San Jose Music Festival
All Over The Map
And we mean that literally

BY CATHY WATKINS

The Fiesta de La Musica Los Cabos 2016, now in its 8th year, will take place on Saturday, June 18 in San Jose. It is known as “La Fiesta de Todos y Para Todos” (Everybody’s Party and For Everyone) including tourists, businesses, adults, kids, family etc., and it’s absolutely free and can be found on every street corner. Well, almost.

It is an international event that began in France in 1982 and now takes place in 120 countries including Mexico. In Mexico, the participating cities are Guadalajara, DF (Mexico City), San Luis Potosi, and Los Cabos. It is a day for musicians to express themselves in public and to celebrate music. This event traditionally takes place on June 21 which is the summer solstice, the longest day of the year in the northern hemisphere. However, it has been scooted over to Saturday June 18 so it is on the weekend.

It started here eight years ago, when a musician from France was visiting Cabo. He explained the European concept to his musician friends, and they took it and ran with it.

The 2016 Music Festival will take place in the streets of downtown San Jose primarily in the main streets and historic avenues around the main square such as Boulevard Antonio, Mijares, Alvaro Obregon, Zaragoza, and M. Deblado. Just head downtown and you will find the 20 stages featuring over 60 local bands from all over Mexico.

It begins at 7:00 pm. (Mexican time), and ends at 2:00 am, but the party will continue at the bar Cuervos House from CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Downtown Business Ass. On A Roll

The organization has gone far toward cleaning up downtown, but are they over reaching?

BY CARRIE DUNCAN

They have lobbied the city to ban parking, which is kinda, sorta successful until kinda.
From The Publisher

BY CARRIE DUNCAN

OK, precious readers, you know the drill: Go to the short story with two pictures showing the new downtown façades and then come back here. It’s on the front page for crying out loud, there is no excuse not to read that first. Welcome back.

We’re talking today about how the downtown Cabo merchants are working so hard to spiffy up their area. They’re doing a swell job, and it looks so much better. Boy has that all changed.

Segue into a similar observation of mine. When I started coming to Mexico in the early 70s, the average car on the road was a jalopy with no tail lights, their homes were often hovels of cinder block. The women all wore dresses and the men felt that wearing shorts was unmanly.

Boy has that all changed. Mexico is much more prosperous now. Jeans and sneakers.

It’s a little alarming, the speed at which everyone in both countries have come to look the same. Maybe it’s just in Baja, which is so influenced by foreigners. I’m going to Los Mochis over on the mainland at the end of this week and I will report back.

A lot of people in the United States complain about the influence of Mexicans in the States. Are Mexicans likewise concerned about the influence foreigners have on their culture? A little. My Mexican friends do get a little pissy about their children getting caught up in our version of Halloween and Christmas. Understandable. Nobody wants their children to be of a different culture than themselves.

Personally, I have mixed feelings about the merging of cultures. I don’t like everyone looking and acting alike. I celebrate diversity.

On the other hand, the more we’re alike, the less anyone is going to feel the animosity that often results when two cultures collide. The result of us all looking and acting alike is similar to kids wearing uniforms to school: Everyone dressed the same cuts down on the feelings of dislike when we see that dreaded “other”. A person other than ourselves.

I’m not too worried that the American culture is going to overpower the Mexican culture, though, because the Mexican culture is so strong, so proud, and so colorful. Maybe the differences are just appearance deep. I hope so.

Have a great summer!
Sierras to be protected. CEMDA, the Mexican center for environmental rights (yes, Virginia, the environment has rights, too), sent a request to the Mexican government to declare the La Giganta and Guadalupe sierras as natural protected areas. The sierras have high environmental value due to the variety of the flora and fauna found in its 16,000 + sq. kilometers which include several oasis in La Purísima, San Isidro, Comondu and San Javier areas. All this is located north of the state’s capital city of La Paz, on the Pacific side. Illegal tree deforestation, cattle breeding, poaching and sale of the land have negatively affected the area, said CEMDA.

San Jose park remodel. Again. This will be the 3rd remodeling in the past 6 years, as it seems that every mayor, who holds office for 3 years, wants a different look. The downtown park used to feature graceful old growth trees, which were chopped down by a previous mayor, who converted the park to a concrete, shadeless gathering area for political and cultural events.

The old fountain that used to sit in front of City Hall, empty and dirty, was demolished by another mayor.

Now Alberto de la Rosa, the current mayor, has hired the Altea group to design a dancing fountain that “should be an additional attraction for locals and tourists alike,” said Celstino Atienzo, a city councilman. Yup. Everyone’s going to flock down to the dancing fountain to watch the water perform, sure thing. Especially if it can do a little soft shoe, or at least a good tap dance. The fountain will be dancing for about 5 minutes 4 times a day. And the hope is of course that they will spend more time, (money), downtown at the surrounding stores, bars and restaurants.

Of course, the new project will be bought with our taxes, and nobody has said, so far, no, stop the remodeling, there are more important needs in town, such as proper schools, or even parking for downtown.

Fired city employees to be reinstalled. A district judge ruled against the Mayor’s decision to fire more than 80 city workers, and gave him 24 hours to get them back to work. Oh, and pay for the salaries that they didn’t earn during the time they were out of a job these past seven months.

According to the judge’s ruling, the employees were not fired for under performing as claimed, but for political reasons, as they did not support Mayor de la Rosa in last year’s election.

Arturo Rubio, the workers’ attorney, said that if they are not given their jobs back, the Mayor would find himself in contempt and could be facing fines and even himself out of employment. Yeah, right. That’s posturing, Artie, take your fee at taxpayer expense and go.

