listed on TripAdvisor for at least 12 months. Additional criteria include the volume of reviews received within the last 12 months. Spa Cielo carries a five star rating.

“We are pleased to receive a TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence,” said Cathy Dammann, Medical Aesthetics Practitioner and founder of Spa Cielo Laser Center. “Our team strives to make a positive difference in the lives of our clients and the community in which we live. Spa Cielo was founded on the principles of professionalism, safety and most importantly, client satisfaction. We ever-so-carefully unite patient concerns with the most advanced, proven, non-invasive cosmetic technology to achieve the patient’s personal goals. We are committed to enhancing the personal well-being, confidence and self-esteem of our patients in a safe, professional, ethical environment.” This accolade is evidence that our hard work translating into positive reviews on TripAdvisor. This award compliments the previous awards received by Cathy Dammann and her Laser Center. In 2012 Cathy was named among the “Successful Women of the Baja” by Baja Traveler Magazine and in 2009, Spa Cielo earned the title of “Best Medical Spa” by the Mexican Association of Medical Tourism, this is truly a testament to the wonderful team carried out each and every day by her amazing team.

It is our goal to provide a true “Rejuvenation Vacation” and have our patients go home looking younger,” States Cathy. Spa Cielo has been serving the Los Cabos area for the past 10 years and has helped over 14,000 clients “Turn Back the Clock” with customized programs for overall health, including diet and nutritional, and skin and body rejuvenation. Whether battling the bulge and cellulite, or acne, rosacea, hyperpigmentation, spider veins, sun damage, stretched hair, scars, nail fungus or tattoos, or just loose flaccid skin that comes with age, their center will help you overcome your challenges. Their new cutting edge technologies include HydraFacials®, Total FX®, Genesis, Titan®, and Lifestyle Lifts®. They provide free of charge the VISIA® Computerized Skin Scan and printed report for you to take home. You can call and schedule an appointment at 624-105-2209 or visit their website at www.spa-cielo.com.

“TripAdvisor is delighted to celebrate the success of businesses around the globe, from Sydney to Chicago, Sao Paulo to Rome, which are consistently offering TripAdvisor travelers a great customer experience,” said Alison Copus, Vice President of Marketing for TripAdvisor for Business. “The Certificate of Excellence award provides top performing establishments around the world the recognition they deserve, based on feedback from those who matter most – their customers.”

Cathy Dammann is a Medical Aesthetics Practitioner and has certifications in Aesthetics, and Light and Laser Therapies. She is a member of the International Association for Physicians in Aesthetic Medicine and the recent recipient of the 2012 “Successful Women of the Baja” by Baja Traveler Magazine. She has made numerous appearances on talk shows including Oprah. Spa Cielo’s physicians and staff are trained and certified in United States and Mexico and are bilingual. Spa Cielo Laser and Wellness Center holds a five star rating and received the “2013 Award of Excellence” from TripAdvisor and has the experience you look for in a laser medical spa, with 10 years in Los Cabos area, 1,000 patients and over 70,000 procedures performed. Spa Cielo is your answer to skin and body rejuvenation.

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**QUE PASA IN CABO?... continued from page 2**

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Find cast off treasures and snap up the baked goodies. Proceeds go to support the Beca scholarship program. Donations of housewares, clothing, children's items, and anything that is in good condition to resell are welcome. Contact for more information email: info@palapasociety.org or look up www.palapasociety.org to see what the group is about.

**Artists for La Paz.** La Paz director of tourism Elizabeth Waybas has revealed that several international artists will be invited to spend a week in our state's capital city with the hope they will use their new knowledge to promote us in social media. Among the first artists are Marc Anthony (Jennifer Lopez's cast off hubby), popular Spanish singer Miguel Bose, and Mexico's Christian Castro.

**Mardi Gras time again.** At least this year Los Cabos government thinks, as they are already planning the festivities that will run from February 4 to 9, at a cost of nearly $1 million. This year's theme is "The Muses of Joy" and will feature popular Mexican and Spanish artists like Shaila Durcal, Aleks Syntek, Mexican and Spanish artists like Shaila Durcal, Aleks Syntek, and Miguel Bose will be featured at the event.

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Rated with five stars on TripAdvisor
Closings In Usa VS Closings In Mexico

BY PEDRO PERICHART

After having closed hundreds of real estate transactions in Mexico where U.S. clients have acted as Sellers or Buyers or Lenders, I have realized that there are important differences between the U.S. closing process and the Mexican closing process, as well as the actors in each process. Here is a summary of my findings:

In the U.S., the closing process is handled and administered by an Escrow Company with their own closing attorney. The Escrow Company verifies that the owner is properly recorded as such in the County Records, verifies that the owner has paid any acquisition taxes, and usually pays capital gains taxes on the parties' behalf, pays buyer acquisition taxes, and usually also takes care of recording the closing deed at the County land title office and Public Registry. However, when a foreigner is involved as a seller, buyer or lender in a Mexican real estate transaction, or when a Mexican transaction is complicated or involves lending, there is usually a closing attorney or closing agent involved to support and complement the Notary's work, and also to go beyond the Notary's duties. Here are some examples:

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Susanne Giraud

Susanne Giraud is an experienced, licensed Realtor®, and has been a top producer in Los Cabos for fifteen years, and will guide you through the ownership process. Susanne has received numerous real estate awards plus testimonials from satisfied clients. She spent twenty-five years as a successful Realtor in Newport Beach, California. Susanne maintains her California real estate license and is a member of Luxury Real Estate and the Association of Mexican Real Estate Professionals in Los Cabos (AMPI). Susanne is familiar with the beachfront or ocean view properties that you are looking for, whether you prefer to own in town or out of town, residential or commercial. Susanne is an expert at finding the perfect property match for new friends who want to become neighbors in the paradise that is Los Cabos. Contact Susanne, Sotheby’s Int’l Realty at (624) 122-2401.
Eight Little Known Us Tax Facts For Gringos In Mexico

BY DON D. NELSON

Though most foreign assets are reportable on various specialized forms filed with your US tax return. If you own foreign real estate and title is in your own name (or a Fideicomiso) and do not rent out the property, there is no reporting required on your US tax return or for that matter any other reporting due the US Government.

Foreign mutual funds (and most foreign money market funds) require filing of another special form with your tax return or for that matter reporting required on your US real estate. If foreign mutual funds were put in many years when Congress was convinced by US Mutual Fund companies that there business would be hurt unless investment in foreign mutual funds was made unfavorable for tax purposes.

The 2015 the $100,800 US foreign earned income exclusion applies to earned income (wages or self-employment) income earned abroad if you meet the physical presence test or nonresident resident test. You can see if you qualify in IRS Publication 54. It is not automatic and can only be claimed on your US tax return. The IRS can deny this exclusion if you file your return more than 18 months late. This exclusion does not apply to rental income, dividends, interest or capital gains or any income other than earned income. If you are self-employed, then the exclusion does not apply to US self-employment tax (social security and medicare tax).

You must report your rental net income in Mexico from your Mexican real estate on your US tax return and you also owe taxes on it in Mexico even if you are not a resident. In Mexico you must pay Mexican income taxes on it and also pay IVA tax. If you are renting for only a short time, you may also owe local lodging excise taxes. The Mexican income tax can be claimed as a credit directly offsetting any US income tax you owe on the rental income. The IVA and lodging taxes can be deducted on your US tax return as rental expenses.

If you own 10% or more of a Mexican corporation, you may have to file form 5471 with your US tax return if required by the rules governing that form. Failure to file that form in a timely manner may result in the IRS assessing a $10,000 US penalty for failure to file even if you owe no taxes. The US has a tax treaty with Mexico. It also has in the past year entered into an OECD agreement where the two countries have agreed to exchange income tax information with each other. At some point in the future what you do in Mexico will not stay in Mexico and vice versa.

If as a US Citizen you have lived and worked in Mexico for a while and not filed your US tax return, the IRS currently has a "streamlined program" that may allow you to catch up by filling only the past 3 years US tax returns and past six year FBAR (foreign bank account reports). They will not penalize you under that program for failing to file FBAR forms or other foreign reporting forms. They have stated they may discontinue this program at any time. Now is the time to surface with the IRS and avoid potentially huge penalties. FBAR (foreign bank account reporting forms) must be filed each year with US Treasury if at any time during the calendar year your combined highest balances in your foreign financial accounts exceeds $100,000 US. This form must be filed on line. Foreign accounts include foreign pension plans, cash surrender value in foreign insurance, foreign broker's accounts, and even gold if held for you in a foreign country a custodian. Failure to file this form or filing it late can result in penalties of $10,000 US or more.

Don D. Nelson is a US tax attorney who has been assisting Americans in Mexico for over 25 years with their US tax returns and tax planning. He is also a partner in Kauffman Nelson LLP, Certified Public Accountants. His website is located at www.TaxMeLess.com. He has 2 tax blogs with the latest tax developments of interest to those in Mexico located at www.usexpatrate.blogspot.com and www.us-mexicantax.blogspot.com. His email address is ddnelson@gmail.com. He can be reached at his US phone number 949-480-1235. 

