These dolphins are out free in the wild, but they’re trying out for a position with Cabo Dolphins because they hear the chow is good and the work is easy. They aren’t exactly walk-ons at spring training camp, but could we call them swim-ons?

Earth Day Festival In San Jose
This is the 45th year of celebrating this special day. Not that it appears to have helped save the Earth.

BY CATHY WATKINS

Earth Day is Celebrated all around the world, Bunky, not just in your world, but here’s the scoop on Earth Day in your world.

This year the San Jose Organic Market, now in its 13th year, will honor Earth Day on Saturday, April 23, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. The objective of the festival is to raise consciousness about the environment and conserving our natural resources, as well as to make Los Cabos known for its organic produce. Many groups will come together on this, from governmental agencies to educational institutions, to raise awareness. There will be food, artists, vendors, live music by several bands, and workshops. Workshops meant to improve our quality of life will be 15 to 20 minutes long. IMPLAN will continue on page 5

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It’s Colecta Time!
You know, those can shakers you see at the traffic lights. They’re collecting for Red Cross

BY FLO NIGHTENGALE

Every year between March 7 and May 7 the Red Cross sends can shakers out all over the country. What, you thought it was just here in southern Baja? Think outside the state.

The people accosting you at stop lights are volunteers, sort of. None of them are paid, but very often university and high school kids need to work the streets as part of their social service that is required in order to graduate from schools. Shaking the Cruz Roja can for a few days helps them cross that off their list and it’s kind of fun for them because they can do it with their friends.

If you’re so done with fishing those coins out of the sofa and from under the car seats, why not round them all up and pop them into those street corner jugs? After all, that Red Cross meat wagon might be scraping your sorry butt off the fourlane some day.

Once you’ve given all you have to give, (and maybe a little more), ask the can shakers for a sticker. You put this little bitty sticker on the back of your driver’s side mirror, and when the shakers ambush you again, you just show them your sticker. It’s like a hall pass.
From The Publisher

BY CARRIE DUNCAN

We have an interesting article in this issue on teaching folks in the barrio to plant a veggie patch in their back yard. I'm not even going to ask you to please go to that article and read it and come back because I know most of you fake it. You don't fool me. You don't go, and then you don't know what I'm talking about, but that's your loss. Screw it. Do what you want.

Turns out I'm very interested in agriculture. I even went to the world's fair in Milan Italy last year because the theme was trends in agriculture. Probably my favorite all time museum is the John Deere museum in Waterloo Iowa. (The postal my favorite all time museum is farming. Probably last year because the theme was trends in agriculture. I even went to you want. That's your loss. Screw it. Do what you know what I'm talking about, but you don't go, and then you don't come back because I know most go to that article and read it and even going to ask you to please know that you could be managed to plant a veggie patch in their back yard. I'm not going to ask you to please go to that article and read it and come back because I know most of you fake it. You don't fool me. You don't go, and then you don't know what I'm talking about, but that's your loss. Screw it. Do what you want.

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Strange fish: An Illinois teenager has quite the fish story to tell after catching a strange looking creature that some say looked more like it came from outer space than the depths of the ocean.

Scott McLaughlin, 18, and his dad Russell were fishing off Cabo San Lucas last week when the younger of the two reeled in a puzzling looking catch. The younger of the two reeled in his dad Russell were fishing off the ocean.

According to David Ebert of the Pacific Shark Research Center near Carmel, Calif., the shark has a defense mechanism that allows it to puff itself up when it’s stressed. Well, lying in the bottom of some fish killer’s boat is probably about as stressful as it gets.

He said that swell sharks are common in the area off Mexico where the father and son were fishing but that he had never seen one before that was albino or leucistic. (Leucistic means there is a partial pigmentation loss as opposed to the total loss of skin color.)

The expert also said these types of sharks have five gill slits on each side of the head, three rows of tiny teeth and three gill slits on each side of the head.

The group kept the fish out of the water for about ten minutes and then tossed it back in thinking it might be endangered.

It turns out the animal was an albino or leucistic swell shark.
What’s Going On In This Country?
BY SANTIAGO VERDUGO

No shit, Sherlock. The head of Mexico’s National Defense agency said in a recent interview that Mexico had made a mistake in deploying the military as part of the country’s war against drug cartels and organized crime. “Of course we have committed errors,” said Gen. Salvador Cienfuegos. This deployment, which was ramped up under former President Felipe Calderon, left Mexico’s armed forces to deal with “a problem that is not ours,” Cienfuegos said. “The military is not intended for the work against crime,” Cienfuegos said. “The army is not prepared to do the functions of the police.”

Putting “soldiers prepared for war” in the streets alongside police to face down criminals has created dangerous situations for civilians, Cienfuegos said. “The military is not prepared to do the functions of the police,” Cienfuegos said. “The army is not prepared to do the functions of the police.”

Crowded skies. Air travel has been rising rapidly in Mexico in recent years. Total passenger volume grew 12.3% in 2015, following three consecutive years of 8.3% annual growth. Volaris has played a big role in this growth by significantly reducing the cost of airline tickets in Mexico. The rise of the middle class is also helping. Still, in 2014, the number of air trips per capita was more than eight times higher in the U.S. than in Mexico. Even within Latin America, Brazil and Chile had about twice as many air trips per capita as Mexico. This suggests there is plenty of room for growth, and sure enough, Volaris’ management believes the Mexican air travel market will continue growing at a rapid rate for the foreseeable future. Buy stock! You heard it here first!

Damage control. Mexico is going into damage control mode for their image, hoping to counter Donald Trump’s rhetoric, by swapping out its current ambassador to the U.S. for one with stronger public relations skills. Carlos Manual Sada Solana, a seasoned diplomat and current Los Angeles Consul General, will replace the current ambassador, Miguel Basanez Ebergenyi, only eight months after Basanez’s appointment.

The change is a behind-the-scenes move to refocus the negativity in the U.S. elections. In particular Mexico is concerned this anti Mexican immigrant movement will jeopardize trade relations. This is an effort to both improve the reputation of Mexicans in the U.S. and to protect the bilateral trade relationship. “They are bringing in someone who is exceptionally skilled to defend Mexico. They see Mexico being bashed on trade issues and immigration, with statements about immigrants being rapists and drug dealers. They feel they need to do some crisis management so that there is no lasting damage to the relationship, went the official word in the press release.

The previous ambassador had attempted to downplay the damage that Donald Trump could do to the Mexican relationship with the U.S. This new guy is going to deal with it head on. ‘Scuse. The word is, “Sada will take a more proactive approach, actively reminding the U.S. that the $600 billion a year in trade with Mexico generates more than 6 million jobs in the U.S. and includes 42 cents of U.S. content for each dollar of Mexican goods imported.”

continued on page 4
EARTH DAY IN SAN JOSE... continued from page 1
duct a workshop on sustainable architecture and living peacefully with aquaponics (raising plants in water).

The director of gastronomy and the students of our local university who are the chefs of tomorrow will offer presentations on hydroponics (raising plants in water) with hydroponic critters like snails, fish, crayfish or prawns in tanks) with hydroponics (raising plants in water).

The Montessori school will explain how to grow seeds and create container gardens at home. This school actively engages its young students to be vigilant about the environment and to pass that information on the parents. Students here bring food waste from home for the compost pile and never use throw aways for parties. Yo Reciclo (I Recycle) will teach people how to separate their trash for recycling. The Public Service Department will talk about its recycling and safe drinking water.

As we all know, the Los Cabos area is in a time of rapid growth and development which impacts our surrounding environment and natural resources; therefore, it’s critical to raise awareness. Axel Gutierrez manager of the organic market believes we need to form a conscious and united community to conserve our planet and set an example for the rest of Mexico. Don’t miss out on this exciting day of fun-filled and educational activities.

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Need legal assistance?

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2) Executive Suites $1,500

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Spa Cielo Laser Center Earns 2016 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 maintain an 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 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, unwanted hair, scars, nail fungus or tattoos, or just loose flaccid skin that comes with age, their center will help you overcome your challenges. Their newest cutting edge technologies include HydroFacial®, Total FX® CO2, VelaShape®2, Genesis, Titan® and LifeStyle-Lifts®. They provide free of charge the VISTA Computerized Logical Evaluation 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 Cupos, 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.”

Deck restaurant owner, where most of these activities took place, stated at a meeting with complaining citizens that his watering hole will review its shows to prevent offending families and will include more family related activities, leaving the sex part aside.

However, he also pointed out that the same effort must be made by other restaurants along the beach and the bars in downtown, Cabo, where the “it happens in Cabo it never happened” attitude is rampant. Stay tuned but don’t expect anything to change.

Sea Lions tossed back to sea. Healthy after two months of therapy, Lolo the sea lion, who washed up on Palmilla beach with internal injuries and dehydration, was kicked back to sea last week at Rancho San Cristobal, just outside of Cabo.

Lolo was taken care of by the Puerto Los Cabos dolphin center during this time. Two months and lots fish twinnies later, he was more than 60 lbs. heavier when released back to sea last week. Four Seasons does Cabo. In 2 years, Four Seasons will open

Que Pasa en Cabo?...

Continued from page 3

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

Rated with five stars on
So What Does The Humane Society Do With All That Dinero You’ve Forked Over?

BY AIDA TRUJILLO

We want to thank all of the Gringo Gazette’s precious readers for helping us make our Paws and Claws golf tournament such a great success. It would not have been possible without all of you. I wanted to give you an update on our activities we have undertaken on your behalf, and share some news about our staff.

Cecilia Montaño has been promoted to general manager, her day off is Sunday. Long time volunteer and supporter Summer Lorenz is now working with us part time. She is off on Fridays.

The volunteers at the Humane Society are busting their asses for lazy bones like this; princesses who think they deserve their comforts just because they’re so darned lovable was done on the hurricane shutters and other areas of the center. A door bell has been installed by the main entrance, please use it if you are dropping animals off before or after office hours.

The cat house has had some improvements using recycled materials. The Wall of Hope plaques containing names of donors have been almost completely replaced. Plaques are still available for a donation of $500 USD.

We continue working with our adoption partners in Calgary and Portland and almost always need critter handlers on Alaska air to Portland or West Jet to Calgary. We provide everything you need, meeting you at the airport in San Jose, as you just need you to be on the same plane and hand over the animal to the new mom and dad upon arrival.

The pet of the day on facebook has been very helpful in increasing local adoption interest, as has the announcements in the GG. Please help us by sharing the posts.

Clinics in San Jose neighborhoods are being given on Tuesdays and Thursdays, clinics are performed at the adoption center on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Our vet is off on Sundays. Dr. Eriksen Becerra will be performing 55 spays and neuters a month for us out of his new clinic in San Jose. His clinic will also be our new intake center in San Jose. He is in Las Veredas, his clinic is very well equipped and kept, and we are very happy to be collaborating with him. His number is 6241504007 and 6242290519.

Here are some volunteer opportunities, surely one of these will fit your interests.

Dog walking and cat loving at the adopting center.

Showing animals at the organic market in Pedregal Wednesday and Saturday mornings.

Showing animals at the organic market in San Jose on Saturdays.

Taking available (adoptable) dogs out to Flora Farms on Sunday mornings (this is a new activity).