What will happen to those recently hired civil servants who covered those jobs for the past seven months will be interesting.

Surfers alert!

Starting Monday June 13 through the 18, Los Cabos will host the National Childrens and Juvenile surfing tournament. There will be bogie board and long board categories for both teens and children, the first in the country’s history. An estimated 120 surfers from a dozen Mexican states are expected, bringing along friends and families that will spend a load of money during their stay in our beautiful resort town.

The winners will participate in the International championship to be held in Peru, South America later this year. Kids as young as 4 years old and as old as 17 will compete to earn the top honors. The event will be held at Monument’s beach, near The Cape resort in Cabo, and at Zipper’s beach in San Jose’s Costa Azul.

International Music Day festivities The annual Music festival 2016 version will take place on Saturday, June 18, in downtown San Jose, featuring more than 60 music bands on 20 different stages scattered around town.

This is our town’s participation in the world’s music day which is celebrated every June 21 throughout the world. Well, except in Muslim countries and those controlled by ISIS.

In our case, the fest will be held a few days earlier to ensure a massive attendance as in previous years. The event is free of charge and will last from 6:00 pm to 2:00 am, so show up early to listen to your favorite local bands.

For additional information, look up: www.fiestadela-musica.net

Rancho Pescadero Guest Chefs Following their 2016 Culinary Guest Chefs events that began in April, this month the gorgeous Rancho Pescadero resort in, well, Pescadero, an up and coming area 40 minutes north of Cabo, is presenting Chef Josef Centeno.

The events, which include wine tastings and food pairings, will take place June 16-18 at the Rancho Pescadero hotel.

The next Guest Chef event will take place July 21-23, featuring Chef Jason Fox from San Francisco. For more information, contact Karla Caro, Ph. 612-135-5849 (Mexico) or 910-300-8891 (US), email: rancho1@ranchopescadero.com or look up: www.ranchopescadero.com

Feds pitch in for estuary. Mexico’s national water commission (Conagua) officials have met with the influential local business group known as the CCC (Los Cabos Coordinating Council) to analyze problems such as squat terraces on the edge of dry river beds (arroyos), whose lives and shabby homes are endangered during the hurricane season. They will be relocated, with the help of the city government, which is looking for less risky land. The Army and Navy will also pitch in with moving assistance. No, there is no Bekins in Mexico.

The arroyos will also be cleaned of the abundant garbage that has been tossed in there because in a flood it will be washed out into our pristine Sea of Cortes if not retrieved now.

Other Conagua officials will work with the newly formed group to save the San Jose estuary, which is currently receiving discharge of sewage.

Raoul Chollet, the local representative of Fonatur, the federal agency that developed San Jose and the Cabo Marina, said recently that the discharge of sewage into the estuary is approved.

SUMMER BAR MENU

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mini slider Pork Jack</td>
<td>$2.4 USD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hard Shell Taquitos</td>
<td>$3.5 USD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fish Tostada</td>
<td>$2.6 USD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shredded Chicken Burritos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arrachero Burritos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pesto Caesar Salad</td>
<td>$2.3 USD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Calamari</td>
<td>$2.3 USD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Buffalo or BBQ Wings</td>
<td>$3.5 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ravioli Marinara</td>
<td>$2.6 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BBQ Bar Ribs</td>
<td>$4 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mini Spinach Dip</td>
<td>$4 USD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crudite with Ranch</td>
<td>$2 USD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greek Chicken Salad</td>
<td>$3 USD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stuffed Ceviche Avocado</td>
<td>$2.6 USD</td>
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Located right on the marina front in the Tesoro in downtown Cabo. Locally 143.3050 of from the U. S. 290.390.4382

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June 13th, 2016

Last year, Pemex filed 5,600 complaints with the Attorney General's office for illegal taps into their gas pipes, thefts that totaled at least 6.9 million barrels of fuel and represented a loss to the oil company of US $591 million. It's not getting any better.

During the first four months of this year, 1,871 illegal pipeline taps were detected throughout the Gulf of Mexico. The states with the highest damage were Veracruz with 197. It is estimated that about a quarter of the gas that we work with your ideas for your environment

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Mexico. The states with the highest incidence of the crime are Guanajuato with 400, followed by Puebla with 389, Tamaulipas 244 and Veracruz 197. It is estimated that about a quarter of the gas you buy at the pump has been stolen.

A woman was caught bringing $3,000 worth of drugs over the border in fake burritos. The woman was hired for $500. Instead of being stuffed with cheese and chicken, they were stuffed with heroin. She was caught by an alert dog who smelled the difference between drugs and burritos. Must have been a Mexican chihuahua.

Heavy load. An 18 year old turtle was drafted into a project to nonpartisan Congressional Research Service report. With U.S. support, the Mexican government has been implementing a southern border security plan since 2013 that has involved the establishment of 12 advanced naval bases on the country's rivers and three security cordons that stretch more than 100 miles north of the Mexico-Guatemala and Mexico-Belize border. The State Department has provided $15 million in equipment and training assistance, including

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<tr>
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**What’s Going On In This Country?**

BY SANTIAGO VERDUGO

**Hurricanes are coming! Be ready!**


www.greenlife.com.mx/Generales

Mike Cel. 624 129 6104 escmiguel@outlook.com

Francisco Cel. 624 151 5442

More border wars. President Barack Obama has slammed Donald Trump's proposal to make Mexico pay for a border wall, but his own administration is spending $75 million for border security on Mexico's southern border. Since 2013, the Obama administration, through a partnership with the Mexican government known as the Mérida Initiative, has already spent at least $15 million helping Mexico secure its southern border, according to NII equipment, mobile kiosks, canine teams, and training for INAMI officials in the southern border region. It plans to spend at least $75 million.