CLOSINGS IN USA VS...

continued from page 7

Public Registry showing if the property currently has a lien or other encumbrance, or if it is free & clear, but will not review the chain of title, nor will verify the correct cancellation of previous liens or encumbrances. An extensive title search can be performed by the closing attorney at the buyer's request.

The Notary will not get involved in the title insurance process, simply because in Mexico title insurance is not part of a real estate transaction. Therefore, the closing attorney can coordinate title insurance with a U.S. based title insurance company such as Armour Secure (formerly Fidelity) or Stewart Title, among others, simultaneously with the closing process.

Don D. Nelson will not act as escrow for the earnest money, interim deposits and balance of the purchase price. Not even the closing attorney/agent should not act as escrow for the earnest money, interim deposits and balance of the purchase price. You should always continued on page 9
The 44th Annual AMPI Conference

BY JOHN K. GLAAB, CIPS

The annual conference of the Mexican Association of Real Estate professionals (AMPI) is held in a different city each year. This year it was in Zacatecas, ZAC (Last year in Tijuana, B.C.)

The “silver city” was founded on June 20, 1548 by silver prospector Juan de Tolosa along with Diego de Ibara, Cristobal de Onate and Baltasar Tamino. It has been dubbed the “Silver City” due to the many veins that were mined in the area, especially in the 19th Century.

AMPI members come together to hold their Annual General Meeting attend social and education functions, elect new members of the National Advisory Board and decide on the location of the Conference for the following year.

This year saw a talented array of speakers including Chris Polychron, President of the National Association of Realtors® (NAR) In addition to Chris, Past President Steve Brown attended along with staff members Janet Branton and Bethsy Sachs...

Ten new members of the National Advisory Board were elected. They represent a cross section of the Republic. Beatriz Gamboa Lago was elected AMPI’s new Vice President President. In 2017, she will become only the second female to hold the title of President in the fifty-nine year history of the organization.

AMPI’s 2016 Conference will be held in Puebla, Puebla.
Buying or Selling REAL ESTATE in Baja California Sur?

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When buying or selling real estate in Baja California Sur, look for the MLS symbol & enlist an MLS agent.

Buying real estate in a foreign country is unlike any experience you may have had in your home country or state in Mexico. There are simply different laws, procedures and safe guards here in Baja California Sur.

Did you know that over 300 real estate professionals have organized in Baja California Sur to insure your success in dealing with Mexican real estate? We started in 1991.

We now call ourselves MLS BCS, and we operate a Multiple Listing Service statewide in Baja California Sur with over 3000 available properties. We cover Los Cabos, Los Barriles, Todos Santos, La Paz and Loreto.

Any affiliate Broker or Agent can help you locate available inventory anywhere in the state, and can quickly connect you with the properties and agents in the area of interest.

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Our MLS BCS agents and brokers subscribe to the strictest set of Local Operating Policies and Procedures in the Country. These OPP’s are the result of hammering out 41 years of dealings with foreign investment on the Anvil of Experience. Each member also agrees to follow the Code of Ethics of the Mexican Association of Real Estate Professionals (AMPI), and subscribes to the Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics of the National Association of Realtors in the USA.

In order to assure a safe and secure investment in Baja California Sur please be sure to work exclusively with an MLS agent. If for any reason you are not fully satisfied with their service you may inform the MLS at admin@mlsbcscs.com.mx.

CLOSINGS IN USA VS...

continued from page 9

When buying or selling real estate in the United States, you have the option of choosing your own attorney. This is not the case in Mexico.

Mexico has a civil law structure which relies on the “Fideicomiso” system for closing real estate transactions. The role of the attorney is to protect the buyer’s interests.

In Mexico, the Fideicomiso is the most common method to transfer property titles. The Fideicomiso is an agreement entered into by the trustor banks and an attorney, whereby the trustor banks and the attorney work as trustees of the property. The Fideicomiso is a legal structure created in accordance with Mexican law.

The closing attorney is the right person to deal with the trustee banks to set up your trust (fideicomiso). Now that you understand the differences between a U.S. and Mexican real estate closings, you may go ahead and start submitting your offers to purchase!

By Pedro Perichat,
How Do You Get Out Of Paying U.S. Taxes?

That is not easy, but we have some suggestions.

BY ORLANDO GOTAY

Some U.S. citizens who have migrated to Mexico have gone beyond residente temporal or even permanente inmigrado status. There are those who have chosen to acquire Mexican nationality, and there are more than a few of those out there. It pays homage to the country that has welcomed us.

Mexican law allows dual nationality for Mexicans who acquired another nationality elsewhere, but that may not be the case when a non Mexican acquires Mexican nationality. Mexico requires express renunciation to other nationalities held by the newly naturalized for it to be lost. If you want to no longer be an American citizen, you must establish that you did that with the specific intent of actually relinquishing citizenship.

One wishing to relinquish U.S. citizenship must do so through a renunciation process administered by State Department officials, at consular offices outside the United States. The extensive process requires interviews and a hefty $2,350 renunciation fee. And the ceremony is a big damn deal, enough to make you think twice, which is their intent.

Until a person completes the process, documented by a Certificate of Loss of Nationality, (See! How spooky is that?) he will still be considered a citizen by U.S. authorities. And that requires—you guessed it—filing federal income tax returns. The IRS is relentless. And there may be some out there who think they may have let go of their U.S. citizenship at the moment they acquired Mexican nationality, but it may not be so. Unknown to them, both countries may consider them as Mexican national.

This becomes an issue because of differences in Mexico and United States nationality law. U.S. law deems U.S. citizenship and United States nationality as a highly valued condition. Therefore, it has established a correspondingly high burden on Mexican authorities does not "express renunciation" before federal income tax returns.

The IRS is relentless. And there can be disastrous consequences.

If a person intends to renounce, it is critical that accounts are squared with Uncle Sam beforehand.

If you cannot certify that you’re all square with the IRS, you must establish that you did so with the specific intent of actually relinquishing citizenship.

Why, you ask, would a tax lawyer be writing about this? Because citizenship does matter when it comes to U.S. taxation.

For Americans, Canadians and Mexican dual-citizens.

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Available for Americans, Canadians and Mexican dual-citizens.
Above: Gently sloping beach before Tres Santos built their seawall.

Below: The rocks are coming lose from the seawall and rolling down the beach, settling just under the water, harming the boats as they launch and retrieve.

The fishermen of Punto Losbos believe the wall caused much of the beach to wash away, Tres Santos, their engineers, and the federal agency that controls the beach say the beach naturally eroded away due to extreme weather this year.

either didn’t know about the importance of obtaining a concession or thought their generations of use of the land, or their being Mexican, (patrimony), would be enough.

But it isn’t enough in these days of foreigners buying up what seems like every square meter of land in Baja. And when their simple way of life collided with the smart Tres Santos developer’s attorneys who snatched up the Punta Lobos concession, the fishermen were gone.

So now the fishermen, along with their extended families and many supporters from town, are sitting in their lawn chairs under shade tarps, trying to draw attention to their displacement with placards.

When this reporter was taken out to the beach by Wayne Trudeau, spokesman for Tres Santos, she was told the fishermen were happy with their slice of the beach just to the south, and anyway they are going to build rest rooms, a fish cleaning palapa, and bring in running water for them. In possibly the worst public relations move in the history of Baja development, they are building their hotel first, with no fish facilities in site. The prize for the worst engineering advise ever could be blamed on the developer’s alleged engineers. Tres Santos built a concrete seawall to hold back the ocean from their hotel, and then brought in hundreds of truckloads of rocks they dumped in front of the seawall.

The beach has now changed from a gently sloped stretch of sand where it’s easy for the men to mange their fishing boats to a very steep beach with an incline they can’t pull their boats up. Trudeau says this change in the beach is due to the natural ebb and flow of sand, exacerbated by the storms we’ve endured this year. He says his engineers have told him the sand will come back in December, and that the change in the nature of the beach has nothing to do with their seawall and rocks.

Semarnat, the agency that regulates the beaches, also says that Tres Santos is not to blame for the loss of beach, that the unusually large swells we got this year is the culprit. Their representative tells us Tres Santos was not in the Federal zone when they started building, but yes, they are now encroaching.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 21
calling on the Mexican government to justify why they spent taxpayers dollars on sweeping the country’s problems under the carpet. Mexican actress Stephanie Sigman was also part of the white wash, critics say.

“How many teachers or doctors would that cash have provided for? It is a disgrace how our leaders put Hollywood before its own people. The move to edit scenes comes after it was recently revealed Mexican police are paid as much as $108 million a month in bribes from cartel bosses.

Spectre producer Michael Wilson dismissed the Mexican deal at an emergency press conference, denying it had influenced the script. “Everywhere we go, we have incentives,” Wilson said. “Sometimes they’re tax incentives, sometimes they’re other kinds of incentives. You can get cooperation or you get things you would have to pay for free.”

We are not alone. Foreigners are defined as individuals born in another country but residing in Mexico. According to the recent census, almost a million (961,121) foreigners were living in Mexico in mid 2010. Yes, five years ago is the latest info.

There are slightly more males than females (50.6% versus 49.4%).