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Wine Festival Coming To Todos Santos
And food too, but we all know what’s going to get you out of your easy chair and into your car.

BY WINO WILLIE

Wine Festival in Todos Santos. The 5th Annual GastroVino Baja Food and Wine festival will take place this April 22, 23 & 24 in Todos Santos, with two small wine and dine pairings and the traditional fiesta at the magic town’s main plaza.

These are Baja wine focused events, with some of the best Baja wine makers showing off their spirits and teaching us about them, while you enjoy live music and delectable food from various Todos Santos restaurants.

The Friday Baja Midnight “Bohemian Night” will take place at the Hotel California with an hour long interactive lecture on Mexican viticultural history. What’s an interactive lecture? Does that mean we’re going to drink through it? We can hope.

Starting at 8:00 pm Pepe Sosa and the Todos Santos band will entertain with a special appearance by former Grammy winner Terry Townson wailing on his trumpet. Hopefully from across the street, since trumpets in a closed in restaurant are tough to take.

Regional cheeses, cured meats, baked breads, fresh oysters, organic veggies, and more will make up the tapas selection, paired with bubbles, whites, rosés and a variety of reds. The cost is 750 pesos a person, which is like about 60 Gringo bucks. Well, not so bad if they’re generous with the booze, but one never knows.....

On Saturday at noon at Chez Laura restaurant, you can taste 12 mystery wines split into four random groups by the master enologist. That’s a wino to you, Bunky. For the know nothing novice, this is a chance to educate your palette and explore the Baja wine world, guided by a true pro. (The head wino, who you will know by the little wine thing hanging from his neck. The bling is called a tastevin and it looks like a hallow metal cup and couldn’t actually hold much.

The top three accurate wine tasters will snag prizes. Tickets for this are 250 pesos.

In the evening on Saturday you will meet at La Bodega de Todos Santos at 6:00 pm sharp for the GastroTour. This is a pairing adventure where one tapa is paired with one wine at each downtown Todos Santos participating restaurants. There will be live music everywhere and a funky dance after party at La Bohemia Hotel Pequeno. Tickets 350 pesos, or 300 pesos on pre-sale.

This fifth annual event will continue on page 14.

Delta Airlines Sky Magazine claims these eyewitness travel guides, published periodically, are the best travel guides ever, and who am I to argue? With more than 1000 colored photos and maps, aerial views, and floor plans of most popular sights in each, these guides are classics. Because they do not focus mainly on off-changing places to stay and eat, they are also practically timeless; useful when traveling, and a great read! And the photos are beautiful. Buy one new, or find an older used copy for much less dinero. Ruins, history, and nature, do not drastically change. I’m not sure how often the Traveler’s Guide is updated, but old or new, you will find it an invaluable resource.

My last book report was on a blood and thunder book especially for adventurous men, and so, this book is aimed at travelers and adventurers who are heading anywhere in Mexico, and it is one the best and most comprehensive travel guides I’ve seen. Color coded maps and with pages of information and even a forward on how best to use the guide, we can find information on all of Mexico, including our Baja. At first I couldn’t locate Baja, but, of course, it is to be found in the section on Northern Mexico, which also includes all of the areas that border the U.S. The section on Baja is much smaller than the section on Mexico City, but I decide that is because we are still so sparsely populated and also considered by many in Mexico to be the frontier. The wild and wolly west. The guide does tell of all villages and cities along Highway I, with many maps and photographs in color, and it ends with color photos of Los Cabos and that whachamacallit rock formation at the end of the peninsula.

The picture page in this section shows off our beautiful desert cactus, and I even see a photo of our Baja Cirio, (the boojum tree), which is found no place other than Baja. It made me proud to say I live here. The beginning of this section of the guide says it best; “...the North is the Mexico of popular imagination.” And it describes our part of Northern Mexico that “...stretches from the magical beaches of Baja... To the marshes and islands of the Gulf of Mexico.”

I love history, and so of course, that is one of my favorite parts in each section. Beginning with what we know about prehistory, the book describes the history of each part of Mexico with... CONTINUED ON PAGE 18
And We Thought They Didn’t Care

When we look around at the graffiti that uglies up the walls around us, it seems like nobody cares about our city’s image. But the current city administration actually does care.

Hard working Mexicans. Mexicans worked longer hours in 2015 than workers in nearly all other industrialized countries but are still hampered in productivity and earning power by relatively low levels of education, according to a recent study issued by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Nearly 30 percent of Mexican employees work more than 50 hours a week on average, according to the OECD’s Better Life Index, a study on quality of life issues in OECD countries. The long hours, more than twice the OECD average, result from a corporate culture that emphasizes attendance over productivity, according to Duncan Wood, director of the Woodrow Wilson Center’s Mexico Institute.

All this work has not helped raise the productivity of Mexico’s workforce, however, owing in good part to the country’s low levels of worker education. Only 37 percent of adults aged 25-64 in Mexico have completed upper secondary education, according to the OECD study, while more than 75 percent of all OECD workers have, making the Mexican workforce one of the least educated among member countries.

The weak educational foundation of many Mexican workers is also reflected in the relatively low reading literacy, math and science scores—417 on an international assessment—even for those who have completed secondary education. The average OECD score is 497.

Attempts to improve the educational system have been largely unsuccessful. In 2012, for example, the current Pena Nieto administration tried to establish minimum standards for teachers, including an examination. This much-needed improvement—in a culture where teaching positions can be inherited or sold, regardless of qualifications—was bitterly contested by the teacher’s union and rescinded in mid 2015.

It gets worse. Illiteracy is more common in the poorer, rural and indigenous states:

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19
April 18th, 2016

Cooking Like A Mexican
BY ALEJANDRA SARACHAGA

April 30 in Mexico is children’s day, and it’s a big damn deal. It honors all the children, although it is not a state holiday. Every school throws a party with cake, presents, balloons and munchies. Oh, and we can’t leave out the piñatas.

I am not proud that you, precious readers, see our children selling bubble gum in the streets and I know that many of you call them Chiclet kids. Anyway, that is a reality here in Cabo but not so common on the mainland. I have to say, that because this city is a tourist destination, irresponsible parents of these kids use them to evoke pity so you will give them money. Money that will be taken away from the kids. No, don’t think that it is going to be used to buy food or to help them to go to school (they don’t go to school, they work.) And the money is almost always used by the parents to buy beer and in the worst case, drugs. Many programs had been launched by Mexicans and Americans concerned about the plight of these children, but unfortunately they don’t have the government enforcing the laws behind them, and they have failed. Of course if you foreigners would just say no to the cutie pie kids, it would stop overnight, but programs to get you to do that have failed, also.

I didn’t mean to make a sad article from this, but it was on my chest and I had to take it out! Sorry about that.

Now, the word chicot, has a fun origin that involves Mexico in a surprising way. The origin of this substance is Mexican and it comes from a tree named chico zapote that grows majorly in the south east of Mexico. The Mayan knew this gum with the name siete that means vital fluid and they used it among other things, to clean their teeth, as a product for commerce and when it got to the Aztecs, they called it tzicli, which means sticky and from there it went to the Spanish and came out as chicle. Be patient, this first idea was a failure and after a year of testing, Mr. Adams gave up, although there was plenty of gum left. To avoid waste, Mr. Adams’ son decided to sell this “chewing gum” along the East coast of the United States with dental hygiene purposes. The first pack of this gum that Adams Jr. sold was with the original color (kind of light brown) and tasteless, but people maybe you did not think or even know the origin of gum.

It seems that the launch of the gum to the international mass markets originated in a curious story of former president of Mexico Antonio López de Santa Ana who had the then strange habit of chewing tzicli balls that he always carried in his pocket. They say that during his exile in New York, Santa Anna met a witty photographer named Adams. When Adams noted that Santa Anna pulled out something from his pocket that was brought to his mouth and then chewed for hours, Adams asked him what it was. When Santa Anna showed them to Adams, he noticed the funny consistency of the material that was produced in large quantities in Mexico. Santa Anna told him this resin had been chewed by Mexicans for centuries. Both man then thought that some type of rubber could be produced with a more elastic and cheap material for tires for carriages. The conversation lasted for hours, and many small balls of tzicli were chewed by both men.

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Can I Speak My Costa Rican Spanish Here?

Well, you’ve gotten away with speaking English, and Tico Spanish is way closer to our Spanish than that, so sure, go for it.

BY ALEJANDRA BORBOLLA

Spanish is one of the romance languages, meaning its in the Romance language family in the Indo-European languages. The biggest Romance languages accents from country to country, even more so, from province to province, town to town and region to region. However many language snobs in Europe believe here is only one kind of Spanish, Castilian Spanish, spoken in northern and central Spain, or as the language standard for radio and TV speakers. Castellano, not Castilian, is the proper way to call the language.

There is no such thing as Mexican Spanish. Please, at all costs avoid saying there is if you don’t want Mexicans to think you’re a complete uneducated donkey. Canadians don’t speak Canadian, right? Sure, Mexico does have its own accent, and it varies from north to south, central, coast to coast.

However, there are eight formal classification distinctions of Spanish: Castilian, Andalusian, Canary (from regions in Spain), Mexican-CentroAmerican, Andean, Chilean, and River Plat (from regions in South America). There are even some words that mean a completely different thing in different places; for example, “Panocha” is a slang and ugly word for the woman’s reproductive organ, while in Sonora is the way they call pi-loncillo (traditional cone shape in which the sugar is produced). How do we know if we’re not being insulted? Well, from the moment you hear a different accent you expect some kind of Spanish differences.

Geographical variances in Spanish, called dialects or geolects, differ in many ways.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 21
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 all 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 handcrafted 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 the Todos Santos Inn for breakfast, Bob Marlin or Hotel Casa Tota for lunch; Los Adobes, or the Santa Fe for dinner. South of town, near the Pemex, is Dana’s Diner, which has 13 TVs and 13 channel feeds for sports. The gourmet French restaurant Chez Laura is a bit difficult to find, but wow, it is amazing. You step off a dusty dirt road into another world. For fabulous chili rellenos try Miguel’s across from the Pemex. Next to the Pemex is the very sophisticated La Casita.

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 bumpy, 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 poblano chili 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, the first dirt road 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 filet 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. They serve fresh organics from the garden, and a nice selection of wines. Stop by the little bakery on the road in and buy a pan dulce, a Mexican version of a doughnut. Duck into some of the little local shops, but be 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 on the planet. Drive around the baseball stadium, and turn at the first dirt road on the left past the first sleeping policeman, (speed bump). La Pasidita is a locals place, thorough, and is only open after 6 p.m. Maybe 7 p.m., sometimes a little later.

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 360-degree views not matched anywhere else in Baja.

Visitors interested in hiking, horseback riding, surfing, charter fishing on a traditional panga, a Mexican fishing boat, adventure tours, or just experiencing Mexican village life, should head to Pescadero, Cerritos and Todos Santos. They are less than an hour’s drive north along the Pacific.
The Q is now by the sea, bringing luxury oceanfront living above and beyond. We invite you to play, grow, indulge and design your ultimate Los Cabos experience within the Private Side of Cabo, Querencia.

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Hang in there. We all need to have just a little more faith. We have been promised that our state has finally found some aluminum and are stamping out license plates right now and we will have them by the end of the month, April. However, we have been promised that for more than a year and no plates have shown up yet, so we recommend you do not hold your breath. Meanwhile, keep that paper license plate in your window or you will be pulled over, and who needs that?