It hasn't always been this way; for much of American history, the U.S.-Mexico border has been largely unprotected. Only in 1891 did the United States start deporting illegal immigrants (a category at the time limited principally to Chinese workers as well as felons, paupers and the insane), and it wasn’t until 1924 that Congress formed the Border Patrol.

More airlift coming. If United States authorities approve an application by Southwest Airlines, we will get more tourists here starting next November. The company has filed an application with the U.S. Department of Transportation for twice daily flights to Cancun and San José and a daily flight to Puerto Vallarta.

Southwest spokesman Brad

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9
Punta Azul club is a sports club with swimming, a gym, pickle and tennis courts, a dance hall, and of course a couple of soccer fields. There is plenty of room for camping if you’re in town for the music fest and don’t want to drive home. Don’t worry about the drunk driving to the club, it’s close to downtown and so it doesn’t count.

St. out the road to the Saturday farmers market, just bear left and go a little farther than the market.

The 20 different street corner stages will feature music for all generations such as jazz, pop, rock, world, alternative, metal, cumbia, salsa, etc. with musicians from the U.S. and Mexico. The main stage #1 called Vivarte will be limited to musicians that have produced at least eight original songs.

The deadline for applications to participate was May 27, but don’t despair if you missed it. Just show up. Some of the best things happen on the fly, especially in Mexico. Marco Mandujano, festival promoter, commented that once a reggae band called Black Maria showed up the day of the festival. They were able to set up in an intersection, and had more people hanging out with them than at any of the stages. The following year, they qualified for the main stage, Vivarte. Today, they are split up into the Dirty Sandals and Yellow Spot Fingers. He also noted that three years ago a heavy metal band called Holly Pop showed up at the last minute. They got a quickie permit and found a corner to set up on. The radio station Cabo Mil heard them and suggested they participate in the Concurso de Rock, which they did and took 1st place.

So remember the date, June 18, show up and see what happens, it’s a very spontaneous thing.

Dario Luna is the director of the Music Festival. For more information visit www.fiestadela-musicaloscabos.net.

Map of some of the music venues for June 18 near downtown San Jose.

The merchants have involved themselves in the recent remodeling of the street which includes putting the utilities underground. But they have more big plans.

Now they want to change the facades of most of the downtown buildings. They have commissioned an urban planner to redesign the tackier looking trinket shops, trying to give at least those which are lined up all in a row on a block, a uniform look.

Is this a good idea? We’ll leave it up to those who wander the streets to decide. But we have a pretty good idea what the faction that goes apoplectic over how Cabo has morphed into a suburb of San Diego feels about this.
At first read auctioning off your home seems a little off the wall, but the world’s finest art, cars and antiques are sold at auction so why not real estate? Sure, why not.

Concierge Auctions out of Austin Texas was started in 2008 by a couple of professional Realtors experienced in selling high end properties to buyers from around the world. There are now about 25 homes facing upcoming auctions that are on their website. They are regularly used by Sothebys, Leverage, Luxury, and Luxury Portfolio, all high end real estate companies.

The intriguing part of this somewhat novel approach is that they are advertised to go at no reserve. So, supposedly if you were the only one to bid on a 10 million dollar property and nobody else showed up waving around a bid paddle, it’s yours for your $100 bid. Well, that’s the deal, and it could happen. They say they take the chance. Well, they don’t actually say that, as their public relations flack, Kristine Wilheim, was, “too busy” to talk to us.

But they have sold one multimillion dollar home here in Cabo, in the Pedregal, and they have another auction on another property coming up June 15. It’s called Casa del Vinatero, it’s ocean front, about the middle of the way between Cabo San Lucas and San Jose. Previously listed for $7 million, it will sell on that day with no reserve.

It has seven bedrooms, eight baths, is 6,000 SF, a pool with custom mosaic and heater. There is a thatched roof palapa with swim-up pool bar, and outdoor kitchen with grill. Oh, and of course it has a tennis court, you had to ask? There is separate guest or staff quarters with kitchen.

There is also a separate but adjacent 35x100 yard lot selling separately or collectively.

The secret to their success might be their world wide contacts. They hustle out and make sure there is an adequate number of qualified bidders so they aren’t stuck with yours truly who’s there with only a hundred dollars in my pocket. Actually, to bid you have to put down a $100,000 bidder’s deposit which will be returned in two days if someone tops the bid.

They also protect both selling and buying agent commissions. In fact, they say they have never auctioned a property without an agent partner. Concierge says they are not acting in any capacity as a broker for the seller.

There is a bad news buyer premium, which is how the auction company makes their money. The buyer must make a payment equal to the greater of ten percent of the high bid or $250,000. Another reason to keep that hundred dollar bid in my pocket.

Concierge claims to have sold nearly $1 billion in high end properties in 32 states and 11 countries and they have a database of more than 330,000 global contacts and a private client list of high net worth individuals who have raised their paddles at one or more of these auctions.

For more information, check out their website: conciergeauctions.com.

They do that annoying thing where they won’t let you go very far into their website without registering. So if you hate that as much as I do, sign in as bigdick@loseme.com and use the password dinero11. Try it, I bet you get in with it.
New Gourmet Option Opens
Large market/deli/wine store in San Jose

BY COLE KUTZ

Why do we chose to live in a foreign country but turn up our noses at the local cuisine, and instead nurture our favorite foods? I don’t know, but we do. And U.S. Foods helps us with this quirk of our nature by importing our Skippy peanut butter, and our Aunt Jemima syrup. Then they up that ante with such exotics as white and black truffle oil, and smoked duck breast.