Though almost a million foreigners sounds like an impressive number, foreigners constitute only 0.86% of the Mexican population, compared to 21% Canada and 13% in the USA.

Baja California has the most foreigners with almost 123,000, followed by Chihuahua (80,000), and the Federal District (72,000).

The states with the highest percentage of foreigners are mostly along the U.S. border. Baja California leads with 3.9%, followed by Chihuahua (2.3%), Tamaulipas (1.9%), and Sonora (1.7%). Other states with relatively large percentages are either historical sources of immigrants to the USA or retirement havens like Colima (1.44%), Quintana Roo (1.40%), Nayarit (1.35%), Zacatecas (1.22%), Jalisco (1.14%) and Michoacán (1.10%).

Uh, helloooo, we are here! Los Cabos! The state of Baja Sur, to be exact. Did anyone send a counter around here? Yeah, those of us who weren’t at the beach, were hiding under the bed at the knock on the door.

Mexico’s Supreme Court has voted to allow a group of activists to legally grow and smoke marijuana. The ruling deemed unconstitutional aspects of the national health law that prohibit marijuana use. Although the decision allows only the plaintiffs to consume the drug, it sets a precedent that could, and probably will accelerate efforts to pass legislation permitting recreational or medicinal use of marijuana.

A real woman can do it all by herself but a real man won’t let her.
When an intruder is detected, the people over in Monterry, on the mainland, who are monitoring the phone, call the police for you, and because of their ongoing rapport, the police know there is actually a problem, so they jet out ther. Those monitors can detect broken glass or motion inside the house, and these systems cannot be circumvented by snipping a line. Most of this is wireless these days. Mark Aucera has been working here in Cabo in the wired and wireless telecom industry since 1998 and has built up a reputation for being the most reliable, if not the cheapest tech in town. He shows up and gets the job done, and that’s a rarity. He picked up some of this on his own, but then many of his manufacturers or users sent him to their schools, so now he has a collection of more than 30 certificates of completion from various tech schools. So, this guy is a good option for the well wired home. He can be reached on his cellphone at 624 143. 1346, www.mexicosecurity.com.mx.
Family, has been placing ads on La Paz streets, asking who wants to see gay rights in text books, or who agrees with gay couples adopting children. Eduardo de la Mora, president of the group, maintain they are not homophobic but disagree with a gay relationship being legally called marriage. Mora also said there have been polls in the states of Jalisco and Michoacan on mainland Mexico that shows people are against gay marriage.

A La Paz tortilla shop has been delivering tortillas packaged in a wrapper printed with anti gay statements. Both the activists and the tortilla shop have been accused of inciting violence against gays. Although that might be a toughie to prove since there has been no violence against gays.

We are loved. Mexico received 21.2 million tourists in the first eight months of this year, further consolidating its position as one of the world's top 10 global tourist destinations, President Enrique Peña Nieto noted, adding that the total number of tourist arrivals for the year will top 30 million if that trend continues.

No more forced resignations. The lower chamber of congress passed a law last week prohibiting companies from forcing employees to sign a blank resignation letter when they are hired.

Such has been a common practice by some employers in Mexico, in an attempt to get out of paying the severance that's due an employee when fired. This settlement can add up to some serious money, as it amounts to 90 days of salary, Christmas bonus and vacation time. This severance must be paid even if the employee is lazy, steals, shifty, or otherwise undesirable. The only way to legally avoid this onerous payment is to carefully document all the missteps by the employee, and even then the labor board usually sides with the employee.

The new law stipulates that employees who are forced to sign a blank resignation letter can file a report with the labor court, which will keep the grievance secret until or if the employee is fired and the document is deployed. The fine for forcing an employee to sign such a letter can be up to 10 grand.
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BY BRIDGET BURKE

“Todo Esta Aquí” (Everything Is Here) is a new community building program that aims to unify the diverse resident populations of Los Cabos. This is a project of the Los Cabos Hotels Association in collaboration with the Los Cabos Human Resources Association and the Los Cabos Public Relations Association and was just launched last month.

The mission of this new permanent program is to develop a Cabo-centric community identity and awareness about our importance to tourism. Initially Todos Esta Aquí will focus on how our behavior as residents and workers directly affects the local tourism industry, which supports the majority of the Cabo population.

The first initiative of the Todos Esta Aquí program targets the employees of businesses that directly serve the tourism industry, starting with an ambitious training program for every hotel worker in Los Cabos. The goal is to change the attitude and values such as friendship, understanding, tolerance, patience, solidarity.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23
Many definitions that you will want to remember and quote, (but only to people who don’t take themselves too seriously). I would like to share all of the fishing wisdom in this book to you, but of necessity, will stick hat on, pulled down, and he is practicing his casting.

The very first dictionary definition under A is ” Advice: two or more pieces of contradictory angling information contained in a single phrase or sentence.”

The two authors of this dictionary have written other books, including the national best sellers Sailing, and Gardening. Henry Beard attended Harvard, is a comedy writer, co-founded National Lampoon, and is a prolific author, writing all kinds of books including ” French for Cats, and Poetry for Cats”. He once wrote for Miss Piggy, and his latest book (2015), is titled ” Spinglish, a Definitive Dictionary of Deliberately Deceptive Language.” I assumed this book had to do with Spanglish, but of course, I was wrong. Spinglish is language, according to the author, that is used by doctors, lawyers, corporations (of course politicians), and friends who want to confuse and bamboozle you, and thus get the best of you! It is available at Amazon in different formats for $12 - $18.

The fishing dictionary covers deep sea, salt water fishing, and river and lake fishing, including ice fishing. An example of the wisdom of the dictionary is its definition of a map: “Handy schematic representation of all of the various roads in a given area that you are not currently on.”

Check out the cartoon on page 56, and the all too true definition of a party boat: A large salt water fishing craft carrying a large number of fishermen....which ends with his advice....”under no circumstances should an individual be knocked overboard while the fish are biting,” My husband could have spoken to that. A real novice, his first fishing trip in Baja almost became a disaster when he discovered that true fishermen do not joke about fishing, and are both serious and superstitious. Beto happily joined fishing buddies on the Sea of Cortez, offered a snack of bananas to all around, and as a result, was almost thrown overboard.

The other author, Roy McKie, died this year. He was a noted illustrator, who among other books, illustrated some books for Dr. Seuss under the name of Theo Le Seig. His cartoons in the dictionary are drawn in several different styles. I particularly liked the one with examples of 12 possible headwear for serious fishermen, and also the one entitled Luck. A fisherman’s wife opens her refrigerator, and it is crammed with only fish, fish, and still more frozen fish, all of them tumbling out.

Game fish is defined by Beard as any fish that puts up a fight as much fight as the angler’s spousel did prior to his departure. Most of the dictionary’s definitions are much longer (and some are funnier too), than the examples I give here.

Under the entry of Rules of Thumb, Beard offers advice for situations you might not have previously considered. 

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 23**
Well, the 16th Annual WON/Yamaha Los Cabos Tuna Jackpot has just finished and as always, everyone seemed to have a good time, especially with the “party harder” part. However, they didn’t do so well on the fish-catching side. Yellowfin tuna, dorado and wahoo were the only fish caught and in order to qualify they had to weigh more than 30 pounds. All of the categories were filled and 5 of the 143 teams took home a chunk of change amounting to $69,800 — the largest payout ever! Gary Graham, gary@garygraham.com

Cabo San Lucas

As noted above, fishing has been slow. One might think that the tuna seiners making x’s and o’s on the Pacific side with their spotter helicopters hovering overhead watching for any telltale signs of yellowfin tuna might have something to do with the lack of tuna. Between grumpy seas and few fish, the hope is that the wind will back off and the bite will pick back up. The wind will back off and the bite will pick back up.

There have also been some wahoo and their smaller counterpart, sierra mackerel — popular for cerviche.

San Jose

There continues to be no sarda available; baitfish supplies now consist of caballito, squid, and ballyhoo starting to become available.

The yellowfin tuna were being found moving with porpoise from the Iman and Desteladera and were hitting on strips of squid; though this action was unpredictable as to where and when the porpoise and in turn the yellowfin would be found. The tuna being caught were mostly in the 40- to 65- pound class.

Dorado and wahoo were also in the mix with the latter striking best on various baits, such as chihuil, caballito or rigged ballyhoo; all of the categories were filled and 5 of the 143 teams took home a chunk of change amounting to $649,800 – the largest payday in history.

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The other option available was of normal size.

There were still some billfish to be had on those good days — striped marlin, sailfish and even an occasional bigger blue or black to mess with. Also finally some decent-size dorado have shown up. Not in big numbers but enough for a fresh fish dinner.

There are still some wahoo here and there with mostly early morning action which may dovetail with my previous discussion about the wind.

The other option worth considering would be to walk the beach with your fishing rod and look for some sierra or jacks to fling a lure at. You never know what you might come up with. Either way it’s a nice way to spend the morning and you can snugly lecture your friends on the merit of getting your daily exercise.