Or you could buy a Betty Boop license plate on eBay. They also have Elvis plates but they show the state of Tennessee on them, and who wants to drive around like they’re from Tennessee?

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Panama Papers Worrisome For Expats
The tax collectors all over the world are getting just too damn clever

By Orlando Gotay

Over the course of the past few weeks we have added new words to the lexicon: Panama Papers. That refers to millions of documents leaked from a Panama law firm. They suggest that hundreds, and possibly thousands had, through intricate networks of business entities, succeeded in concealing the location, origin and ownership of a massive amount of assets—worth billions of dollars—out of the reach of tax collectors for countries all over the world. What does this mean for you? For Mexico? And are you the last person on the planet not using your share of tax loop holes?

The roster of folks involved is interesting because of their collective high profile. The Icelandic prime minister stepped down as angry constituents let him know their feelings about his hiding money from their government tax collectors. What of the collateral consequences the Panama Papers will have on Mr. or Mrs. Ordinary Expat... folks like you and I?

No U.S. expat worth his or her salt ignores U.S. Treasury efforts to identify those who have unfulfilled fiscal obligations. FATCA, initially seen by many as overreach by the U.S. in the fiscal sovereignty of other countries, began yielding results: prosecutions of individuals involved in schemes to conceal assets have resulted in scores of "voluntary" disclosures. You had better be one of those.

Little by little, other tax authorities began understanding that the American idea was one they could implement in their own way. The Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development has developed a common reporting standard for financial assets. Member countries will begin cross reporting assets owned by nationals of member countries, adopting the spirit of FATCA if not its form.

The Panama Papers provide fuel to the fire in the war against undeclared income and assets, suggesting there is far more out there to be scooped up. The low hanging fruit will go first. What will happen when all those are... CONTINUED ON PAGE 23

Keep your money in your pocket! Cigna is our newest program that you all have wanted. This plan pays direct to the provider world-wide with unlimited benefits. No need to pay from your pocket and this program is tailored to fit your needs up to unlimited maximum benefits. Call Bob for an appointment on this one...

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So Is Your U.S. Will Good Here?

Ha ha ha ha ha. That’s a good one

BY ORLANDO GOTAY

You are a prepared person. When you moved to Mexico, you sat down and made sure that your will, (which you wrote out some years ago in the States, when you married), reflected that you had purchased that shiny gem of a villa, where you now hang out and enjoy beautiful sunsets—and maybe even spin Sinatra records while wearing Tony Bahama shirts.

You feel good, because your papers are in order. Well, on paper, that is.

One of the key decisions made in a will is the designation of the executor (or executrix, if a she). This person will be in charge of marshaling your assets, tallying them up, paying your debts, and distributing your remaining assets according to your wishes. Does that person even know how to get to Mexico? I know, I know…but you may get the point. If you own assets in Mexico that comprise part of your estate, your executor had better be able to, willing, and frankly interested in getting his or her hands wet down here. I believe that a remote executor could be a recipe for disaster and could lead to dissipation of assets.

You could say “I can appoint someone local I trust to deal with this”—and that could be part of the solution. But beware: the executor of a U.S. person may acquire responsibilities with regard to the estate with federal (and state) taxing authorities. Your executor must know what those are, and most Mexican professionals are not familiar with this.

Perhaps you can consider appointing a main executor and a secondary executor for boots on the ground here in Mexico to coordinate whatever needs done here, one with overall responsibility and the other vested with authority to perform locally. Some acts by the executor have to be done personally, or best understood if seen firsthand, and the expense of making those several trips by the executor could put a dent even in larger estates, not to mention delay.

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure and the will you drafted back in your stateside days may not be best suited to meet your current needs.

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.
Ask a Mexican

1. Armando Chavez Urquiza, 65, builder. I believe he gets support because there's good and bad Mexicans everywhere, and unfortunately many of the ones who go the US, like me, have no education. I tried to merge in the system though, I tried to be like them and at the end they don't want us there because they are afraid US will end up like Mexico, which is a little crazy, because when it comes to cheap labour they do want us.

2. Carmen Solís, 36, accountant. Trump gets support from the white Americans because they feel threatened by Mexicans. Of course, not all of his supporters are white, but the great majority. Our people are smart, hardworking and unfortunately very sneaky, so we find ways to bend and work systems in our favor. Maybe they don't want us there because they are afraid US will end up like Mexico, which is a little crazy, because when it comes to cheap labour they do want us.

3. Diana Galvez Salcedo, 26, secretary. Americans don't want us on until the US becomes white. We are the same way with South Americans, we look down at them and feel superior because we are Mexican, and that's wrong. Of course, we are a big part of their economy with cheaper labor and lower expectations, but many companies in the US are starting to be “all American” even if they spend a little more, they rather employ their own people before anyone else, and that's not a bad thing. Trump is a great businessman and looking for the presidency is a good business move for all Americans because they feel threatened by Mexicans. Of course, not all of his supporters are white, but the great majority. Our people are smart, hardworking and unfortunately very sneaky, so we find ways to bend and because we take their healthcare and stuff like that. But also, because Americans ask for too much money for work, and Mexicans are used to low paychecks, so, of course, the patrons rather spend less in labour and we technically “take their jobs”. Which wouldn't happen if Americans worked properly and hard like us. They want us out because they think they will be better off but that’s not true, who is going to build their houses and grow their veggies? Once Mexicans are out, there will be problems with another race and so the jobs they don't want to get their hands dirty with. Why does he want us out? Maybe because he knows we are smart enough to take our territory back? I'm not sure but I don't see a good reason why he is behaving like this. Also, I don't understand how come he has so many supporters, he is a terrible man, he is not nice or funny, but there are all different kinds of people in God's world.

4. Gabriel Rivera Diaz, 46, driver. I think Mr Trump is out of his mind, wanting Mexicans out of his country, we are entitled to our part of the US and everything they stole. Besides, we have built that country, we have taken care of their kids and done all poorly and affecting Americans. We are the same way with South Americans, we look down at them and feel superior because we are Mexican, and that’s wrong. Of course, we are a big part of their economy with cheaper labor and lower expectations, but many companies in the US are starting to be “all American” even if they spend a little more, they rather employ their own people before anyone else, and that's not a bad thing. I think his principle is not all wrong, it's just not properly managed or expressed. He could compromise a little bit, getting more strict with immigration manners, to keep Mexicans from trying to get around the system.

5. Kenneth Maldonado Ruiz, 22, salesman. He wants us out because many Mexicans who go after the American dream end up behaving poorly and affecting Americans. We are the same way with South Americans, we look down at them and feel superior because we are Mexican, and that’s wrong. Of course, we are a big part of their economy with cheaper labor and lower expectations, but many companies in the US are starting to be “all American” even if they spend a little more, they rather employ their own people before anyone else, and that's not a bad thing. I think his principle is not all wrong, it's just not properly managed or expressed. He could compromise a little bit, getting more strict with immigration manners, to keep Mexicans from trying to get around the system.

6. Nora Guzman Guzman, 27, nutritionist. Trump is a great businessman and looking for the presidency is a good business move for all Americans because they feel threatened by Mexicans. Of course, not all of his supporters are white, but the great majority. Our people are smart, hardworking and unfortunately very sneaky, so we find ways to bend and because we take their healthcare and stuff like that. But also, because Americans ask for too much money for work, and Mexicans are used to low paychecks, so, of course, the patrons rather spend less in labour and we technically “take their jobs”. Which wouldn't happen if Americans worked properly and hard like us. They want us out because they think they will be better off but that’s not true, who is going to build their houses and grow their veggies? Once Mexicans are out, there will be problems with another race and so the jobs they don't want to get their hands dirty with. Why does he want us out? Maybe because he knows we are smart enough to take our territory back? I'm not sure but I don't see a good reason why he is behaving like this. Also, I don't understand how come he has so many supporters, he is a terrible man, he is not nice or funny, but there are all different kinds of people in God's world.

This Week's Question is: Why do you think Americans support Trump when he says keep Mexicans out? Why do you think so many Americans don’t want Mexicans in the United States?
showing critters at the ciclovia, (bicycle event), on Sunday mornings (This is currently not happening due to a lack of Sunday volunteers).

White party at Sandos Finisterra resort on Wednesday evenings (currently not happening due to lack of volunteers).

Please email me if you are interested in volunteering for one of those activities.

Please make sure you check out our Facebook page and website for updates, upcoming events, promotions offered, and business that support us, as well as more ways to get involved.

We thank you for your continued support.

supplements of color photos, and aerial maps, floor plans of ruins, then going forward with stories of the historical characters we are all familiar with, and ending with current Mexican news.

In the first section, A Portrait of Mexico, there are sections on Indigenous people, Mexican muralists, landscapes and wildlife, music and dance, Mexican architecture, and architecture of the churches. There is also an ongoing timeline including Mayan numerals and a sampling of glyphs, and codices that is of interest.

Mexico Through the Year has a calendar of special days and celebrations, with a special section on Day of the Dead.

Another section is, of course, on Mexico City, (it’s a very large section), and it gives an aerial “glance” map of sights of interest and then street by street showing locations of temples, museums, colleges, and the main square. In further pages, photos and descriptions give each place of interest a closer look. I could hardly believe the number and variety of museums. I read somewhere that Mexico City has more museums in one area, than any other place in the world.

There is another section on the area around Mexico City. Always included are pages on Mexico’s colorful and often violent history, odd facts, maps, and many colored photos of buildings, points of interest, and flora/ fauna. And Frida, Diego, and Trotsky are covered as well.

The Colonial heartland, with street maps of my favorite city, Guanajuato, as well as Morelia, Guadalajara, San Miguel Alende, Tlaquepaque, and others are covered, (all color coded). And then we travel on to Southern Mexico, and the Gulf Coast, and finally venture down into the Yucatan (my next hoped for destination). I knew, but never fully realized how diverse the climates, landmarks, histories, geography, and customs of this nation are.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23
Americans love their tacos.
It's not just a Mexican thing. Last year Americans ate over 4.5 billion tacos. That's 490,000 miles of tacos, which could take you to the moon and back or, if you prefer, could, at 775-million pounds, equal the weight of two Empire State buildings. **You want Fluff & Fold with that?** The first American Gulf gas stations will open in Mexico City and Monterrey this July and while they will try to be competitive in their pricing, says a company spokesman, customer service will be the more important focus. Uh oh. That means bend over. But they might even do your laundry. Geeze, we would be happy if they would just catch the windschild.

Mexico general manager of Gulf, Sergio de la Vega, said the new stations will sell cell phone time and offer laundry service, depending on the region they’re in. Customers will be able to leave their dirty laundry and pick it up later, fluffed and folded.

Another offering that will set Gulf apart from the universally hated and mistrusted Pemex, will be loyalty discounts for frequent gassers. But what people really want to hear is whether prices will come down, acknowledged de la Vega. But he said there are two factors that affect prices and the retail sellers of gas have no control over either one. Yup, for sure that means bend over.

One, he explained, is international prices and the other is taxes.

After starting in Mexico City and Monterrey, the objective is having 2,000 gas stations in three years and 20-25% of the market. Maybe in our time we will see a Gulf station in Baja, but we won’t be saving up our dirty laundry in hopes.