Fred Botello, a Mexican American, is the man behind all this. Botello started out by importing fresh food for the local hotels and restaurants, which he has done with increasing success over the years. Then about four years ago he branched out into selling retail some of the goodies he was importing for the hotels and restaurants. He opened California Ranch Market in downtown Cabo San Lucas. There you will find your favorite brands, with heavy emphasis on gluten free and certifiable organic among the Kettle brand potato chips and Planters honey roasted cashews. Now he’s opening what will quickly become the mother ship of his importation business. He has taken a 3000 square foot retail location in the Palmilla strip center, which is at the Palmilla exit off the fourlane. This new California Ranch Market will be the best thing that ever happened to that retail strip center that has struggled with a lot of vacancies.

This new store is primarily a grocery store but will also offer catering, a delicatessen, small patio seating, and a large selection of beer and wines from around the world.

Sarah Francs will be the store manager and resident wine expert of items neatly nested in sub menus. Buy with your credit card, and receive your order at your doorstep.

Botello is planning on selling the same successful mix of merchandise at his new location as his other, but with the larger space he is going to expand into such goodies as 20 to 30 different imported cheeses like Tete de Moine from Switzerland, Parmesan Reggiano from Italy & Humboldt Fog Goat Cheese. There will be more than 100 different wine labels and 10 to 15 beers. There will be a separate ultra gourmet section with items like white and black truffle oil, smoked duck breast, truffle salt, truffle butter, and 20 & 30 year old sherry vinegar from Spain.

There will be imported specialty meats, including more than 15 different salamis from four different countries such as olli Napoli, calabrese, Wild Boar and tartufo salami.

He is building a carpeted lounge in the center that he envisions will be useful to men waiting for the little woman to do her shopping. There will be a bar and TV with sports, and it will be a good opportunity to try out the 100 different bottles of wine available.

“Hey honey, I’m helping you with your shopping, I’m working on the wine selection.”

There is already in place an entire wall of commercial refrigerators with glass doors, as well as a sneaky deli case brought over from Europe. Optimistically, he as two check out counters. Well, the average Whole Foods carries about 4,000 products and Botello is stocking 3,000, so this is no little corner store.

How high end? Well, he is locating close to the very high end Palmilla, not in the barrio. He tells us it costs him about 15% to 20% to pay importation and trucking fees, but says his products are still priced on average 10% less than Santa Carmela, the other store that caters to sophisticated foreign tastes.

The store is currently under construction but by the time you read this it will be open, promises Fred. Opening night is June 16, and will be celebrated with a big party starting at 6 pm and featuring live music and fun and games. All that day, from 8 am to 9 pm you can get a whopping 25% off all food items. So go to the party, sample many of the products and stock up your pantry. 

ARE YOU OUTTA YOUR MIND?!?

What are you doing serving bill fish when it’s a sport fish that brings the tourists here?

Are you aware that those bill fish are getting scarce because of over fishing?

And are you aware that it is illegal to serve bill fish in your restaurant?

And are you even aware that your cook bought this fish from his, (your), kitchen door from some dock hand who probably told his American client that the poor sucker was injured so badly he couldn’t be saved so he would take the carcass to poor people in the barrio? And then he sells it for a tidy profit?

We are leaving this notice on your table because we want you to know this is a big conservation boo boo and we won’t be eating here again until you stop serving protected fish. So there.

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Que Pasa in Cabo...

continued from page 3

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Expect it to continue

BY JAMES BELL

The municipal water department, called by its acronym Oomapas, was the target of another underground copper cable caper that left a large section of La Paz and many of its residents without city water.

Copper robbers have a long history of stealing cables and wires from public utility agencies as well as private companies. They aren’t choosy. They stole the copper wiring that lights up the fourlane even before it lit up the fourlane.

The cable is easily sold to scrap dealers at a nice price, although not as nice as it used to be.

The national financial losses are estimated to be in the millions of dollars and the disruption of services often affects thousands of consumers for several days or until the stolen material is replaced (and then sometimes stolen again). It is a headache for local, state and national governments, a huge inconvenience for consumers, and a great loss to businesses and public utility agencies. The copper thefts are carried out at electrical, telephone, hydraulic, gas, agricultural and industrial installations.

Copper is a great conductor and didn’t used to be such a valuable commodity, so it was used in a wide, and often vulnerable, positions.

The most recent theft in La Paz occurred on May 25, when water utility workers discovered around 60 yards of cable missing at one of the municipal wells in the Los Olivos neighborhood.

The value of the loss is estimated at about $5500, but the biggest problem is the supply of water to hundreds of homes in a 40 block section of the city screeched to a halt, leaving frustrated residents high and dry. Another theft took place only one week before in which fencing and cables were snatched from another well site in the city.

According to Lorenzo Nuñez, Operational Director of Oomapas, another problem with the thefts is that the local scrap metal dealers or chatarreros, will not report the stolen goods and continue buying the materials.

Many utility companies, especially the Federal Electricity Commission (CFE), have replaced some copper cables with aluminum cables, which have a much lower commercial value and are not normally sought by thieves. Tons of copper wiring is still in use, though.

In the interior of the country, the problem is even more acute. Organized crime is involved and gangs have stolen hundreds of miles of cable, especially expensive telephone cables built with copper or fiber optic materials.