La Paz

It’s been tough fishing. Northern winds have made it choppy and rough. Even tho’ it might look calm in the bay, outside it can look like a washing machine. Bait has also become a problem. Some days, no bait is available until late in the morning. Even more so, the fish we’ve been finding have fished far on the other side of La Paz Bay near San Juan de la Costa. That’s a long, long run after an already long run looking for bait. San Juan de la Costa is over an hour’s run to get there. Then…when we have fished the area, we’re finding only one to three little dorado or maybe some sierra.

More or less, unless something dramatic happens, I think we’re doing fishing the La Paz side and Espirito Santo Island for the rest of the season.

Having our boats launching out’ve Bahia de Los Muertos they are at least more protected from the winds blowing from the north since it’s a south-facing bay. However, it has still been bumpy out there some days since the winds start up.

That being said, we were still getting some decent-size roosterfish the last week or so that ran 30 to 60 pounds (all released). There were also a few sailfish and marlin hooked and released. Rapalas near Cerralvo Island and not far off Punta Perrico produced a few wahoo as well as some really early season yellowtail in the 20-pound class.

Cabo San Lucas

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The other option worth considering would be to walk the beach with your fishing rod and look for some sierra or jacks to fling a lure at. You never know what you might come up with. Either way it’s a nice way to spend the morning and you can snugly lecture your friends on the merit of getting your daily exercise.

La Paz

It’s been tough fishing. Northern winds have made it choppy and rough. Even tho’ it might look calm in the bay, outside it can look like a washing machine. Bait has also become a problem. Some days, no bait is available until late in the morning. Even more so, the fish we’ve been finding have fished far on the other side of La Paz Bay near San Juan de la Costa. That’s a long, long run after an already long run looking for bait. San Juan de la Costa is over an hour’s run to get there. Then…when we have fished the area, we’re finding only one to three little dorado or maybe some sierra.

More or less, unless something dramatic happens, I think we’re doing fishing the La Paz side and Espirito Santo Island for the rest of the season.

Having our boats launching out’ve Bahia de Los Muertos they are at least more protected from the winds blowing from the north since it’s a south-facing bay. However, it has still been bumpy out there some days since the winds start up.

That being said, we were still getting some decent-size roosterfish the last week or so that ran 30 to 60 pounds (all released). There were also a few sailfish and marlin hooked and released. Rapalas near Cerralvo Island and not far off Punta Perrico produced a few wahoo as well as some really early season yellowtail in the 20-pound class.

Cabo San Lucas
El Encanto de la laguna

Is Hiring: Sales and Marketing Director

An excellent opportunity awaits the right person. El Encanto de La Laguna is an exclusive beachfront community of homes and luxurious condominium residences located in beautiful Los Cabos, Mexico. The community is looking to accelerate its sales and marketing division under the leadership of someone with the right experience, expertise in sales and marketing, and the ability to get results.

- 100% English Writing and spoken
- Experience in Real Estate Sales Transactions
- Ability to write ads and newsletters in English
- Good eye for detail
- General knowledge on how to manage marketing concepts such as placing ads and social media and so on. Past experience in marketing not a requirement as long as willing to learn and organized
- Personable and able to work well with others
- Ability to develop and deliver presentations
- Organized
- Ambitious customer-focused
- Self-starter with a high degree of self-confidence and motivation
- Professional appearance
- Good with Client Relationship
- Prospecting Skills
- Negotiation Skills

The position would be salary and commission. Inquire for more details.

Please send resume to: hr@elcantanoloscabos.net

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Calendar of Events

**Every Tuesday at 8 a.m.** Rotary Club at the Sheraton Hacienda del Mar resort. In the Chapel. RSVP: 172-0009 y 172-0010

**Every Wednesday, 8 pm.** Free movies from independent studios for teenagers and adults at the City Theater in San Jose.

**Every Wednesday 9am-12pm.** Farmers market at La Esquina in Todos Santos. Live guitar music and good, local, organic stuff to buy. hola@laesquinats.com, www.laesquinats.com, 612 145 0851.

**Every Wednesday, 7:30 to 8:30 pm.** Bike ride in San Jose. Free if you bring your own bike, or rent from Sportia bike store. Form up at Plaza del Pescador in San Jose, across from the Royal Solaris hotel at 7:15 pm. (624) 130-7159. info@sportia.mx

**First Thursday.** Yo Reciclo sets up tents to receive plastic, aluminum, cardboard, computers, printers, cell phones, green, clear glass but NO Batteries, please. In San Jose, Plaza Dorada at the roundabout near the Pemex. 8 am to 2 pm. info@yoreciclo.org.mx

**Every Thursday, 8:00 a.m.**

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**El Encanto de la laguna**

**We've moved!** Come visit us at our new store Across the street from Burger King.

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San José del Cabo - La Paz
Baja California Sur, Mexico

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**Dec. 3rd, 4th, 5th** Las Estrellas de Todos Santos’ Ensemble presents Slice of Life, a variety of theatrical readings, in the Galería at Hotel Casa Tota at 7:00 pm. Ticket price $15usd or peso equivalent. Closing night includes a Wine & Nibble Mingle with the actors. In English. Tickets at Hotel Reception 1 month before shows or Will Call, LasEstrellasDeTodosSantos@gmail.com. More details, www.facebook.com/LasEstrellasDeTodosSantos.

**December 10th.** Thursday. Dressed to the K’s, The Los Cabos Humane Society presents their 10th Anniversary Christmas Party. This year presenting “Christmas In Venice” starring “America’s Got Talent” finalist, tenor, Branden James. 18th Century music and masquerade. Italian inspired cuisine, cocktails & so much more. 5:30 -11:30 pm at the Sheraton Hacienda Resort, CSL. For complete info visit www.dressedtothe-k’s.com

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**November 27 - 29.** Todos Santos International Guitar Festival. At El Faro Beach Club, a community funded, musician-supported festival that puts on a world class show. All profits go to the local Hogar del Niño. 30+ Guitarists from all genres and from all corners of the globe come together for a 3 days of camaraderie and musical collaboration. Information: info@tsigf.com, http://www.tsigf.com

**November 28 Saturday, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.** The Palapa Society’s 7th annual tianguis at the future site of the new Palapa Learning Center on the bypass road. The group needs donations of houseware, clothing, children’s items, sporting goods, and any items that are in good condition to resell. To drop off, contact info@palapasociety.org or look up palapasociety.org to find out what they are all about.

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**I'm not playing hard to get, I am hard to get**
because of unfilled tax obligations one did not know about.

In matters of nationality, it pays to understand the true nature of your status, enabling you to fulfill your tax obligations in a timely way.

Orlando Gotay is a California licensed tax attorney (with a Master of Laws in Taxation) admitted to practice before the IRS, the U.S. Tax Court and other taxing agencies. His love of things Mexican has led him to devote part of his practice to the tax matters of U.S. expats in Mexico. He can be reached at tax@orlandogotay.com.
marijuana. “Absolute prohibition is excessive and doesn’t protect the right to health,” Justice Olga Sánchez Cordero said.

The Catholic Church in Mexico came out strongly against legalization. An editorial this week in an archdiocese publication argued that the Supreme Court debate “confuses the public” about a dangerous product.

Pot sales go up in smoke. What about the poor drug cartels? Are they gonna be OK? Yes, they are going to be just fine, if marijuana is legal, they have already diversified their activities in recent years. They are now more involved in kidnapping and extortion and protection rackets, they will land on their feet. Besides, there’s still the market for meth, cocaine, and a display case full of other goodides the foolish among us are never going to get enough of.

Mexico trucking along. Even though personal income rates are just 15-30% of those other members, Mexico is considered an emerging country and is therefore part of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development. Mexico, however, still shows many characteristics of a developing country: rising urbanization, age of population, and economic growth centered in cities, just to name a few.

Mexico’s economy is rapidly growing and the country’s debt has been upgraded. The country is the second largest economy in Latin America and now has an unemployment rate of just 4.4%, compared to 7.5% for first place Brazil. (The United States is officially 5%). Looking forward, the U.S. Department of Agriculture projects that Mexico’s GDP will grow by over 80% by 2030.

“They’re laughing at us! A

The Portus Group began the highly successful Ventanas Residential project in Cabo San Lucas nine years ago. It consists of three master-planned communities: family homes and condominiums, Phase I and II-already delivered- and Phase III, each centered around a very upscale clubhouse.

A key reason for the success of Portus Group is their philosophy of building entire communities rather than just some houses. According to Jose Acosta, “When we deliver the key to your house, it is not the end, but the beginning of our relationship with you, as we are here to help the homeowners preserve the beauty, tranquility, and property values of their new investment.”

The experience of community begins upon purchase of the property when the new homeowners are assigned a personal customer service agent who will answer to them with progress reports. There is even a home store on the property, where you can buy everything you need for the new home, right down to the silverware and pillow cases.

When your home is completed, the Portus staff welcomes you with a key ceremony and a tour of the amenities Ventanas offers.

Then, as a homeowner, the true Ventanas experience begins: you will enjoy concierge service, special discounts for all services and activities on site, as well as discounts at restaurants and popular tourist locations in Cabo. If you love sport fishing and other water sports, the Portus boat is available for your use. Use it and walk away from it, which is the best way to enjoy boating.