Looking for a job? A Gulf franchise will cost $40,000 U.S., discounted for Pemex owners who will desert over to the enemy. **Guard your sticker.** You know that annual registration sticker you add to your U.S. license plate every year? Well, they’re getting scraped off. Why? What can you do with a curled up, used up, obviously second hand sticker? Hard to put it on another car and pass that off as genuine, but maybe it slides by a Mexican police officer.

Most U.S. states make them hard to remove but if you want to go one better, after you stick the new one on, cut through it a few times with a razor blade. For the truly paranoid, finish your project by brushing clear nail polish over it. Be careful out there! A Todos Santos resident was scammed over the phone into making a deposit of nearly $500 to help a family member. But it gets worse and this is why he’s mad as hell.

When he figured it out, he went to the Todos Santos police who were totally uninterested in taking any information, and kept saying, “don’t send money to anyone who calls with anything suspicious.” He said this about seven times, then then said call later and hung up. The scammer called back and the police hung up again. Says Doug Coffey, “I simply can’t fathom this public servant’s ridiculous attitude. He certainly is in the wrong job. Can you imagine if it were something more serious and the...
The Residences at Solaz, a Luxury Collection Resort, Los Cabos is exclusively represented by Snell Real Estate.

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Come out and enjoy this Artisans Market at the Amela Wilkez Plaza. It takes place every Friday evenings between 5pm-9 pm. You can find original handmade jewelry, homemade food, arts, crafts and original live music.

For more info or if you are a vendor contact in Spanish: Max at 624 108 2250, or in English: tomyrosa@gmail.com

CAN I SPEAK MY COSTA RICA... continued from page 12

Phonetically the most common one is the pronunciation of the C and Z sound. In Mexico, we pronounce the S the same way; passing air through the clenched teeth, in pretty much every-thing. In Spain, some S sounds involve a little more tongue and teeth action. Then, there are grammatical differences, like using “vos” instead of “tu” when saying “you”. Finally, there are vocabulary variations, especially when it comes to semantics: the names of fruits and vegetables, dress items, and daily use objects, the biggest difference being in slang and swear words.

The Royal Spanish Academy (RAE, Real Academia Española) is an institution created in Madrid in 1713, with the goal to make the most comprehensive dictionary in the Spanish language. It is dedicated to the promotion of linguistic unity between or within the various territories that make up the Spanish speaking world, guaranteeing that even through changes in the language occur, it will never break with the original unity of the Spanish language.

After the independence of the Hispanic-American countries, the Royal Spanish Academy promoted the birth of other academies, motivated by the fact that all these new countries had the same language and literary heritage. It was organized in 46 chairs, one that specialized in a letter of the Spanish alphabet; upper and lower case, plus eight chairs from different regions of Spain.

The Academy assembles once a week and to discuss and propose decisions on words. If no agreement can be reached, the proposal is submitted to vote.

As a foreigner in Mexico, it must be tough to speak the language, even if you are carrying a dictionary, as it might give you the Castilian word, not the Mexican word. Of course, we will understand, but we will know you’re Gringo if we can’t tell by your light hair, tourist shorts or sandals. Here are some pointers:

1. Wey (goo-ay): only used with buddies, means dude but it’s a little bit of a swear word. It came from the word buey, bull, continued on page 24
Fish Report

BY GARY GRAHAM

Cabo San Lucas
While the billfish drought that began several months ago still seems to continue, the few stripers that were caught recently is an encouraging sign. Even more exciting is the increased numbers of billfish being spotted recently. Not very aggressive on bait or lures but at least something to look at. Each day a few more needlefish to become a nuisance. All were close to shore in clear view of the guests of the hotels overlooking the Pacific as well as in sight of some fishermen fishing from the beach.

A few miles farther offshore, some boats found enough small yellowfin tuna along with some skipjack and bonito to bend their rods. Most of the action was on the Pacific side for smaller game and tuna — Migrino, Margaritas, San Jaime — while marlin began showing up on the Cortez side between Santa Maria and Punta Gorda.

In spite of it being quite windy and overcast on the Pacific side on some days for awhile, now it’s clear and flat on both sides of Land’s End all the way up into Sea of Cortez.

San Jose
Offshore action has consisted of scattered striped marlin — no large concentrations — but there have been decent numbers found, often within two, three or four miles from shore; striking best on baitfish, they have been found tailing on the surface and anglers have been hooking up while drift fishing with baits down deeper.

Dorado action has continued on page 26

The mild weather has made it’s clear and flat on both sides of the area, but getting them to bite is another deal. There was some good wahoo activity found north of San Luis Bank, but this action has gotten very spotty now.

Most boats are fishing near structure for a combination of snapper, pargo and cabrilla, with an occasional amberjack. Although the La Fortuna, Iman and San Luis Banks have been holding schools of yellowfin tuna, the bite has been on and off. Recently there have been tuna in the 20- to 50-pound class with one occasionally reaching 100 pounds. All have been hooked while drift-fishing with strips of squid. The aggressive sea lions continue to be an ongoing issue waiting for their chance at both the snapper and tuna, and getting more than their share. No yellowtail action but a handful of amberjack — main species being smaller-sized snapper, pargo, triggerfish and bonito.

Inshore action has been mainly for roosterfish and jack crevalle — not a consistent bite so far, but it is improving every week. Bait boats are providing anglers with excellent caballito and mackerel. Some days the caballito are a little large, so if you’re planning to bottom fish you need to lean more towards the “mackies.” The marlin bite continues to improve. Anglers can expect more than one fish a day.

The billfish are more aggressive and are coming up into the pattern so it would be wise to mix it up … troll for a while, and if you get a strike then soak a bait for a while. Wahoo have been around recently. It’s a good idea to have a set-up ready with some steel.

While dorado remain conspicuous by their absence, roosterfish have been numerous and the bite has included a few bigger fish up to about 40-pounders. Jack crevalle were also in the mix for plenty of overall action. Throw in a couple of wahoo plus a good pomepona bite, mostly near the Lighthouse and good barred pargo were taken as well.

La Paz
La Paz/Muertos Bay had the most “consistent” fishing. There were surely A LOT of different species as is characteristic of this time of year. It’s like an aquarium list! About the only thing lacking was a marlin or tuna!

Fish Killers of the Week

This 130-150lb amberjack was caught by Dan Hareland from Placerville California, with boat captain Jaime Arista out of the Puerto Los Cabos marina. Looks like Dan is a better fisherman than photographer, as the picture he sent in is so low resolution we have to squint to figure it out.

Why does Superman stop bullets with his chest, but ducks when you throw a revolver at him?

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It was encouraging to see more roosters in the 20- to 40-pound class close to shore and more than enough tug for most folks. Wahoo hit bait and lures and for every two caught, there were about ten lost. The fish were 20 to 30 pounds. However, larger ones in the 50-pound class were seen and one fish that two of my captains swore was over 70 or 80 pounds

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26
taken into account? Of course, hands are going to reach further and further up the tree. Suddenly, the Ordinary Expat may look like a Mossack Fonseca client. (The name of the company that was first exposed by the Panama Papers).

Aristóteles Nuñez, head of the SAT, (the Mexican IRS), stated his agency has begun to look at the names connected to the Panama Papers, no doubt looking for Mexicans. He allowed that offshore ownership of assets is not necessarily illegal, and I concur. But back to the Ordinary Expat…could he or she expect a paradigm shift? Possibly. We don’t know how much or how soon, but one thing is for certain: the Panama Papers may alter the prospects of increased fiscal vigilance worldwide, even if we are not prime ministers, rock stars or tycoons.

Orlando Gotay is a California licensed tax attorney (with a Master of Laws in Taxation) admitted to practice before the IRS, the US 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.

At the end of this book there is a survival guide, with tips on transportation, (including a metro map of Mexico City), banks and currency, staying healthy, foods and wines, communication, spectator sports, and personal safety. I could not think there is a possible question I might ask that was not covered somewhere in this book, and so I do recommend it to anyone traveling in Mexico.


WHAT’S GOING ON...
continued from page 19

police had absolutely no interest, then said, “call back later.” To be scammed is one thing but the attitude of the police was far more offensive and upsetting than losing the money, he said. “I speak sufficient Spanish to communicate well, but there are hundreds perhaps thousands of English speaking people living in Todos Santos. Would it not be a good idea for the police department to have a person on duty who could speak both languages, just in case there was an emergency? And that that person cared to do his job? More police indifference.

A girl had her phone swiped at the Dairy Queen in downtown Cabo San Lucas. In a miracle of action, the police followed...
Belgium French Fries, a Big Cabo Favorite

Have you tried the fries at Fritz Belgium Fries? The buzz around town is that they are awesome! Fritz is seeing several return and word of mouth customers as good news travels quickly in a community like Los Cabos.

Fritz Belgian Fries are prepared with fresh cut potatoes and deep fried in zero trans-fat oil, prepared within a six-stage process making them simply wonderful; Golden crunchy on the outside and soft & chewy on the inside.

Fries are served with a choice from ten dipping sauces which include Bacon Garlic, Lemon Parmesan and Chipotle Spicy Hot to name a few. And of course, you will find ketchup and vinegar.

Stop by to try them sometime, they are located at the corner/entrance of Giggling Marlin, downtown Cabo san Lucas. You will be delighted you did stop by, as their slogan goes “Try our Fries, You’re Gonna Love Them!”

P.S. They also serve a Bacon Pizza Burrito, absolutely yummy!

View complete menu and order online at CaboFritz.com

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CAN I SPEAK MY COSTA RICA... continued from page 21 making a reference to how bulls are kind of dumb.

2. Qué pedo? (khe pay-doh): also a tiny swear word, very informal way to say “what’s up?” Pedo literally means fart, there is no explanation of how it came to be what it is now, or if there is, I don’t know it.

3. Qué onda? (khe onda): a nicer way of saying what’s up. Onda is a wave, but also an idea.

4. Guapa (goo-apa): to beautiful woman, kind of of “hottie”. Same goes for men, but substitute the final a for o. Guapa has been a word to call beautiful women on a regular basis, not really slang.

5. Pinche (peen-chai): swear word similar to “freaking” but worse. Can be used for pretty much anything. Pinche can be a person who helps in the kitchen or it can refer to pinching literally, pinching between the fingers. There is also no record of how it became such a wide swear word.

All of these have been verified and accepted by the Royal Spanish Academy, which is why I’m explaining them to you. Most of them are accepted in many Spanish speaking countries but not always with the same connotation we give them in Mexico. To learn this kind of street Spanish, befriend a local. You can have fun teaching foreigners bad words like we do with our Gringa boss around the office. First we teach her the bad words and then we try to hustle her up when she blurts them out in polite society. She tends to do that kind of like letting a pedo rip in church.

SHARE IN THE CONFIDENCE
Put Your Agent to the Test!
Here’s Another Local Hike For You

You will get to see how the richly live, and get a grand view of the Pacific side, as well as a bee’s eye view of Cabo San Lucas. It’s a huffer/puffer of a hike

BY RONALD LAFFERTY

This week’s hike went from the East Pedregal entrance, which is inside the Pedregal park across the street from the cultural center in downtown Cabo San Lucas, to the development’s West entrance, which many people don’t even know about. This hike took me one hour and 11 minutes, due to stopping to take pictures for you, and making notes. The journey was 1.8 miles, but burned very few calories, due to the pace. I did this hike a few days earlier at a faster pace with no stops, taking 42.2 minutes, burning 360 calories. Make sure you have shoes that can take the ankle rattling cobblestones inside the housing tract on the hill, and a tote for your organic market purchases.