Summer Prices For Locals Are Here

And it’s about damn time

BY SCRÖOGE MCDUCK

Brian Solomon has rolled out his summer bar menu, something we heat/humidity tested locals look forward to each year. We people who are left are the ones who hang in here all summer, and then through hurricane season to boot. We say bring it! And to Brian we say bring it! Bring out the secret special summer menu.

Here’s what it’s all about. Prices are in green backs.

Let’s start with the starters, the booze. Rum Bacardi-$2 Vodka Smirnoff-$2, Tequila El Charro -$2, White/Red Wine-$2.5, draft beer (Indio) $2.10, Gin Beefeater-$2.3.

The food is equally high priced with such yummies as fish ceviche tostada, pork sliders, Greek chicken salad and BBQ Ribs, all for under $4. Oh! And wings! Who doesn’t like buffalo or BBQ wings? $3.50.

Now we’re not saying these are lumber jack size servings, they’re not. But they are big enough to still be a bargain, and if you aren’t full, just order another treat, say stuffed ceviche avocado for two bucks, sixty cents.

I got my bar bill for 2 glasses of wine and the cost, including the damn 16% sales tax, came to five U.S. bucks. I could have had two orders of bar bites along with my two glasses of wine, and the bill would still be just over $10. Or I could have laid myself away with a total of 4 glasses of wine and the total would only be 10 bucks.

You get the same waterfront ambiance as the full price option, including the live music, but you do have to sit at the bar to qualify. And what’s wrong with that? That’s where all your summer time friends are hanging out. Be there or be square.
Got A Life Insurance Policy Here?

Better tell your uncle about it

BY ORLANDO GOTAY

It seems perfectly logical that while living abroad, one may purchase life, health or accident insurance. Normally, these should bring peace of mind. Right?

But what about the liability of that? Huh? Regrettably, that’s what some foreign insurance policies could bring, if one is not careful.

There are a host of rules that apply when a U.S. person buys foreign life insurance. Did you know there’s a special federal excise tax on premiums? If a policy has a cash surrender value, it may also be annually reportable in a Foreign Bank Account Report and further, possibly as a “specified foreign financial asset” in one’s tax return. Making it even more exciting, any gains in value in the policy itself could be reportable and subject to tax.

You may now begin to understand the general rule, (at least in my ever so prudent mind), that whenever a U.S. citizen gets involved in a foreign financial transaction of any kind, anything, it is best to pull out the microscope and look at it very, very carefully, from the U.S. tax perspective.

The IRS imposes a tax of one percent of the premium paid for

life, health, or accident insurance issued by foreign insurers that benefit a U.S. citizen. There are some exceptions, and the U.S. Mexico tax treaty provides for some, but they don’t benefit you, Mr. or Ms. U.S. citizen. They only seem to benefit Mexican insurance companies. You could be on the hook for the excise tax.

Remember that cash value life insurance policies are in fact an investment, right? (That’s why they have a cash value). The Internal Revenue Code has a strict definition of what a life insurance contract is, and it may be that foreign life policies may not fit exactly within that American definition. In that case, you may have to include as ordinary income the increase in value of your policy.

Foreign policies that have a cash value can also be considered “specified foreign financial assets”. Owning above a certain dollar amount of those assets may trigger a reporting requirement on Form 8938. To make this even more exciting, those very cash value life insurance policies may also be “foreign financial accounts” for Foreign Bank Account Report (FBAR) purposes, triggering the need for another report and a new opportunity for

out spending weeks of painful recovery. A rejuvenation vacation is their solution.

Many people think about going on vacation for a little rest and relaxation hoping to go home feeling and looking refreshed. Spa Cielo Laser Center takes it one step further offering skin rejuvenation. Now they can return home looking years younger, without any loss of vacation time.

“People want to look better, but they don’t want to give up any time from their daily lives or vacation,” said Cathy Dammann, Medical Aesthetics Practitioner and Owner, of Spa Cielo Laser, a Medical Spa that offers the newest in safe, non-surgical cosmetic skin treatments. “The public is demanding, transformation without pain or downtime” states Dammann. Cielo, which specializes in light and laser treatments.

Many of Cielo’s treatments such as wrinkles, spots, pores, evenness, early skin cancer and photo damage from too much sun exposure. The VISIA gives us the information necessary to determine the best treatment options, yielding the most rejuvenation in the shortest amount of time. Vacationers, which return here to Los Cabos year after year, can take advantage of the AAD recommended annual UV skin scan. The scan, which is stored in the computer, allows Cielo to follow changes in their patient’s skin from year to year.

Cielo’s most popular procedure is the non-surgical face-lift. Its signature service incorporates the Cuteria Titan. Titan has been the recipient of numerous awards including: 2008 Aesthetic Medicine Award for “Best Customer Experience and Satisfaction”, and Aesthetic Trends and Technologies “Best non-laser for skin tightening and wrinkle reduction”. Titan requires no incisions or recovery time and takes an hour or less to perform, leaving patients to resume normal activities or their vacation. Titan delivers a very uniform volume of heating under the skin to

bring about collagen contraction and then regeneration for months afterwards. It’s painless and can be used on the face or any part of the body which requires skin tightening such as the abdomen, underarm, elbows, knees, or thighs.

Included in Cielo’s non-surgical face lift procedure is Laser Genesis and LumeLight, IPL together they work to shrink pore size, reduce fine lines, wrinkles and age spots.