By BILL DING

A weekly newsletter keeps you updated on the many classes and activities available to you. What better way to meet your new neighbors than at a wine tasting or cooking class, or at the weekly farmer’s market or movie in the park? If you are interested in using your home as an investment property, you can enter it in the rental program for as long as you keep it, or for a long term rental, or on a daily basis.

The hotel program offers all the services your guests would find in a luxury hotel - concierge, transportation, room service and laundry. A property management service team will oversee all the details and paperwork for you. There are a few homes and 3 & 2BR ocean view condos still available in Phase III which will be delivered fully equipped and ready to move in. The Club at Phase III is the heart of the community and is equipped to bring you all the elements of a luxury lifestyle. Some of the world class amenities include a fitness center, yoga studio, wellness spa, two swimming pools (one is adults only), kid’s club, Deli & Market, private dining room, business center, library, and a pool and sky bar on the third level.

Rather than build a fourth phase of Ventanas, Portus introduced something a little different with the Cabo del Mar and EcoPort Villas. Have you noticed that Los Cabos lacked a nature park, the new project offers single family homes and condos within a series of natural parks. The parks will each have a theme and be accessible from the homes, with no street crossing required. This pedestrian and family-friendly Cabo del Mar Village will offer a clubhouse with all the amenities of Portus’s projects, but it will include more outdoor amenities like cycle paths, gardens, and an amphitheater. Three

The whole story about this highly successful project is available at reasonable prices, about $159,000 U.S. There are minimums in Cabo del Mar Villas start at $149,000 U.S, and simple family homes start at about $159,000 U.S. There are numerous upgrade packages available at reasonable prices, and all homes will come with a one-year warranty.

In more exciting news, Portus Group has just announced its next venture: Soleado Beach & Spa Resort. This elegant condo-hotel will be located on the popular swim and surf beach Costa Azul in San José. Only 24 units in total. Condos start at approximately $455,000 U.S. (unheard of for beachfront homes). All of the residences will be delivered furnished, 10 owners are encouraged to participate in a hotel rental program.

Portus Group is very happy to announce they are the first developer in Los Cabos offering a new way of living, changing all their properties into SmartLiving, (sustainable communities). That means they are becoming green communities. Green areas are irrigated with treated grey water, and solar panels will be built into the new pre-construction homes.

Portus Group also has a direct financing program in Selsea Beach & Spa Resort, requiring only $10,000 initial deposit, then 50% when the property is ready. The balance of the mortgage is paid over 10 years at 7.5% interest. For those who are not full time residents and would like to rent out their property, this plan, together with the Rental Program, offers the opportunity to generate income that will cover your mortgage.

So if you’re looking at homes here, you can’t go wrong with Ventanas. Better hustle over there before the real estate market comes roaring back and the prices go back up. Now is the time to buy.

If you need more information about these great projects in Cabo, or about the Weekly Newsletter, please visit their website at www.portusmexico.com or book your private real estate tour today by calling 624 104 7775.
The training emphasizes that each of us is responsible for making Los Cabos an amazing tourist destination.

The Todos Esta Aquí program encourages participants to support the community with a positive attitude because even small actions can make a major impact. They organize volunteers on the first Sunday of each month to clean beaches. They picked up 1.2 tons of garbage from Cabo beaches in September. All Cabo residents are invited to pick up garbage, it’s a lot of fun. Well, maybe not.

In the next few months, the Todos Esta Aquí program plans to expand their training outreach to the police department, local tour guides taxi drivers, restaurants, and schools.

Along with the training program, there’s a new “Volunteer with Attitude” initiative to get students to interact with visitors at the marina and other tourist hot spots, to provide information about the destination, or to simply offer a nice welcome to Cabo smile.

The Todos Esta Aquí program also hopes to create a Library of Tourism, which will keep historical information about Cabo and will be available to residents and visitors.

For more information, you can go to the Todos Esta Aquí Facebook page at www.facebook.com/TodoEstaAquiLosCabos.

To clean beaches, please:
- Never drink beer in waders, on camping trips.
- Always bring cheap books with large, soft pages.
- Don’t take advice from people with missing fingers.

I’ll close with another quote from the back cover.

“I have two copies of this little book. You can also check on this and other books by these authors on Amazon. Who to give a copy to? A fisherman who has a sense of humor...or perhaps, to his wife!”

Check out El Caballo bookstore in Loreto. It’s mine and I’m nearly always there. jeannine1220@yahoo.com.

For example: Never drink beer in waders, on camping trips, always bring cheap books with large, soft pages, and Don’t take advice from people with missing fingers.

I’ll close with another quote from the back cover. Zzzzzzzzzzzzz. 1. Sound made by patient angler waiting for a bite. 2. Sound made by an insect about to deliver one."

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The President Of The Republic Does Cabo
On a ribbon cutting binge

BY CARRIE DUNCAN

Last week President Enrique Pena Nieto visited Los Cabos on a whirlwind trip to cut the ribbon on some of our new infrastructure. He made a big media splash at the new toll road that parallels our fourlane, stretching east/west further up the hillside. The road goes from the San Jose airport toll road to the highway to La Paz, joining up with that highway just north of Los Cabos. It’s more of a bypass of Cabo, handy for those flying into the airport, and needing to go to the resorts on the Pacific, or especially Todos Santos. It’s 22 miles long with few exits. You pick up a ticket where you get on and pay when exiting. It costs about the same as the airport toll road.

Security was tight around the President, due in part to the social media stir-up that’s going on. A few vocal critics have been posting some scary, mostly silly stuff. Still, scary silly stuff happens.

The Pena Nieto entourage also had to contend with picketers who were present, demanding the money they were promised to sell their land for the construction of the highway. They are saying they have not received payment from the federal government.

Moving on, President Pena Nieto swung by the new Koral Center, a collection of shops, restaurants, and small medical clinics surrounding our slick new hospital with the unlikely name H+. That’s pronounced just like it looks: the letter H and the word plus. Or in Spanish, achay ploos.

The official reason for his interest in what amounts to a private commercial center, is he’s promoting medical tourism, (there is a new Hampton Inn conveniently adjacent to the hospital), as a good source of income for the country. It’s prob-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 33
Buy A Calendar, Save A Pup

Baja Safe is selling their calendars again this year, in an effort to raise bucks for kibble. And vet fees, and transportation to safe haven.

And, oh by the way, to keep that safe haven for the dogs and cats.

Yeah, yeah, we know, you don’t keep a paper calendar anymore, that’s on your phone these days. But the pictures are cute and it’s for a good cause, so hows about springing for a calendar?

Contact Baja Safe, the info is below.

www.bajasafe.com • et.safe@hotmail.com

BAJA SAFE • SOCIEDAD HUMANITARIA
SAN JOSE DEL CABO, MEXICO

Order now or we’ll throw the kitty under the bus.
What is your opinion about the pretty large Tres Santos residential and hotel development now underway in Todos Santos?

Mark Catania, developer and vacation rental owner in the Pescadero/Todos Santos region for six years.

I'm for it. It's a responsible development that won't be like Cabo San Lucas with huge condos right on the beach. It is my experience as a developer in this area that people want the work, so I believe the project benefits the local population. I settled here from a large city in Canada, and I like to share this beautiful place with others in a responsible way.

Shelby Branzanti, hotel owner in Pescadero area, has lived here full time for five years.

There are two parts to this project. The farm-to-table side and the beach side. Having been a frequent visitor to Punto Lobos, the beach where the project is under way, I am kind of sad to see the changes. The local fisherman coming in daily with their catch of fish was always a joy to behold. Now that will all change. Yes, development brings jobs and will ultimately be good for the economy; and yes, the company doing the development is into wellness and has a picturesque plan in place, but I for one, am not ready to see the locals moved out in favor of development. I fear Todos Santos is morphing from a charming local artist destination to another gringo land. Look at Cabo 30 years ago and you will see what I mean.

Jennifer Walters, retired superintendent of schools, full time resident for two years.

I'm taking a wait and see position. We've seen road development that has been good for Todos Santos, but on the other hand there are legitimate concerns about natural resources like water. The building standards are different for an American-built project, so it might be an improvement.

And the Mexicans say this about the project:

Victor Hugo Lara, fishmonger who buys fish from the fishermen at Punto Lobos to sells in Cabo San Lucas, 20 year resident.

The same thing happened years ago in Cabo San Lucas when they built the marina. Over time, after a few years, the Mexican interests were set aside. Outside money and growth took over. Fishermen could no longer work out of that area. I think perhaps the small fishermen at Punto Lobos will be edged out. It's only a matter of time. They make many promises of support, but who knows if that is true? He who has the money dictates what happens.

Fidel Ortiz, fruit and vegetable vendor in Pescadero, lifetime resident.

I have not heard much about it.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 30

Homes starting in the low $300's

with Private Beach & Nicklaus Design Golf Club memberships included

Gated Master Planned Community

Residences - Beach Club - Golf Club - Tennis
Cerritos, Pescadero & Todos Santos: A good way to spend a day

For those ready to escape the non-stop excitement of Cabo, consider a more relaxing pace, less than an hour’s drive north of downtown Cabo San Lucas. You’ll find an artist’s colony, an authentic Mexican town, laid back residential areas, and the best swimming and surfing beach on the south Pacific side of the peninsula.