Continue through the arch entrance, past the security gate continuing upward. Don’t worry about the guard, just hurry past him while looking as little like a Mexican as possible. Sad but true, the guards rarely stop anyone but their own.

You will come to a rattle-snake sculpture (photo op,) and at those steps continue up the road.

As you continue, you will come upon the Pedregal tennis courts on your right. At $12.00 per hour you too can play on these courts, I have. You might want to take more photos of the homes on the hill.

Continue up the road to your left and you will want to take another photo of the beautiful Pacific. When finished, look to your right and you will see a sign that says spa and salida (spa and exit). Go right up that road.

Further up on your right, you can take another photo shot of the tennis courts and the Pacific. Anyway, if you fiddle around with your camera you won’t have to admit you’re winded and need to catch your breath. Continue up and as you get close to the top you will notice new construction in front of you and you will want to go left starting your decent back down to the West exit out of the Pedregal.

Hiking down there will give you several opportunities for photos. As you continue down from this point you will notice a sidewalk on your left which is safer to walk on. You will come to where the road takes a sharp left, but before you go left, walk to your right for great views of Cabo, the marina, and the ocean. Good spot for more photos. At night from here, because sound travels up, you can hear every venue of live music that plays in Cabo.

As you hike down you will see a number of Pedregal condominium complexes, a school, and other Cabo homes. Continue downward following the curved road exiting the West gate entrance to Pedregal.

Just past the security gate on your right you will come to the Penny Lane Cafe and on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 7am to 1pm they host an organic market. Enjoy shopping at the organic market and mingle with Pedregal people who frequent it. You can also enjoy breakfast or lunch at the Penny Lane Cafe. My favorite dish is their French toast with caramelized bananas and vanilla sauce. Yummy!

As you exit the cafe and organic market you can take a right and walk downhill to downtown Cabo and where you began this hike.
was seen swimming around the area, but just wouldn't go!

Inshore near structure and the beaches produced larger than normal sierra up to about eight pounds – some trophy-sized cabrilla (sea bass) and huachinango (red snapper) made for good action.

La Paz was either batting zero or getting a ton of “base hits.” The

pangas that headed to the islands or hit the seamounts looking for larger fish like big yellowtail and amberjack simply struck out. It was just a desert there. Barely anything. It’s surprising also because Sargasso weed is building up so you would think dorado would be rolling under the weed beds. The “base hits” were a whole bunch of tiny, trout-sized dorado was just near outside of La Paz Bay.

Those fish were under five pounds and they were massed there. Just for pure action, imagine schools of giant trout. That’s about it.

Cabo San Lucas

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The History of Pedregal

BY LETICIA DIAZ

A silent and proud mountain stands behind Land’s End. A beacon of luxury and tradition. An inspiration for a community that overlooked the picturesque village of Cabo San Lucas that was bathed by the setting sun over the Pacific Ocean.

Slowly but steadily began the carving of the winding roads throughout the mountain. 370 acres of noble land were giving way to roads, lots and gardens and it was easy to picture yourself living here, waking up to the sunrise coming in through your bedroom window, cooking for family and friends, drifting off to sleep listening to the soft crashing waves. This was Don Manuel’s dream and his desire was to share it with everyone else. And he succeeded.

Pedregal de Cabo San Lucas is the finest and most established residential community in Cabo San Lucas. Its location is quite simply the best in Los Cabos with a perfect mix of exclusivity, Pacific beach frontage, easy access to the bay beach and neighboring Cabo’s energetic city and lifestyle value. The cobblestones lanes are all laid out by hand, each one reflecting old world Mexican charm, encouraging a grounded experience as you walk your way along the mountainous roads, absorbing the view and enjoying the peace within. Its regional stones, unlike pavement, are cooler as they reflect the heat from the sun rather than absorbing it. It is a handicrafted artistic touch by local artisans and represents a humble way of giving back to Mother Nature.

From the moment you drive through the gate and are greeted by the security guards, you can take in the peacefulness of the area, hear the chipping birds and feel the ocean breezes caressing the palm trees. When you walk up and down the streets with the beautiful sun, moon or stars guiding your way and spend the evening reading a book by the beach, you know this is where you belong and where you want your lifestyle memories to take place.

Architectural guidelines

Continued on Page 32
The Fideicomiso
What happens when the primary titleholder dies?

BY LINDA JONES NEIL

Article 27 of the Mexican Constitution prohibits ownership of real property by foreigner along the borders and coastlines of the country. This issue was resolved by implementation of the Mexican bank trust, the fideicomiso, in which a Mexican banking institution holds fee simple title for the beneficiary of the trust, the foreigner, who has all the rights of a Mexican national in terms of usage, rental, sale, modification, etc. to the property.

Many object to using the trust saying it is cumbersome and expensive. The banks charge an annual fee of $350 to $500 USD simply for holding title. When compared to the property taxes that one normally pays in his or her native country, however, the expense seems modest. Besides this is the ONLY legal way to hold title to a residence in the restricted zone of Mexico.

One of the major benefits of holding title in the Mexican bank trust, the fideicomiso, is that the owner of the property in trust has the right to name heirs and substitute beneficiaries within the corpus of the trust. This eliminates the need for a probate proceeding in a Mexican court which can take a year and cost several thousand dollars.

Thus, Joe and Margaret Smith, as owners of the beneficial rights under the trust for their beachfront home, may then name themselves as substitutes and then their children as substitutes when Joe and Margaret pass on. So Joe dies and Margaret obtains full ownership, then when Margaret deceases, Johnny and Joa, their children, can come into full ownership as the owners of the beneficial rights. All of this without a court proceeding provided it is set up correctly within the fideicomiso contract.

Procedure and costs: When the primary beneficiary(ies) pass on, the substitutes must pres-

continued on page 29
April 18th, 2016

**REAL ESTATE SECTION**

**Why The Exchange Rate Makes This A Buyer’s Market**

Viva Mexico and the Peso, which is the countries currency.

**BY LISA WELSCH**

Most to all real estate listings are advertised in USD and funds are transferred into a secure USD trust account with escrow. The most important thing for any buyer/seller to know is that the title reflects the exchange rate of the day of closing and translates the USD value into pesos. This peso value stated in your title is the basis for determining capital gains tax for the Seller and determining the tax base for the Buyer.

The peso has devaluated to approximately $18 MN to $1USD therefore if you purchase a property for $100,000,000USD X $18MN = $1,800,000,000MN that now becomes your tax base for the day you sell. Many Seller’s purchased their properties not so long ago when the exchange rate was at $10MN to $1USD therefore a Seller’s base then becomes $1,000,000MN and the capital gains tax utilizes this value.

Here is a graph of the exchange rate for the Mexican peso over the last 10 years.

As you can see it is at an all-time low!! That translates to a greater Pesos value on the purchase of your property.

Now is the time to take advantage and maximize your purchase!

By Lisa Welsch, Coldwell Banker Riveras, lwelsch@cbriveras.com, 612-140-1414 Mex Cell or 858-764-0609 USA Line.

**THE FIDEICOMISO.. continued from page 28**

owner. Licensed as a California real estate broker, she has pursued her profession in Mexico for over forty years. Her skills in negotiating contracts between parties from three distinct cultures have placed her services in demand as a consultant and for speaking engagements on Mexican law and customs in Mexico, the United States and Canada. She has been widely published on the subject of real property in Mexico.

Julie Kershner was licensed in Washington State in 1992 and worked as a Realtor® for twelve years before following the sun full-time to Baja. She is the Broker/Office Manager for Los Cabos Sotheby’s International Realty in San Jose del Cabo. She has been President of the Los Cabos Multiple Listing Association and recently served as President of the Association of Mexican Real Estate Professionals (AMPI) in Los Cabos, the Mexican equivalent of the National Association of Realtors. She holds the prestigious designation of Certified International Property Specialist and the title of Resort and Second-Home Property Specialist from the National Association of Realtors. Julie is an instructor for the Trans-National Referral Certification from the International Consortium of Real Estate Associations (ICREA) and is a member of FIABCI, the International Real Estate Federation. Her affiliations also include the International Resort Symposium, and the Women’s Council of Realtors. 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What's New in Real Estate?

BY CYNDI WILLIAMS

The Four Seasons is coming to Baja!

It's official, according to Robb Reports breaking news! In 2018 Four Seasons will open its first property in Los Cabos. The 145 room retreat with 5 star amenities will be located in the Costa Palmas Development of La Ribera. The resort will feature an 18 hole Robert Trent II golf course, an international marina that can accommodate yachts up to 250 feet and a Marina Village with boutiques and cafes. Looks like La Ribera has finally hit the big time.

What's all the action on the Corridor!

Solaz, the mega project located on the carretera is cranking out sales and construction. The news just in. They are only days away from unveiling the first model home.

Chileno Bay update. Bald Mountain is out and Discovery Land is in. Snell Real Estate the exclusive agent for the Chileno Bay project reports over $60,000,000 in sales and new contracts since Christmas and the pace is expected to continue with the Discovery Land Company acquisition.

Vie Vage Los Cabos. A beachfront luxury resort set in a quiet cove within the Chileno Bay project, is set to open this fall. The first phase of this development features a 29 room luxury Boutique hotel and 32 Contemporary 3-4 bedroom Villas. The project boasts every 5 star amenity one could desire and a Tom Fazio designed golf course. 22 units are currently sold or under contract leaving only 10 up for grabs in the first phase. Guess we could say they are selling out fast.

ON THE PACIFIC

Todos Santos sports a new apartment complex right in the heart of Downtown. Urban living comes to town. The complex consists of 7 units ranging in price from $119,500 to $144,500 USD. Units are delivered fully equipped and furnished. Secure, walled and gated. The one and only new units available for sale in downtown Todos Santos. You can bet these are going to be great investments.

(Callcoordinated by Cyndi Williams, Broker of Cabo Premier. 624-158-8650).

REAL ESTATE SECTION

To search all of the listings available in the MLS, visit: www.mlseinbajasur.com
Mediation, Not Litigation
Use a short cut to resolving legal disputes

BY DON D. NELSON

The Courts in Baja are backlogged with approximately 10,000 cases pending. Sometimes it can take 5-10 years to get a decision. There is an economical and speedy alternative in Baja..... Mediation. Statistically disputing parties that go to mediation usually resolve their differences and reach a written compromise over fifty percent of the time. If an agreement cannot be reached during mediation most often the parties continue to arbitration where a binding decision is reached by an arbitrator and that decision is entered in the Courts as a judgment.

There are 6 steps to a formal mediation; 1) the parties chose a mediator they both agree on, 2) statement of the problem by the parties to the mediator, 3) information gathering time by the mediator, 4) identification of the problems by the parties and help them reach a compromise agreement in writing signed by all parties. The mediator can be an attorney, accountant or engineer. Whichever would have the best expertise to help resolve your dispute. The mediator can be a Mexican, American or Canadian.