When asked about prices, Dammann replies, “prices vary based on procedure, but my clients often say, “I am so surprised, it is cheaper than a round of golf or a day of sport fishing, and I have something to show for the money I’ve spent.” People can now enjoy their vacations and return home looking years younger! Call for your complimentary consultation 624-105-2209. www.spa-cielo.com
A large and very impressive building has sprung up on the corner of Colosio Boulevard and Las Garzas in La Paz. It’s hard to miss. Centro de Justicia Penal, it reads, in big letters on the front of the building. This is La Paz’s first court-house. It is the result of eight years of efforts by the federal and state governments to bring México’s court system into the modern world employing oral arguments between the state and the defense. Basic stuff from the TV show Law & Order, but all new concepts to Mexico.

Although the building appears to have been built fairly quickly, the court house is part of the judicial reform initiated in 2008 and that aims to change the way the judicial system works throughout the country. For eight years court houses with Germany and other countries, will replace México’s system in which legal proceedings—and negotiations—occur in a small room without the presence of those countries it’s often tough getting a jury pulled together. It was decided to not even try it for now, instead the trial will be decided by three judges. The judge or judges will act more as a mediator between two lawyers, rather than just asking questions of both sides. Judges did not even attend initial hearings in about 70% of the time under the old system.

Cases that are not considered serious or complex will still not require oral trials, however, and a special court will be placed on achieving conflict resolution through dialogue with opposing parties and mediation.

This new approach is expected to greatly improve the efficiency of the courts, speed up the judicial process, reduce the time the accused spends in jail awaiting sentencing, and will be based on a novel idea here, presumption of innocence. Mexico has presumption of guilty and although bail was introduced a few years ago, most accused still spend long periods in jail before they even get to trial. The head of the federal teachers union has been in jail for more than three years with no trial, although she’s guilty as hell and deserves it. See, we can figure out it would be a big, big changes in México. Judges, professors, students, and others must be trained in the new proceedings. Type 1 diabetes and in many cases reversed diabetes with high protein shakes, thick soups and green vegetables, many participants.

Scientists in the UK recently tested a very low calorie diet that has reversed type 2 diabetes, which acts like a key, and unlocks the doors to the muscles and fat cells. However, the body can only enter these cells without the help of a special hormone called insulin, produced by the pancreas. Insulin acts like a key, and unlocks the doors to the muscles and fat cells, and allows the sugar to enter. The cells then use the sugar as fuel, to provide energy to the body.

Now lets us see what happens to a person with diabetes. When sugar enters the blood stream, the following can happen. Either the pancreas does not produce a sufficient quantity of insulin to match the sugar entering the blood stream, or the body cells do not respond to the insulin the body is producing. In both cases the result is the same, the cell remains closed, causing sugars to be backed up in the blood stream. As a result, blood sugar levels rise. This causes several problems. Because sugars are not able to enter your body cells, your body is not getting the fuel it needs, and you may get tired or fatigued. Your body may try to dilute the excess sugar in the blood stream, by pulling fluid out of your cells. This can make you feel dehydrated and thirsty. Most importantly, over time, exposure to high blood sugar levels can damage vital organs connected to the blood stream, such as your kidneys, eyes, nerves and heart. If not properly controlled, diabetes can lead to serious complications, such as kidney failure, blindness, amputation, heart attack and stroke.

To avoid these complications, people with diabetes must take steps to keep their blood sugar level in a normal range. One way to do this is to diet. You should reduce the amount of carbohydrates you eat and pile high protein shakes, thick soups and green vegetables, many participants.

In a normal process, the sugar goes from the stomach through the blood stream to the body’s fat and muscle cells. However, the body can enter cells without the help of a special hormone called insulin, produced by the pancreas. Insulin acts like a key, and unlocks the doors to the muscles and fat cells, and allows the sugar to enter. The cells then use the sugar as fuel, to provide energy to the body.

Big, Big Changes In Mexican Justice
So hold up on that bank robbery you’re thinking about until the govt can get this all sorted out

BY JAMES BELL

Facts about Diabetes
How to Reverse Type 2 Diabetes

Statistics presented by the World Health Organization show that diabetes is on the increase, and the figures are alarming. Over 422 million adults have diabetes, almost quadrupled since 1980, and over 1.5 million deaths in 2012 alone.

What is diabetes:
Diabetes is a disease when glucose, or sugar levels, are above normal levels in the blood. Much of the food we eat turns into glucose, which our bodies use for energy. The pancreas, an organ near the stomach, makes a hormone called insulin, which assists getting glucose into the cells of our bodies. With diabetes, your body does not make sufficient insulin, or cannot use its own insulin as well as it should. This will cause glucose to build up in your blood.

There are 3 types of diabetes. Type 1 diabetes: the body does not make enough insulin, and its onset is unrelated to lifestyle. Type 2 diabetes: the body does not use insulin well and may not make enough insulin. This is the most usual form of diabetes and accounts for 90% of all cases. Gestational diabetes: happens when a woman’s body does not use insulin as well while she is pregnant.

Diabetes is serious. Over time, high blood glucose levels may cause many health problems, including heart disease, blindness, kidney failure, and foot sores and amputations.

Simple facts about diabetes:
Finding out that you have diabetes can be scary, but don’t panic, people with diabetes can live long and healthy lives. Food is made up of the following nutrients, carbohydrates, proteins and fats. During digestion, carbohydrates break down into sugar, otherwise known as glucose. Carbohydrates include foods such as pasta, bread, rice, potatoes, and fruits.