Todos Santos offers a charming, authentic environment, with the traditional central plaza, dozens of art galleries, and small hotels. Some of the streets are torn up right now for utility upgrades, but the jewelry stores, galleries, cafes and restaurants are still open and inviting. Visit the Hotel California (no connection to the Eagles, song, despite their best efforts to promote that with T-shirts), browse shops full of handicrafted treasures, and enjoy some great Mexican cooking. What you won’t find are buildings taller than three floors, chain stores, or fast food joints.

Speaking of food, Todos Santos has a full range of temptations. Try Alma & Manny’s or Santos has a full range of temp-rations. Try Alma & Manny’s or

Want off beat? Go to the mask museum, called Faces of Mexico. Tucked on a side road in Todos Santos, the proprietor provides an enthusiastic tour of authentic masks from the various eras of Mexican history.

The cultural museum on Juarez Ave. also has interesting historic displays. Todos Santos is home to the annual music festival every January, an artist’s open studio tour in February, and the ever-popular GastroVino in April.

Many visitors extend their Cabo vacation and get to know the real Mexico by staying a few days in either Todos Santos or the nearby beach areas. Cerritos Beach is part of El Pescadero, but where the town of Pescadero is old Mexico, Cerritos has that vibrant beach vibe. Cerritos and its neighboring beach, San Pedrito, are both world-class surf spots. There are a couple of ways to get to the beach, either the old dirt road at km 65, or the new dirt road at km 67. Either way, it’s a bump, but what the hell, you’re in a rental car.

Cerritos is perfect for swimming and enjoying the sand and sun for a day, or a week. Take a surfing lesson or rent a boogie board. Kick back with your favorite refreshment and watch the surfers. There’s a beach club there with tables and beach umbrellas out on the sand, so you don’t even have to pack a lunch if you don’t want to.

El Pescadero is a small town on the way to Todos Santos. It has a rich history of agriculture, ranching and fishing. The lush poblanillo chilli fields are everywhere, as well as strawberry, tomato and basil fields. The town is between the ocean to the west and the Sierra Laguna mountain range to the east. A modern four-lane highway runs right through it connecting Cabo San Lucas to Todos Santos, then goes north to LaPaz. Stop at one of the many taco stands along the highway, or buy veggies or fruit along the road. In the afternoon when the fishermen come in with the day’s catch you can buy fresh fish off the boat at Punta Lobos. For a small propina (tip) they’ll file it for you, too.

Turn off the dirt road just before the Pemex in Pescadero, left toward the ocean, to discover Hierbabuena, a huge vegetable garden with an open-air restaurant smack in the middle of it.

Best Beach Club!

Enjoy the warmth and feeling of old Baja with great food and service. Only 30 minutes north of Cabo, at Km. 65 on the highway to Todos Santos. Great surf point & safe swimming for the entire family.

- Live Sports on Giant TVs
- Surf Lessons
- Rent Surfboards, Longboards, Softboards, Bodyboards, Skimboards, Horseback riding
- WiFi
Los Cabos just got a new mayor and a new administration, part of a party sweep of the entire state, by the political party called PAN.

Everybody is declaring their commitment to change. Because of what a crappy job the previous administration did, the word change is the new administration’s theme song. Change and transparency. This new party is committed to building a quality infrastructure for a change. Oh, and social programs for a change, and the police force will be cleaned up for a change.

But is meaningful change actually occurring in Cabo? Or is it just another smoke screen for business as usual? The new Citizen Observers of Los Cabos (Observatorio Ciudadano Integral de Los Cabos, called OCI for short), is a new citizen-based government watch dog group that hopes to gauge and judge the work of the new administration.

OCI was formed by Elias Gutierrez just to monitor the new Los Cabos government. “We are citizens who want to empower our city government to enhance the quality of life in Los Cabos,” Gutierrez explained. The committee members will do this by making sure our new city leaders know what the citizens are thinking and wanting, explained Gutierrez, who is president of his new organization. And to do that, their job performance needs to be evaluated. OCI can do that.

Monitoring the government is no simple task. It has been tried before at the federal level in Mexico with inconsistent results. However, Gutierrez believes that he has a weapon that will help OCI to monitor the city government. He will quantify the city’s results using the newly launched ISO 18091:2014, which is an international standard for reliable governments.

There actually is a standard for government accountability and it comes from the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). ISO is a worldwide federation of 164 countries, created with other agencies that emerged after the Second World War, such as the United Nations and the World Bank. ISO is based in Geneva and responsible for creating global standards that ensure products and services are safe, reliable and of good quality. They have published over 19,500 standards for various products. But governments?

Yes, ISO 18091 is the first international standard for governments in the history of the ISO and was only approved last year. This brand new government reliability standard also has a special significance to us in Cabo, as it was developed and proposed in Mexico for global implementation.

Like anything dealing with governments, it moves slowly, and this standard is no exception, as it was in development for 10 years. There are more than 20 countries interested in using the new government standard including Singapore, Philippines, Vietnam, Argentina, Chile, Spain, and Colombia. Los Cabos is one of the first cities to adopt the new government standards.

Besides having this yardstick to measure the effectiveness of our government, the new Citizen Observers of Los Cabos hopes to establish itself as an important bridge between the citizens and their elected officials. ISO is a tool that will enable OCI to monitor economic, environmental, social, and infrastructure services across 39 indicators divided into four areas: institutional development, economic, social, and environmental.

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The Mexican Revolution was important to the evolution of Mexican cuisine. All food, whether 100% Mexican and/or mixed European foods, the fact is the delicious dishes created by the revolutionaries are still eaten today and are a very important part of our culinary culture. So, we can be sure that the Revolution contributed to the culinary heritage of our beloved Mexico.

The Revolution of 1910 reinforced many of the Mexican values and cultural expressions that seemed to have been strengthened during the time of Porfirio Diaz, the president who came before the revolution. In his time there were economic, and industrial progress and some historians determined that even also in cultural and scientific areas, but unfortunately the peasant class was ignored completely, culminating in a war to seek justice and equity.

What examples do we have of the cuisine of the Revolution? Obviously, large banquets and sumptuous tables were not the priority, but a revolutionary aim was to strengthen the identity of what is Mexican and for that, food was basic.

When the crops were not good, soldiers and peasants' fished for trout, cooking them wrapped in various types of leaves. Once the Revolution was over, different spices, cheeses and types of peppers were added and combined. Snook, snapper, sea bass, bream and tilapia were available to anyone and were the daily food, even in times of war and obviously on the coasts.

Revolutionary soldiers were often allowed to live with their families, so their wives, (they were called adelitas), cooked in small rooms inside the forts, as if they were at home. It is also known that adelitas, who followed their soldier husbands from camp to camp, carried with them a collection of seeds and spices, tamales, tortillas and sauces, assuring the survival of many pre-Hispanic dishes and ingredients.

In some cases, especially in the north, lands were assigned to the soldiers where they planted their fields, cultivated squash blossoms, epazote and quelites. The dehydrated or dried chiles most used during the Revolution were: the chile ancho, the chipotle, the pasilla and the guajillo. These types of chiles are essential for the moles and other traditional Mexican stews. A special recognition was given to the mole with tortillas and pulque. (A fermented beverage extracted from the sweet water of cacti).

These were officially identified as the basic and typical dishes of the Mexican people.

Mexicans are part of the collective heritage and it is our responsibility to pass all this information from one generation to the next.

So, why do the big strong soldiers get to ride while the wives, the adelitas, have to carry the food and walk? What's up with that?

CONTINUED ON PAGE 33
November 16th, 2015

With Lots To Give

Cindy
Yes, I’m stunning. I cover all color bases and am sure to go well with your decor. And since I’m so young I can adapt to any style of people as well!

LOS CABOS Humane Society
www.LosCabosHumaneSociety.com

ISO currently has 94 members, so they are short a few. All OCI participants are volunteers who give one afternoon each week and do not represent any party or company. Their meetings are open and their findings will be publicly posted each week. The OCI conducts training workshops for good governance, sustainable economic growth, inclusive social development, and sustainable environmental development.

ISO uses an easy to understand color code to rate whether the government is working at the minimum acceptable levels (green), below the acceptable levels (yellow) or if it is at an unacceptable level (red). The OCI plans to use citizen observers who will use these colors to evaluate the Los Cabos government. The report card will read some systems green, some systems green, some red, yada yada.

OCI will need 195 citizen volunteers to analyze public policies, assigning five people to each of the 39 indicators. The leader of these five person committees will be the coordinator and will meet with their government counterpart each month.

TRES SANTOS DEVELOPMENT...
continued from page 21

goal of sustainable might be to not lose Todos Santos’ most beautiful beach to the Pacific Ocean adds to the picket line. In fact, it wasn’t productive,” he said.

Maybe those against the development will be more calm this time, but given the emotional roots of their cause, and the fear they are losing their livelihood and their way of life, that looks doubtful. And maybe every foreigner should be concerned that these locals are treated with respect for their land, and with dignity, or we will all be disrespected ourselves.