How do you set up a mediation? The best method is to include a mediation clause requiring mediation if there is a disagreement in the real estate or business contract. That means the parties have agreed in advance should a disagreement occur, it will be resolved by mediation. That paragraph is most often combined with an agreement to arbitrate the dispute if not agreement can be reached in the mediation proceeding. The second best method if there is a problem that the parties cannot resolve between them is to enter an agreement to arbitrate.

Due to the high cost of litigation and the lengthy time required, in the US the majority of real estate, and business contracts have an mediation and arbitration clause written in before they are signed. There are specific laws in Mexico that allow for mediation and arbitration are in some situations are even better than those in the US. When you enter into your next business agreement or real estate contract, you should request a mediation and arbitration clause be included. In the unlikely event your deal goes bad, these provisions can save you many years of stress in Court and hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal and court fees. If you email the author of this article at the email address below, he can provide you with suggested wording for the mediation and arbitration

paragraph.

The Author: Don D. Nelson is a US Attorney and retired CPA with over 35 years experience in business, real estate, estate planning and tax law. He lives in Los Cabos. He can be reached at mediatearbitrage@gmail.com.

SOLDS
1) Lote 4 Quintas Venado Blanco. Cerro Colorado. Right next door to Cadillac dealership. its 1000 mt2 $290,000 USD. Sold 16-747.D.Robles/Platinum Realty
2) Mykonos 401A, MLS 15-232. Furnished 1 bdrm/1 ba condo with ocean view in an ocean front community in Costa Azul. $156,000 USD. M. Gutierrez/Baja Realty and Investment
3) Misiones 7702, Luxury 2 bdrm/2 ba condo with straight on arch views, furnished. Misiones del Cabo. $433,750 USD. G. Reddeman/RelMax Cabo San Lucas and C. Miller/Baja realty and Investment.
4) Mykonos 8501, 1 bed, 1 bath, fully furnished beachfront condo in San Jose del Cabo. $183,000 USD. MLS 15-2538, A.O'Reilly/Dream Homes and J. Mora/Baja Smart

World Class Development
Punta Ballena

Nestled off the main highway with a tranquil sense of entry and the whale's tail fountain paying homage to the moniker, in English Whale Point, in Spanish Punta Ballena. It is not only anchored by Esperanza Resort, but it also contains two single family home communities within.

Las Villas consists of 28 homes, and Las Residencias encompasses 51 homesites with homes in the price range of $1.9-8.95m.

Residents may enjoy the Punta Ballena Beach Club, an oceanfront amenity complete with beach, gym, restaurant, bar, and unobstructed views of Land's End. There are three tennis courts and walking trails throughout the 176 acres.

Esperanza Is a world class development, and a new restaurant will be opening to complement the five Esperanza restaurants and round out the decadence of Punta Ballena's offerings, making it one of the most exclusive neighborhoods in Los Cabos.

Contact www.esperanzarealestate.com and 877-615-8187 and

IT'S LIKE CABO 30 YEARS AGO

Come discover Los Barriles, a small laid back beach town on the Sea of Cortez with world class fishing, kite boarding, snorkeling and safe swimmable beaches. It's just 1 hr north of the San Jose del Cabo airport.

BajaLandandHomes.com
US 714-944-5700 Baja 624-204-9063
Homes starting at $85,000 to $1,750,000.

www.mlsinbajasur.com
To search all of the listings available in the MLS, visit:

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allow for a diverse and picturesque selection of styles and flavors to co-exist, inviting home-site buyers and investors to freely express their preferences and designs within a wide range of styles and color palettes; always protecting present and future property and investment values. Re-sales, land appreciation and home value within Pedregal continue to set the record year after year with an average appreciation of 11% every year. Undeveloped land is becoming scarce, as living here is a coveted opportunity.

Among the value and amenities within Pedregal, residents can find preferred access to a secluded beach; a tennis club; a desalination plant to continually and generously provide water to the community as a whole; beautifully kept common areas, gardens, children’s park and basketball court; The SPA at Pedregal, a favorite with lap pool, dedicated spa treatments and gym.

Right on the grounds there is an outstanding academic opportunity for children at Colegio El Camino, the only International Baccalaureate (IB) World School in the Baja. The school recently achieved the lofty status of accreditation in the US through the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS AdvanceD) and is currently in the process of becoming the American School of Los Cabos.

Across from the school you will find the Los Cabos Organic Market, a local farmer’s market that twice a week offers a fresh selection of organic vegetables and regional artisan products. But what really sets Pedregal apart is the sense of community, pride and comradery among its residents. Be it a casual beach neighbor gathering or to help those in need and recover from a hurricane, each resident values greatly their property by honoring those around him.

Pedregal is a deep-rooted and long-standing development in Cabo San Lucas. It is, and will always be, a pioneer in Cabo’s luxury communities. By Leticia Diaz Rivera, Pedregal de Cabo San Lucas Development, daughter of original developer and broker of Coldwell Banker Riveras, info@pedregal. com, Ph (624) 143.1359.

New listings released at VieVage Los Cabos, a contemporary resort community featuring residential villas and world-class amenities along one of Cabo’s most coveted stretches of coastline.

Call to arrange a private guided tour with complimentary transportation.
In Cabo, please call: 624.172.8522 • From USA or Canada, please call: 800.916.12902 vievageloscabos.com • info@vievageloscabos.com

Auberge Resorts Collection
Vie Vage Los Cabos is owned and developed by SV CB Hotel, S. de R.L de C.V., a Mexican limited liability company. No offers to purchase will be accepted or solicited from any person who resides in a jurisdiction where the offering has not been registered or is not exempt from applicable registration requirements. Neither Auberge Resorts LLC nor any of its affiliates or related persons (the “Auberge Group”) is related to, affiliated with, or a partner in the business of SV Capital or any of its affiliates or related persons, and no representation, warranty or guarantee is made or implied by the Auberge Group in respect of any statement or information made or contained in this ad. Neither the Auberge Group nor any of its directors, officers, employees or agents has or will have any responsibility or liability arising out of, or related to, this ad or the transactions contemplated by this ad, including any liability or responsibility for any statement or information made or contained in this ad.

Old aerial photos from many years ago
Commonly Used Real Estate Terms

Read this and learn to talk to the lingo. Or at least understand it when it's talked at you.

BY L. GALINDO

There are several useful common terms that can be found and applied to a foreign buying real estate in Mexico.

**Apostille:** This is a legal certification of a foreign Notary Public’s seal. In the USA, this certification is performed by the Secretary of State of the state in which the Notary Public resides. Mexican authorities may require this for documents notarized in the USA. The Apostille is used in several countries, Canada not being one of them.

**Assignment of Rights:** Term used when the seller of a property currently has a Fideicomiso and transfers his rights to a seller without the need to create a new Fideicomiso.

**Balloon Payment:** The remaining balance, at maturity, on a loan that has not been completely repaid through periodic payments. Once paid, the outstanding balance is zero.

**Capital Gains Tax:** It is the tax applied to the gain in the sale of a property. Currently the rate is 35% for foreigners though there may be some exceptions depending on the seller’s nationality or origin.

**CC & R’s:** Rules of general application governing the relations between land owners in a specific subdivision, development, condominium development or cooperative housing facility.

**Certificate of No Lien:** The document issued by the office of Public Registry of Property and Commerce certifying there are no recorded liens against the property.

**Closing Costs:** Monies spent by a party in completing a transaction, over and above the purchase price, including legal fees, taxes, trust fees, mortgage application charges, registration fees, appraisal fees, etc.

**Earnest Money:** A sum of money to bind an offer or agreement, which is usually deposited into an escrow account.

**Escrow:** The deposit of funds with a neutral third party who is instructed to carry out the provisions of an agreement. The escrow company’s role in a closing process is merely to hold funds and disburse as instructed.

**Fideicomiso:** Trust in which foreigners can own land within the restricted zone (100 kilometers from the country boarders and 50 kilometers from the coast in Mexico). The buyer of the property is designated beneficiary of the trust where a Mexican bank acts as fiduciary and carries out the instructions of the beneficiary who has the same rights as an owner would have.

**Fiduciary:** A Mexican bank who holds title and control over property and manages it for another person called a beneficiary. A Fiduciary cannot act on a sale or purchase of a property without the express written instructions of the beneficiary.

**Homeowners Association Fees:** They are charged paid to the Homeowners Association by the owners of the individual units in a condominium or planned development and are generally used to cover the operation and common areas.

**Notary Publics:** Attorney’s specializing in Real Estate Law who have been appointed by the State Government. They are the only ones authorized to convey Real Estate property.

**Official Appraisal:** A type appraisal required for basically any real estate transaction even if there is no financing involved. This appraisal may not reflect the commercial value of the property as it is based in values approved by the Municipal Government by zone.

**Power of Attorney:** A legal document that authorizes another person to act on one’s behalf. They can be granted in Mexico without any special requirements. If they are granted abroad, the Apostille may be required.

**Promissory Note:** The primary legal financing obligation in which the borrower promises to pay back a sum of money borrowed.

**Promissory Note:** The primary legal financing obligation in which the borrower promises to pay back a sum of money borrowed.

**Settlement Statement:** A document that authorizes another person to act on one’s behalf. They can be granted in Mexico without any special requirements. If they are granted abroad, the Apostille may be required.

**Survey:** A map showing the precise legal boundaries of a property, the location of improvements, easements, rights of way, encroachments, and other physical features.

**Trustor:** The person who brings the property to a Fideicomiso, which is usually the seller.

If you have not found the term that you are looking for or have any doubts about your real estate transaction, feel free to email me at lgalindo@chrlawras.com.

Roof maintenance isn’t that hard

BY GARY KAUFPAM

Repairing or replacing your roof can be expensive. Spending a few minutes every six months looking closely at your roof can help you identify roof maintenance needs that will help prevent costly repairs later.

**Roof maintenance:** What to look for:

It’s critical that you inspect your roof every spring and fall.

The 3 most common types of roofs found here in the Los Cabos Area are:

- Flat roofs with a water proof membrane
- Flat roofs with a torch down membrane
- Tiled roofs

Water proof membrane roofs are a Liquid roofing application of a monolithic, fully bonded, liquid based coating to a roof. The coating cures to form a rubber-like elastomeric waterproof membrane, capable of stretching and returning to its original shape without any cracks or leaks in the roof. The membranes are usually reinforced with additional materials like fiberglass cloth to provide additional strength. The coating applied over the most traditional roofing materials.

If you find any problems call a Roofing Contractor.

If you see any signs of leaking, like dark spots on the ceiling, or mold or dampness take action immediately. Roof leaks get worse and then it’s better to spend a few dollars on roof maintenance rather than a lot on a big repair.

Other roof maintenance issues:

If you encounter on my roof inspection:

- Pruning or removing any branches that are hanging over the roof to prevent damage

Especially inspect and clean gutters:

- Sweep or blow off excess debris on the roof. Sticks, leaves, palm branches, golf balls and other debris can damage shingles, cause algae to grow and eventually clog the roof drains.

- Trim any branches that are hanging over the roof to prevent damage

If you find any areas of concern call a Roofing Contractor.