In a normal process, the sugar goes from the stomach through the blood stream to the body’s fat and muscle cells. However, the body can enter cells without the help of a special hormone called insulin, produced by the pancreas. Insulin acts like a key, and unlocks the doors to the muscles and fat cells, and allows the sugar to enter. The cells then use the sugar as fuel, to provide energy to the body.

How to reverse type 2 diabetes:
In many cases type 2 diabetes can be controlled, and even reversed, through diet and exercise alone, without the need for oral medication and insulin. Scientists in the UK recently tested a very low calorie diet that has reversed diabetes in under eight weeks. By limiting the diet to just 800 calories a day, with high protein shakes, thick soups and green vegetables, many participants in the study had a substantial weight loss, reducing all reversed diabetes in under eight weeks. After six months, with proper diet and exercise, their insulin production remained normal and the condition remained reversed.

Type 2 diabetes is often the result of fat clogging up the liver and pancreas, which are important in producing insulin and controlling blood sugar. When you follow a drastic low calorie diet, the body goes into starvation mode and burn fat stores, and particularly targets the fat around the organs. This can lead to the pancreas and liver becoming unclogged, and insulin and blood sugar returning to normal levels.

To prevent your diabetes from returning, you should change your diet and exercise routine, and keep off that extra weight. This means reducing your food intake to two thirds of your previous intake, and limiting your diet to around 750 calories a day. However, before starting a drastic low calorie diet, you should discuss this with the doctors at Saint Luke’s.

Saint Luke’s Hospital are leaders in preventive medicine, and offer a range of health check-up packages, including diabetic tests, for a complete and accurate diagnosis of your health. Visit the hospital to receive a free report on diabetes, and a list of tasty low calorie diets, to discuss the treatment that’s right for you.

Hidalgo Street #205 Edificio Pescadores Unit 7 Calle Ignacio Zaragoza info@saintlukeshospitals.com

By Dr. Dick

How is it that we put a man on the moon before we figured out it would be a good idea to put wheels on luggage?
How To Enroll In Medicare Part B While Living Overseas
You have to do it, or you get penalized for the rest of your life!

BY ORLANDO GOTAY

You probably know that Medicare is a federal health insurance plan for people who are age 65 or older. Medicare has four parts—A, B, C, and D. Part A is free for people with social security benefits, and helps pay for inpatient hospital care. Under the vast majority of circumstances, most of the time, Medicare will not be available to cover medical expenses when living outside the U.S.

Part B helps pay for doctors’ services and outpatient care. It is voluntary. Sort of. If a person chooses not to enroll when first eligible, the premiums are increased permanently by 10 percent based on the number of 12 month periods the person went without coverage. I recently wrote to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Service to find out the rules regarding Part B enrollment in the case of U.S. citizens who reside outside the United States. Those eligible for premium free Part A (based on their or their spouse’s work record), are also eligible to sign up for Part B during an initial enrollment period, three months before and after the person turns 65, no matter where the person lives.

If a person does not qualify for premium-free part A, and lives overseas, then that person must return to the U.S. to gain eligibility. No penalty applies in those cases.

Those who were eligible to sign up for Part B but did not do so, must wait for a future regular enrollment period. They happen every January 1 through March 31, but remember that the premium will be higher than it would have initially been if you had signed up when you were supposed to. If you still work and are covered by an employer provided or national health plan (like IMSS) you are able to delay Part B enrollment until you are no longer covered. Since Seguro Popular is not employer based, you may not be able to count on it as a health plan that allows you to delay penalty free Part B enrollment.

It turns my stomach to pay a premium for coverage that could be useless where one resides. On the low end, it could be over $1400 per year, and in my book, that’s quite a few tortillas. Medicare choices are critically important. They mean thousands of dollars of premiums, or the peace of mind of having stateside outpatient coverage. Don’t leave the choice to chance!

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.

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Tickets! Tickets!
The ATP 250 Mexican Open Tennis Tournament will be held in Los Cabos from August 6 to the 13th. On the 6th and 7th, there will be 32 qualifying matches for players from Mexico. Out of those matches, 4 winners will get to participate in the actual tournament. Tickets for August 6th and 7th are much cheaper and can be bought at the Del Mar International School where the event will take place. The actual tournament takes place from August 8-13th. Tickets can be purchased at Ticketmaster, Del Mar International School (624-131-5002) or the website www.abiertoloscabos.com/es/boletos. The school is behind the Cabo San Lucas Country Club.

Tickets range from $19 dollars for a one day pass to $452 dollars for the whole nine meters, which is six days of tennis. Three price tiers are silver, gold, and platinum. There is also a 3 day weekend pass for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, and individual 1 day tickets.
The least expensive tickets, (we're discouraged from calling them cheapest or even cheap seats), are for the first day, August 6th, and the most expensive the last day, August 13 which is the finals. Children under 6 years old can get in for $6 dollars. Tournaments begin at 5:00 pm and the finals on the last day start at 7:00 pm. To try and beat the heat, Bunky.

Mexico’s drug war that was re-appropriated by the U.S. Justice Department to support Mexico’s efforts to re-form the criminal justice system.
Money, resources and training, including the use of mock trials, have been provided by volunteers from several nations to help make the transition successful. Dr. David Shirk, director of Justice in México, said, “There are arguably few issues more important in México and U.S.- México relations than strengthening the rule of law, security, and human rights.” In 2012, A New York Times article written by Karla Zabludovsky stated, “While Mexico’s effort to turn around its justice system is a slow, long-term process that may not pay dividends for years, analysts on both sides of the border say it is vital nevertheless.”