195 NEEDED FOR NEW...
continued from page 28

WHAT DO TODOS SANTOS...
continued from page 26

I know it’s a giant tourist project, but nobody talks to the local community to give us information. I heard it might bring in more tourists, but who knows? I would like more information about it.

Juan Carlos, Gardner who has lived in Baja for six years.

I think it’s good, and will bring more work to Todos Santos. Growth is good for Todos Santos, good for Mexico, and good for everyone.

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www.dreammakercharter.com dale@dreammakercharter.com

shops for citizens who would like to sign up to help monitor.

The new Mayor of Los Cabos, Arturo de la Rosa, says he supports the OCI, even mentioning OCI in his inauguration speech last month. At that time he pledged full cooperation from his administration.

All legal residents of Los Cabos can participate in this observation group. You only need to have your curp card, speak and read Spanish, and show a utility bill in your name.

For more information on participating in this organization, contact Elias Gutierrez at 624-142-2401.

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November 21. Saturday. La Paz at The malecon.
November 27. Thursday. San Jose., plazas and public spaces.
November 30. Sunday. Main Plaza. San Jose. Time of the events to be released when they figure it out

**TODOS SANTOS**

**EL FARO BEACH CLUB**
November 27, 28 and 29. Todos Santos International Guitar Festival. A community-funded, musician-supported festival that produces a world class show with a tiny budget with all profits going to the local children’s charity. 30+ guitarists from all genres and from all corners of the globe come together for 3 days of camaraderie and musical collaboration. www.tsigf.com. Email info@tsigf.com
TODOS SANTOS Teatro Luna Azul, Camino Las Tunas, Todos Santos.
November 29. Sunday. 3:00 pm. Auditions for Alice, Down The Rabbit Hole. Original play based on the classic ‘Alice’. Try outs for Mad Hatter, Chesire Cat, Caterpillar, Queen of Hearts, and many smaller parts. Alice needs to be a singer, do we have any singers out there? Email to confirm bluemoonbaja@yahoo.com
February 5. Friday. 5:30 pm. Sea Turtles Of The East Pacific.
Todos Santos Cultural Center. Fourth of six presentations of the Todos Santos Speaker Series. Presenter: Stephanie Roussou, M.S., Wildlife Biologist, ProFaunaBaja. $100 pesos, ($120 at door), supports speaker’s work. Limited seating. Advance tickets: El Tecolote Bookstore, Todos Santos. Kate Lewis jaymsi@yahoo.com, 612/145-0295
February 12. Friday. 5:30 pm. Indigenous Rock Art. Todos Santos Cultural Center. Fifth of six presentations offered during the Todos Santos Speaker Series. Presenter: Anibal Lopez, Professional Photographer and Naturalist, $200 pesos Donation ($120 at door) supports speaker’s work. Limited seating. Advance tickets: El Tecolote Bookstore, Todos Santos. More info with Kate Lewis jaymsi@yahoo.com, 612/145-0295

**CABO SAN LUCAS**
Hidalgo Cerro Tapas Bar Hidalgo St. Downtown Cabo San Lucas, across from the main park and band stand.
Every Tuesday. 9:00 pm. Theater night by Akelelre theater group. Spanish. Info and reservations www.hidalgoconco.com
WALMART PLAZA, Cabo Uptstairs over La Europea. Macondo Bookstore cafe
Every Wednesday. 7:30 pm. Movie club. Some movies in English and other languages with Spanish subtitles. Free. More info and movies https://www.facebook.com/macondo.cls
November 7, 14, 21 and 28. Saturday. 8:00 pm. From the sea to the sky, a memory. Dance by Arrobadaanza contemporary dance group. Spanish. Donation $50 pesos. More info https://www.facebook.com/arrobadaanza.

**CULTURAL PAVILION**
December 13. Sunday. 4:00 pm and 7:00 pm. Christmas festival. The Ice Queen. Disney musical acted and danced by the Star Factory Studio and other guest artists. Ticket $180 pesos. Info 624356 8659 with Angeles Vazquez. Spanish.
December 20. Sunday. 7:00 pm. Christmas Concert by the Youth Orchestra of Los Cabos. Spanish. Free.

**YANDI MONARDO ART GALLERY**
October 28 until December 12. Painting exhibition by the artist Lobouché. Opening from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Yandi Monardo Art Gallery and Tendencia Avenue featuring different artists who live in or are inspired by Baja. New artist exhibit every 45 days. Inside the Liberty Avenue mall at the marina. Spanish and English. Free
NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM
Open Monday to Sunday. From 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Voluntary donations are welcome.
November 11-15, 2015 4th Los Cabos International Film Festival.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 33**
CHRISTIAN WORSHIP In English (La Paz) Crossroads Christian Fellowship. Sharing the living water of Jesus with thirsty people. 3124 Absolos between Sonora and Sinaloa. (Up the alley under the Crossroads sign) Call Milton Sanderson at 6121375767 or 6121491832. www.crossroadslapaz.org.

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GOLDEN CACTUS GALLERY has moved to a new warehouse! Call anytime for an appointment to view the art of more than 20 international artists. I will pick you up at your hotel! Celyne cell: 624-147-5287. From the US: 1-619-272-3737.

OFFICIAL TRANSLATOR Spanish-English, licensed by the Supreme Court of Justice of the State of Baja California Sur. Celyne Poupart, cell 624-147-5287.

DENNIS RAYMOND SMITH. Pay your outstanding debt on the duplex you purchased in 2002 in Cabo on the corner of Camino al Colegio and Miguel Herrera. Gloria Shaw.

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LIQUOR LICENSE FOR SALE. 316 MIIL LOTS $389,000.00 US. 624-122-2690.

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FOR SALE. 1991 SUBURBAN 4x4 UGLY. $13,900.00 USD OBO. Gringo Gazette. Make good money, and have a good time doing it. Good way to get involved in the community and know what’s going on. carrie@gringogazette.com.


FOR SALE. 1993 Hard top, AC, 4" lift. Maintained locally. Current CA plates. Contact Celida: email celida@re-maxisofcabs.com, cell 011-52-624-156-2522 or Nick: email nickpetriccione@msn.com, cell 001-619-985-8835. $4500/OBO

HELP WANTED. Dana's Diner & Cantina looking for help in Pescadero. Cook, Waitress or waiter, bartender. Americans, Canadians, or Mexicans. Can help with working papers. For more information call, 624-141-6336, Mike or Dana.

FOR RENT. Newly Remodeled condo with balcony overlooking the Marina. Ideal for couples, Wi-Fi, Kitchen stove, full size Refrigerator, blender for Margaritas, Coffee in Room, Walking distance to top restaurants and night life! www.airbnb.co.uk/rooms/6145469

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Cabo and the Sea of Cortez from the 2nd level and roof top terrace. House was built to Canadian Standards by the owner who is a General Contractor. Many extra features in the house. Located in a small Gated community with a common area pool on the Cabo Corridor and less than a 5 minute drive to downtown Cabo $399,000.00 US and includes some furnishings for more details and photos. Please email the owner at bobby@sroscree@gmail.com (tf)

SPECTACULAR VIEWS OCEAN & PUNTA GORDA in Laguna Hills. Beach 5 minute walk, surfbreaks 20 minutes. Unique property abundant trees, plants & large rocks. Established secure community; 6 miles east of Tijuana. 2bd, 2 1/2 bath, 3 patios, garage, 2 lots $565K assist with Fide. roger@protexplan.com

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November 16th, 2015

**THE PRESIDENT OF THE...**
continued from page 24
ably only a coinkey dink that one of the owners of the hospital is the son of a former president, and of the same party as our current president.

But we like the attention from the big guys in Mexico City, and this hospital, closely affiliated with a very sophisticated hospital chain on the mainland, brings a level of professional medical care we haven't seen in Cabo.

**CERRITOS, PESCADERO AND...**
continued from page 27

aware, there is no English spoken here.

Off the main street in Pescadero is a tiny backyard restaurant called La Pasidita that has, I kid you not, the best burgers do we even have in Los Cabos? Well, there's Costco. Sigh.

For a truly unique experience book a room at the Arriba de la Roca, (which means “top of the rock”) a high-end boutique hotel that specializes in personalized service and is perched on top of a cliff. For adults only (it’s on a cliff, after all). You'll experience a cliff For adults only (it's on a service and is perched on top of a cliff, after all). You’ll experience a cliff For adults only (it’s on a cliff, after all). You'll experience a cliff For adults only (it’s on a cliff, after all). You’ll experience a cliff For adults only (it’s on a cliff, after all). You'll experience a cliff For adults only (it’s on a cliff, after all).

Visitors interested in hiking, horseback riding, surfing, charter service and is perched on top of a cliff, after all). You'll experience a cliff For adults only (it’s on a cliff, after all). You'll experience a cliff For adults only (it’s on a cliff, after all). You'll experience a cliff For adults only (it’s on a cliff, after all). You'll experience a cliff For adults only (it’s on a cliff, after all). You'll experience a cliff For adults only (it’s on a cliff, after all). You'll experience a cliff For adults only (it’s on a cliff, after all). You'll experience a cliff For adults only (it’s on a cliff, after all).