To inspect a flat roof with water proof membrane, walk the roof and look for areas where the membrane is blistered or peeling. Sometimes a fiberglass fabric is applied along with the water proof membrane so check to see that the fabric is not ripped or deteriorating. If you find any areas of concern call a Roofing Contractor.

Torch down roofing is a type of roofing that consists of levels of fiberglass--heat-adhered to layers of modified bitumen--similar to asphalt--heat-adhered to layers of fiberglass. Used only for flat or nearly-flat roofs, torch down roofing is an excellent means of preventing moisture build-up and if properly installed will last for years. To inspect a torch down roof walk the roof and inspect all torch teans seams to see if they are deteriorating or peeling. If you find any areas of concern call a Roofing Contractor.

Tiled roofs are covered with clay tiles which come in various colors and some tiles are stronger than others. You have to be especially careful to walk a tiled roof.

Try and spread your weight between two tiles and once you can walk on the ridge beam or “capallette” you can walk a little easier as these tiles are usually cemented in. Inspect the entire tiled roof area looking for cracked, loose or missing tiles.

If you find any problems call a Roofing Contractor.

If you see any signs of leaking, like dark spots on the ceiling, or mold or dampness take action immediately. Roof leaks get worse and then it’s better to spend a few dollars on roof maintenance rather than a lot on a big repair.

Other roof maintenance issues:

The most common problem I encounter on my roof inspections is the amount of debris on the roof and especially in front of the roof drains:

- Sweep or blow off excess debris on the roof. Sticks, leaves, palm branches, golf balls and other debris can damage shingles, cause algae to grow and eventually clog the roof drains.

- Trim any branches that are hanging over the roof to prevent damage

Especially inspect and clean gutters:

- Sweep or blow off excess debris on the roof. Sticks, leaves, palm branches, golf balls and other debris can damage shingles, cause algae to grow and eventually clog the roof drains.

Specialized in Real Estate Law who has the Advisory Council of AMPI and has experience with various areas in the field.

After reviewing the real estate documents, the purchase contract and any other agreements, the Real Estate Law attorney will guide you through the process of signing all the necessary documents.

If you have any questions or need legal advice, don’t hesitate to contact me. I am dedicated to providing you with the best legal representation possible.

By L. Galindo
Almost 40% of preschoolers in Southern Baja California suffer from food insecurity, according to a study conducted by the USDA Foreign Agricultural Service on Food Security & Nutrition in Mexico. That's way above the national Mexican average where chronic malnutrition in children under five is about 13%. Causes of poor nutrition can be related to culture, environment, resources, location, and access.

To help address this food poverty, the ICF (International Community Foundation), along with local social, government and business organizations in Southern Baja, formed the Southern Baja Food Security Alliance (SBFSA) to improve food security within the region and promote access to healthy and fresh food for low income and at-risk families. This alliance is working with organizations and projects already in place to promote long-term food security and not just gifts of food.

One of the goals of the Food Security Alliance is to harvest and make available to the community the produce that isn’t good enough for export, and is left in the fields to rot or is disposed of in the packing sheds. They want to establish food rescue and distribution teams to make this food available to free meal kitchens.

One way the government is involved is through the meal kitchens supported by SEDECO and the Victory Gardens Feed Soup (Tortilla)Kitchens.
**Calendar of Performing Arts**

**CENTRO DE ARTES Y CULTURAS POPULARES**

From April 20 on. Monday to Friday, 8:00 am to 8:00 pm. Oaxaca pottery exhibition. Information in English/Spanish. On Madero St. between 5 de Mayo and Independencia, across the street from Velasco garden. Free.

**TROPIC OF CANCER AT MIRAFLORES**

May 21. Saturday. 7:00 pm. Full Moon Nights Rural Edition at the Tropic of Cancer center on the road to Los Barriles. First time the Tropic of Cancer celebrates a full moon night with a bohemian festival with live music, reading, poetry, reginal history, local artistic work exhibition, gastronomy, and more. Looking for more artists to celebrate every full moon at this geographical point of interest. Spanish. axlxaxn@gmail.com.

**CABO SAN LUCAS**

**CASA DE LA DANZA**

April 21. Monday. On De la Roca St. and Costa Azul St. At the barrio Hojajen.

**DOS JIMMYS**

Main Street across from the Puerto Paraiso Mall.

April 21. Thursday. 9:00 pm. La Mama-Cabaret. Comedy-Cabaret: Irreverent, daring monologue by Gonzalo Garcia. Spanish. Tickets 100 pesos. 624 143 6080.

April 23. Saturday. 8:00 pm. Sleepover Dance. International Dance Day celebration. All night long performance, videos, conferences, video chat and more, all about dance.

Elea Casiano mail: casadeladanza.loscabos@gmail.com

Spanish. 624 171 9117.

**CULTURAL PAVILION**

April 29. Friday. 5:00 pm. International Dance Day celebration. Best known dance groups show some of their work and choreographies commemorating Dance Day. Coordinated by dance community and the city's department of culture. Spanish. For teens and older audience. Free. Info and dance groups' registration Fabiola Garcia Cel.: 624 122 3208. Email: didloscabos2016@hotmail.com


April 30. Saturday. 10:00 am. The Kids and the Dance. Celebrating International Dance Day, the city's department of culture and the dance community bring to the kids a dance show by kids. Different academies participating with different styles of dance. Spanish. Free. For info and dance groups' registration contact Fabiola Garcia Cel.: 624 122 3208. Email: didloscabos2016@hotmail.com

May 14. Thursday. 8:00 pm. The Most Beautiful Boleros of The World. Romantic songs with orchestra, mariachi and trios with tenor Daniel Silva to celebrate Mother's day. Spanish. Cel: 624 355 4978.

**ARREMANGO Bar across main drag from fire house in Cabo.**

May 1. Sunday. 8:00 pm. Not Princesses Neither Slaves - Baja tour. Cabaret-comedy. Monologs about the difficulties to be a woman from the perspective of a housewife, a prostitute and an educated intellectual woman. The tour is part of the awareness campaign to generate positive changes in Mexican society. Spanish. Free. Phone: 612 136 9076.

**SAN JOSE MAIN PLAZA**

April 24. Sunday. 6:00 pm. International Dance Day celebration. Main event with a different dance group and different styles shows a little of the dance talent of Los Cabos at the Main Plaza. Coordinated by dance community and the city's department of culture. Spanish. All audiences. Free. Info and dance groups' registration with Fabiola Garcia Cel.: 624 122 3208. Email: didloscabos2016@hotmail.com

**SAN JOSE CULTURAL HOUSE downtown.**

April 21. Thursday. 7:00 pm. Cultural Saturdays at Casa de Cultura. Folk Ballet Mejill Tamania. Folk dance show with students of the Municipal Folk Ballet. Downtown San Jose. Spanish. All audiences. 20 pesos donation.

April 23. Saturday. 7:00 pm. Cultural Saturdays at Casa de Cultura. Singing and guitar. Downtown San Jose. Spanish. All audience. 20 pesos donation.

May, Jun and July. Saturdays. 7:00 pm. Cultural Saturdays at Casa de Cultura. Every Saturday a different show of a different activity. Jazz and hip hop, Arabic dance, salsa dance and more. Spanish, but come on, it's dance and dance knows no language barrier. 20 pesos donation.

**LA PAZ City Theater**

April 21. Thursday. 8:00 pm. Not Princesses Neither Slaves - Baja tour. Cabaret-comedy play. Three monologs about the difficulties to be a woman from the perspective of a housewife, a prostitute and an educated intellectual woman. The tour is part of the awareness campaign to generate positive changes in Mexican society. Spanish. Text on site. Phone: 612 136 9076.

**ALIANZA FRANCESA**

Every Tuesday. 6:00 pm. Different French film each week. Alianza Francesa cultural center at 525 Gomez Farias St. between Republica St and Guerrero St. Esterito town, La Paz. facebook.com/alianzafrancesalapaz. Spanish, French, English and other languages. Free.

Every Friday. 6:00 pm. International films movie club.

**CENTRO CULTURAL LA PAZ**

From Monday to Friday from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm. On permanent display, permanent photography collective exhibition that highlights the cultural identity of Baja California Sur. In the Codex Peninsula of the Centro Cultural La Paz, on 16 de Septiembre at the corner of Belisario Dominguez. Text is in English and Spanish. Free.

**TODOS SANTOS MAIN PLAZA**

April 23. Saturday. Gastrovino Festival. The Polyphonic Choir of Los Cabos called Fabuladanza. Artists form La Circo and others perform. Lota wine and food tastings, this is a biggie.

**Community Reading Lounges**

**AMELIA WILKES PLAZA**

цы центра культурных носителей

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

At **PLAZA COTA.**

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

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

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

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

From Monday to Friday. 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm. La Maroma Reading club. Books available. More info and special activities on Facebook: facebook.com/Sala-de-lectura-La-Mar%C3%A1ska-Kinesis-Fabuladanza-691039797630803/timeline

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

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

**LaCirco-577897035553733/timeline**
CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

In English (La Paz) Crossroads Christian Fellowship. Sharing the living water of Jesus with thirsty people. 3124 Aboso between Sonora and Sinaloa. (Up the alley under the Crossroads sign) Call Milton Sanders at 6121375767 or 612191832. www.crossroadsla-paz.org

NEXT DEADLINE IS TUESDAY, APRIL 26th, 2016

ALFONSO COLECCIO and Miguel Herrera.
Cabo on the corner of Camino duplex you purchased in 2002 in Pay your outstanding debt on the
casa. pictures and details go to http://www.
is a perfect Baja fishing boat and
generator, air conditioned. Includes
four stroke outboards. Tuna tower,
FOR SALE. 2002 and La Paz. Call 624-158-8650 (tf)
Opportunity available for San Jose State of Baja California Sur. Ce-
vio security. Big Spots. www.mountain- security. Between Costco and San
aro’s. (Up the alley
miles, 6 spd, LT1 engine. Patriot
maroon w black top. Ontario plated.
original owner. The perfect boys
toy for cabo! $19K US. rickrand2@
gmail.com Rick. (TF)

GOLDEN CACTUS GALLERY
is excited to now be in Plaza Casa Blanca on the highway to Todos
Santos. Limited leases available now. Nice, small, quiet. Water, electricity, Wi-Fi, Fenced and gated with 24hrs se-
curity. Big Spots. www.mountain-shadowvww.com

OFFICIAL TRANSLATOR
Spanish-E nglish, licensed by the Supreme Court of Justice of the
State of Baja California Sur. Ce-
yne Poupart, cell 624-147-5287 (TF)

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. (TF)

AMERICAN DELI FRANCHISE
Opportunity available for San Jose and La Paz. Call 624-158-8650 (TF)

FOR SALE. 2002 CENTURY. Walk around cuddly cabin, twin
four stove boardrooms. Tuna tower, generator, air conditioned. Includes
triplex axle aluminum trailer. This is a perfect Baja fishing boat
and over nighter. Two beds, full head, auto pilot and too much to list. For
pics and details go to http://www. magellan yachts.mob. Currently
in dry storage building at San Jose
marina. $65,000.00 OBO. Call for questions 714-713-1008. Email rob saur@yahoo.com

LIQUOR LICENSE FOR SALE.
Call 624-155-1049 (TF)

BIG LOT FOR SALE AT the entrance of Puerto Los Cabos, 65,000 sq. feet. Motivated seller, accepting offers. Zoned for anything, soldo-
rado@me.com 624-147-0507 (TF)

LIQUOR LICENSE FOR SALE.
Call Rosalinda 624-155-1049 (TF)

GRINGO HALF PRICE SPECIAL. 2 ½ bedroom 2 ½ bath Condo near Cabo Marina avail-
able for short term rental. $125 per
night plus cleaning. More informa-
tion at FishTalkRadio.com. Go to bottom of any page and click on Cabo Condo. Contact at 805-
207-3522 or John@FishTalkRadio.
com.

FREE TV, THE LATEST MOV-IES. Live sports. Streaming directly
to your home Via “The Box.” Over
100,000 movies and all TV series and shows and past present. Late-
st movies in HD. Live worldwide
sports events, no commercials. Mu-
sic jukebox. Wifi ready. Only 5,000
pesos. Call Cell 624-178-5333 or
143-440. (TF)

1993 Z28, immaculate, 18K origi-
nal miles, 6 spd, LT1 engine. Patriot
maroon w black top. Ontario plated.
original owner. The perfect boys
toy for cabo! $19K US. rickrand2@
gmail.com Rick. (TF)

CABO PULMO 2 Home Villa for sale, 500 ft2, Income prop.
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sirena.com. (TF)

1-BRM CONDO IN MASANA.
Great view of the bay. Furnished,
A/C, common pool and BBQ area.
Public washers and dryers, parking,
security. Between Costco and San
Lucas. $650 a month. Celyne 624-
147-5287 (TF)

FOR SALE BEAUTIFUL PAL-
MILLA CONDO, 2Bedroom
/2Bath CONDO, $650 month,
La Roca near the animal shelter.

FOR RENT: 2 BEDROOM 2
BATH CONDO, $650 month, Long Term Rental, Fully and
Totally Furnished. Small Dog ok!
Magisterial, San Jose Del
Cabo. Available Now. Call 624-
14-24460 or US # 818-3325660 or
Email: apage234@aol.com

MEXICAN COOKING... continued from page 11

liked it. Yet the business grew
very successfully and in 1879 a
merchant from Louisville, Kentucky
who was selling some kind of sweetened resin liked
tzicle so much that he ordered a
shipment of the Mexican product and sweetened it
and named it Colgan. A trial and er-
ror story started. The flavor
was difficult to add because the gum
absorbed sugar but not flavors.
So he went to a popcorn seller
in Cleveland, Ohio and in 1880, they
tried for the first time to mix the
gum with corn syrup which also
added some texture. As the syrup is basically sug-
ar, the experiment succeeded,
becoming the first spearmint
gum and they named it Tucan
in a nod to its Mexican roots.
Since then, sweet refreshing
chew ing gum began to invade
America and England. This new
habit was often called distaste-
ful, especially among ladies, but
they marketed to attract more
customers of both genders and
managed to create more flavors,
especially fruit flavors.
But it was not until WW II when
this gum reached the four
corners of the world. Ameri-
can soldiers took it with them
because it was good to relax
the stress, exercise the muscles
of neck and face, stimulate the
saliva production and inhibit hunger momentarily.

After the war, in the 1950’s,
a synthetic polymer production
at a much lower cost marked
the decline of the tzicle exports.
Nowadays the production of
chewing gum based on the Mexi-
can tree resin is coming back,
thanks to people’s preference for
natural and organic products.
So is our recipe today going
to be about chicle? I am afraid
not, but as this article started
with children’s day, here is a
recipe that even a kid can pre-
pare unless you’ve got a complete
moron, and it becomes very nice
for these hot days:
Cucumber, lemon and ginger fresh drink.
Ingredients
• 2 pieces of medium cucumbers
without skin or seeds
• 1 cup lime juice
• 3 cups water
• 1 tablespoon grated ginger
• 1 cup ice
• 1 piece of sliced lemon
• 1 pinch of salt

PREPARATION
1. Put in your blender
cucumbers, lemon, salt, ginger and
cut. Blend until integrated.
Serve in tall glasses with ice and
enjoy. Pop can add a splash of
Tequila. ❕
SOL-Sin Hambre, (a government agency’s sub agency called Without Hunger). This will eventually provide primary nutrition to thousands of families. It’s a struggle to keep fresh vegetables and fruit on their menus because access to produce in the Baja is limited. Yes, I know we grow here, but the best is exported under large annual contracts. First quality fruits and veggies have to be shipped back. So SEDESOL is supporting back yard garden initiatives through the existing kitchens. With help, local families involved in the kitchens start a garden in their yard or a vacant patch of land in their neighborhood.

An example of this collaboration between organizations is the Pilot Organic Garden Project at the Kitchen Real Unidad. This kitchen is actually a ministry of the Cabo Church which means it is funded by donations given to Feeding Los Cabos Kids. It’s lead by Pastor Sotelo and the lead kitchen volunteer mom, Mirta Gamino Gonzalez. Mirta supervises 25 cooks and feeds breakfast and lunch to 120 kids every day.

For this garden project SEDESOL paid for the water and ponied up the volunteers, and ICF donated the dinero for construction and continued support. ICF recruited the mothers who volunteer to cook at the kitchen to get them involved in planting, weeding, and plucking the garden.

The first garden project started last November, and it took three weeks just to prep the ground. Since the soil consisted mostly of pebbles and sand, they had to dig up and bring in dirt from the riverbeds. Then they built a fence and a water system for irrigation. In December, they planted a variety of crops such as tomatoes, chilis, cucumbers, broccoli, sweet potatoes, zucchini, calendula, bananas, papaya, aloe, Swiss chard, and beans.

During the planting, the volunteers showed the locals how to place plants based on the amount of sun and root space needed. The harvest is incorporated into meals the kitchen prepares and shared with the volunteers at the kitchen. There is a compost pile in the corner which is made up of leaves and grass since it decomposes faster than food. The compost is used to enrich the soil. Part of the pilot project is to see which crops grow well in this harsh climate and plant those next year. Volunteers also teach workshops about nutrition and how to prepare food. One workshop taught the mothers how to make pots from plastic bottles for small plants like cilantro. Now, everyone is growing their own cilantro.

On April 1, many organizations gathered at this kitchen to see the organic community garden and witness the fruits of their efforts. Groups in attendance included SEDESOL- Sin Hambre (without hunger), ICF, DIF, (family oriented charity), Cabo Church, Yo Reciclo, the San Jose Organic Market, and just plain old citizens you and us.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 39
Every Monday, 6.30 am Pickleball in San Jose. Contact rondenbarto@gmail.com

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

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.

Every Thursday, 8:00 a.m. Rotary Club breakfast. At the Playa Grande Resort, Restaurant Brigantine, Cabo San Lucas.

Every Thursday. From 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. Organic market. Historic downtown activities program. Postal Park, Constitucion and Madero streets. La Paz. Free.

First Thursday: Yo Reciclo set up tents to receive clear glass bottles, metals, plastics (except Styrofoam), thick cardboard, computer equipment (except monitors), small home appliances (except TV’s of all kinds), cellphones and accessories, edible vegetable oil, ink cartridges and toners of HP, Samsung and Xerox only. please.

Every Thursday from 6pm to 9pm. Art Walk. Historic downtown, San Jose. Visit galleries, many serve wine, they close down the street.

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

Every Friday Palomilla Farmers Market Every Friday 9 am to 1 pm in the parking lot of the Palmilla strip center

Every Friday Todos Santos Farmers Market. Music and fun stuff. James Black, merlo4@earthlink.net. www.facebook.com/Todos-Santos-Farmers-Market-937899742952014/tref=hl.(612) 134-8728, Todos Santos. It moves around, so check where it is this week.

Every Friday night from 5:00 - 9:00 pm at the Amelia Wilkes Plaza in downtown Cabo. Arts and crafts market “El Colibri.” Original handmade jewelry, homemade food, arts, crafts and original live music. For more info or if you are a vendor please contact in Spanish: Max - 624 108 2250, or in English: tonyrosa@gmail.com. The Artisan Market. Nothing made in China here.

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

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

First Saturday. Los Barriles Farmers Market. Monday to Saturday, 9am to 3pm. Looking for gently used books. theranchkidz@yahoo.com, Todos Santos. Spanish.

Every Saturday 9am to 3pm. The San Jose organic market behind downtown San Jose, off of Centenario St.

Every Sunday, 7 - 11 am. Artisans Market at Maco Plaza in downtown Cabo. Arts and crafts market “El Colibri.” Original handmade jewelry, homemade food, arts, crafts and original live music. For more info or if you are a vendor please contact in Spanish: Max - 624 108 2250, or in English: tonyrosa@gmail.com. The Artisan Market. Nothing made in China here.

August 8-14. ATP 250 tournament. Tennis. At the Solaz resort.


April 22, Friday. Todos Santos Eco Expo: Earth Day. Educational displays highlighting the protection of Baja California Sur. Last year’s exhibitors included groups working with sea turtles, whale sharks, recycling and more. Organizer is the Todos Santos chapter of Wildcoast (webpage is http://www.wildcoast.net).

April 24, Sunday. GastroVino story tellers at 10:30 and 12:30. Looking for gently used books. theranchkidz@yahoo.com, Todos Santos. Spanish.

July 14-16. International Baja Bikers pow wow, Cabo San Lucas. Information: Facebook/Bajabikersmc
as her family traced the phone to an apartment in Cabo. She snatched her phone back, but the police then just walked away, saying the case was over. Now everyone in the apartment building knows they’re living with a thief and there is nothing they can do about it. What do they build jails for, anyway? Just so the tourists can view it as they fly over it on the approach to the San Jose International airport?

Victory Gardens Are Not New

Victory gardens, also called war gardens or food gardens for defense, were vegetable, fruit, and herb gardens planted at private residences and public parks in the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Australia and Germany during World War I and World War II. They were used along with rationing stamps and cards to reduce pressure on the public food supply. Besides indirectly aiding the war effort, these gardens were also considered a civil “morale booster” in that gardeners could feel empowered by their contribution of labor and rewarded by the produce grown. This made victory gardens a part of daily life on the home front.

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david@gringogazette.com
Cell (624) 121-1214
CONGRATULATES
OUR TWO AGENT AWARD WINNERS

CATHY BUCHANAN
TAD SNELL

Cathy and Tad were our top Producers over the past six months and have earned all-expense paid trips to Beverly Hills and Aspen to attend the Luxury Real Estate conferences.

CONGRATULATIONS CATHY AND TAD!

SNELL REAL ESTATE

Is the exclusive representative for luxury real estate in cabo and sits on the board of regents for Luxury Real Estate the largest network of luxury agents in the world in 63 countries with over 130,000 agents.

- Cabo’s luxury leader with unmatched market share in the luxury real estate segment
- Nearly 40 agents
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- 2 full time closing officers
- Marketing coordinator
- Graphic designer
- SEO specialists
- Full time listing department
- 6 additional full time support staff
- Weekly training
- Commissions up to 70%
- 50% financing available for Snell Real Estate listings
- Full time planner for event marketing
- 12 office locations covering all of Baja
- The most advertising, marketing & promotion of any firm in cabo
- Agent incentive & awards programs

MAKING REAL ESTATE EASIER FOR OUR AGENTS.