I am going to teach you to build the Burritos

**COOKING LIKE A MEXICAN...**
continued from page 29

eventually Mexicans and Americans began asking for a “burrito”. Meaning little donkey. That was how the name was born.

The burrito is the regional dish of the state of Chihuahua, where they are popular at any time of day as a main dish or as fast food.

Unfortunately, this recipe has been corrupted, mainly by Tex-Mex. Gringos changed the recipe to the extent that the burritos served at some restaurants are not even burritos. My Gringa boss looks at our little burritos and sneers, asking where is the rest of it. She is expecting a huge blob of food, spreading all over the plate and stuffed with all manor of things that Juan Mendez never intended. And she calls this Mexican food. Tex Mex is not and never was Mexican. By its very nature, it has been corrupted by Texans, who need I point out, are not Mexicans. End of story.

I am going to teach you to build the Burritos, which, may I point out, you will not find in a Taco Bell.

The beauty is that burritos can be filled with almost any combination of ingredients you can imagine. The vast majority of the time the base will be refried beans. Then you add fresh ingredients like tomato, avocado, onion, etc.

Our recipe calls for refried beans mixed with ground beef. Besides this filling adds cheese, tomato, lettuce and ingredients that give it a fresh, delicious and super nutritious twist. And, it is not spread all over the plate, but is delicate, sharing the plate with other Mexican delicacies.

The burritos can be served at any hour of the day for breakfast, snacks, or as a main dish. Cooking burritos is easy, just pay attention when bending the tortillas because that is tricky part.

The burritos are made with large flour tortillas, about 10 to 12 inches in diameter. In this recipe you will need a choice that melts; we recommend the asadero cheese as it is perfect for burritos.

This recipe is for 6 burritos.

Ingredients
1 lb ground beef
1 cup refried beans
1/2 cup grated cheese that cooks
6 extra-large tortillas flour
2 tomato
6 lettuce leaves
1/2 onion
2 tablespoons oil
1/2 teaspoon salt

Preparation
Shred the lettuce, chop the 1/2 onion and dice the 2 tomatoes; reserve to the final.

Heat a skillet over medium-high. Heat the the 2 tablespoons of olive oil.

Fry the chopped onion for 1 minute, until the onion is slightly transparent; move regularly.

Stir into the pan the ground beef and cook for about 5 minutes, until it is half cooked; move regularly.

Put in the pan:
1 cup Refried Beans.
1/2 teaspoon of salt.

Mix all the ingredients in the pan and fry for about 2 minutes, until the meat is thoroughly cooked; move regularly. Reserve.

To build the Burritos

Heat a griddle over medium heat 1 extra-large tortilla flour on both sides for about 1 minute, until heated through.

Remove the tortilla from the pan and place in the center of the tortilla the following ingredients in the order given:

A little grated cheese to melt. A bit of the cooked ground beef. Some Tomatoes Lettuce strips.

The cheese is placed between the warmed tortilla and hot cooked ground beef. These two ingredients will help to melt the cheese.

Fold ends of tortilla in and then roll the beef burrito.

Repeat with the other 5 flour tortillas.

Suggestion: Serve these burritos with your favorite sauce and you can put guacamole or sour cream on top.

Variations: The burritos can also be prepared with chicken, pork, vegetables, eggs and many other things but don’t think you will be eating real burritos: You will have fallen to the other side and you are eating Tex Mex. You might as well just drive through Taco Bell.

Alejandra

**CALA NDAR OF PERFORMING...**
continued from page 31

**LA PAZ**

November 20 to 22 and 26 to 29. Friday to Sunday and Thursday to Sunday. Eco Tango Fest. A two-weekend event with classes, shows and demonstrations. The first weekend includes a total of 10 classes over 3 days. Saturday events open to the public include live music and show. Second weekend is over Thanksgiving. More info, locations, hours and activities: www.lapaztangofestival.com or Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/ lapaztangofestival.

ALIANZA FRANCESA Every Tuesday, 6:00 pm. French movies movie club. Different French film each week. Alianza Francesa cultural center at 525 Gomez Farias St. between Republica St and Guerrero St. For info and program: www.facebook.com/alianzafrancesalapaz.

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Mexico's National Commission of Culture has sent this Book-Mobile to us for a few days. These are books for sale, not lend, and at subsidized prices. There are books for children, teens, and adults.

Many small towns in Mexico have no book stores, and this is those folks' only chance to get anything to read. And how many book stores do we even have in Los Cabos? Well, there's Costco. Sigh. These books are in Spanish, of course.
Cabo Villas Has Dreams Of Grandeur
They want to build a high rise on Medano Beach

BY DICK FITZWELL

Those of you who are teary-eyed over the departure of the Baja Cantina Beach Club next month will soon have a new watering hole on the beach. Cabo Villas Beach Resort & Spa has their heart set on a complete remodel and new building venture at their existing site and connected properties.

As part of their grand overhaul, they are launching a comprehensive rebranding of their time share property into the new Corazón del Cabo timeshare resort, which they hope to open in mid-2017. The new resort will focus on casual five star luxury set in an ultra modern environment. Their new direction is away from the two main trends in Cabo that tend to focus on either all-inclusive packages or high-end luxury, says family spokesman Chris Erickson.

The project will add 204 additional rooms and demolish 37 existing units in Cabo Villas, which will result in a combined final 309

CONTINUED ON PAGE 35

Medano Beach Site Of Property Fight
And there’s plenty of blame throwing to go around

BY DICK FITZWELL

Have you noticed the offerings at the formerly nice Baja Cantina Beach Club are kind of scanty lately? And it also looks pretty dishevelled. Unused tables stacked around kind of helter skelter. No blended drinks, and no food.

Baja Cantina and Cabo Villas, the timeshare hotel directly behind the property, have been partners in the lease of the land for 10 years. The lease expires November 23 and there has been a falling out between the partners.

They both would like to continue the lease, Baja Cantina would continue operating their bar and restaurant. Cabo Villas wants to build a nine story, 307 unit timeshare hotel.

Enter stage left, the real owner of the property; Ana Sandoval, who’s family owned most of this town in the old days before her brother sold most of it to feed his bad habits. He’s dead now, and Senora Sandoval is administering what’s left of the family holdings. More than 10 years ago she leased the prime land for $2000 to Oswaldo Cruz, who turned around and leased it to both the restaurant and the timeshare hotel for $4000, keeping 2 grand a month for all these 10 years for himself. Cabo Villas and Baja Cantina have each been paying $1000 for their part of the lease for all these years.

But that was back when they were still buddies. Chris Erickson, who heads the family that owns Cabo Villas, wants it all now. He wants Baja Cantina gone, and he tried to pressure the elderly Senora Sandoval to lease to him. They could not come to terms, so she served him papers to vacate the property on November 23. He refused to take the papers, running away when the servers approached.

Last week, utilities were cut off to Baja Cantina, but Sandoval, feeling sorry for the Cantina who she feels is playing straight with her, is feeding them gas and water from her house that overlooks the Cantina. And at night they bring in a generator to light the place

CONTINUED ON PAGE 35
November 16th, 2015

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As part of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, Teenagers and adults only. Spanish. Free.

November 29 and December 6.
Sunday and Sunday. Starting at 9:00 am. Dialogs of Culture 2015-2016. Workshops to give proposals on how to improve policies governing culture in Los Cabos. Invitation to all citizens interested in the culture as well as creators, artists, cultural promoters and cultural diffusors. The workshop will be in Spanish and English. Registration and info with Alan Castro Cel. 624 141 4858.

December 5. Saturday. 6:00 pm. Voices of the Time Rondalla Concert. Popular music played with voices, guitars, tambourines, mandolins and other string instruments. Spanish. Free.

CASA NATALIA
November 21. Saturday. 7:00 pm.
Orchestra gala and special 5 course dinner to benefit the San Jose Children’s Hospice. (Casa Hogar San Jose). 8550 pesos (about $50). Spanish and English. Info and reservations at Casa Natalia Ph: 146 7101.
PLAZA MUARES (MAIN PLAZA)
November 27. Friday. 7:00 pm. Variety of dance and folklore in celebration of Libertadores de America Ballet Anniversary. Directed by former students of the ballet. Info cel: 624 191 4858. Spanish. Free.

December 1. Tuesday. 5:00 pm.
Christmas concert with the Los Cabos Polyphonic Chorus as special guest. A family show with Christmas bazar, cards, Christmas tree lighting and several artists. Spanish and some help in English. Free.

December 18. Friday. 8:00 pm.
Christmas Concert by The Youth Orchestra of Los Cabos. Spanish, but it’s songs, so who needs language? Free.

**B U E N A V I S T A**

March 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, and 19 - Baja Shakespeare's 10th Season at Buena Vista Beach Resort in Spa
Buena Vista's Convention Center. All shows at 7:00 pm except March 13, a matinee at 1:30pm. Tickets $20 or 300 pesos, facebook.com/pages/LBaja-Shakespeare22059787011557. To list your event at no cost, email details to david@gringogazette.com. All events subject to change without warning, and we’re not kidding around about this. It happens frequently, so go, with great expectations of a wonderful evening, but have a backup plan.
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