Canada has also contributed and has sent retired federal judges to Mexico City to teach protocol and courtroom practices. It is apparent when you see these mock trials what a big, big deal this is, as court personnel all struggle to fit into the new system.

The national deadline for full implementation of the criminal justice system is set for next week, and the system is now fully operational in several states where pre-trial detention rates have already been significantly reduced. Still, many states, including Baja California Sur, are scrambling to make the full transition. La Paz’s court house was officially opened last January and became the second center in the state to implement the new system. Altogether, seven criminal justice centers will eventually operate in our state.

So, the next time you pass by the Centro de Justicia Penal, take an other glance, it is much more important than it might appear on the outside. It reflects a concerted effort on the part of the Mexican government to provide fairness, greater transparency, and due process. It is hoped (really, really hoped) that it will reduce opportunities for corruption in the judicial system. It is also expected to observe the human rights of defendants awaiting sentencing. 

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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 surf 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, 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, is it amazing. For fabulous chilli rellenos try Miguel's across from the Pemex. Next to the Pemex is the very sophisticated La Caleta.

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 the town of Pescadero is old Mexico, Cerritos has that vibrant beach vibe. Cerritos and its neighboring beach, San Pedrito, are both world-class surf spots.

There are a couple of ways to get to the beach, either the old dirt road at km 65, or the new dirt road at km 67. Either way, it's a bump, but what the hell, you're in a rental car. Cerritos is perfect for swimming and enjoying the sand and sun for a day, or a week. Take a surfing lesson or rent a boogie board. Kick back with your favorite refreshment and watch the surfers. There's a beach club there with tables and beach umbrellas out on the sand, so you don't even have to pack a lunch if you don't want to.

El Pescadero is a small town on the way to Todos Santos. It has a rich history of agriculture, ranching and fishing. The lush porkoblanco 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, then goes north to Loreto, but one of the many taco stands along the highway, or buy veggies or fruit along the road. In the afternoon when the fishermen come in with the day's catch you can buy fresh fish off the boat at Punta Lobos. For a small propina (tip) they'll file it for you, too.

Turn off the dirt road just before the Pemex in Pescadero, left toward the ocean, to discover Hierbabuena, a huge vegetable garden with an open-air restaurant smack in the middle of it. 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, though, and is only open after 6 p.m. Maybe 7 pm, 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.
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Ejidal Property
Is it a bargain? Or a problem?

BY LINDA JONES NEIL

EJDIAL (EEE-hee-doll) properties were established in Article 27 of the Mexican Constitution of 1917 as an outcome of the revolution and represent probably 50% of all the land in Mexico.

After the revolution hundreds of millions of acres from the original Spanish land grants were expropriated by the government and classified as “ejidal” properties. The state retains ownership of these lands and the peasants, or farmers, have the right to use them, to live on and to grow their crops on them. The rights of usage pass from father to son, but ejidal properties cannot be sold as private property.

Per decree published on February 26, 1992 in Diario Oficial, Mexico’s Official Newspaper, certain ejidal lands can now be converted to private property through a process known, in Spanish, as the PROCEDE, (the procedure).

This is a seven step process that may take as much as five years to accomplish, and consists of the following:

1. Resolution within the ejido. A two-thirds majority must decide to convert parcel lands to private property. This does not pertain to human settlement or communal property, also a part of ejidal land. This pertains only to the individual parcels.
2. Mapping, allowing for streets, green areas, other donated lands, human settlements and communal lands
3. Allotment of a parcel to each ejidario (farmer, member of the ejido group).
4. Application to Agrarian Reform, Mexico City
5. Approval by the Agrarian Reform
6. Transfer of parcels to the individual ejiditarios.

After this process is completed and registered with the Agrarian Reform, the ejidario who wishes to sell to an outsider must first notify other family members, those who have worked the property for more than one year, then other ejiditarios in the group, neighbors, and the local and ejidal governments before completing a sale to the outsider. These parties have the right of first refusal and notifications must be made following a specific procedure. An appraisal issued and/or authorized by the national authorities must be obtained to confirm that the price of sale to an outsider is fair and legitimate.

ONLY after all correct notifications have been made and procedures followed may the ejidionario transfer in fee simple to third parties, nationals or foreigners. If the property is in the restricted zone ONLY then can an ejidal property be acquired by a foreigner, PROVIDED the Secretary of Foreign Relations will grant a permit for same.

THIS IS FOR PROPERTIES WHERE THE EJIDAL group agrees in an assembly to convert its parcel property to private property.

What about the ejidal group who chooses NOT to convert its parcel land to private property? Can it be used by outsiders?

Article 45 of the law states that ejidal properties may be the object of any type of contract in association or use contract made by the ejidal group, or by individual ejidarios on common lands or parcel lands. Contracts made with third parties may be granted for a term up to thirty years and can be renewed.

Under the Mexican Civil Code the maximum lease for residential property is ten years. Thus it can be said that the ejidal properties have an important advantage over private RESIDENTIAL property when it comes to leasing.

There is, however, a substantial difference between OWNERSHIP and LEASING. It is important not to confuse the two.

OWNERSHIP, even in the prohibited zone, where ownership is a PERSONAL right of use and enjoyment, permits indefinite usage through multiple renewals (every fifty years) of trust permits, and a clear-cut right to rent those rights, to sell those rights, and to collect a profit therefore. Annual costs under a trust (fideicomiso) are limited to bank administration fees and property taxes and the owner has full rights to all improvements on the land.

LEASE RIGHTS from an ejidal group can be for a maximum term of thirty years and can be renewable. The annual lease cost, however, is often a monthly or annual payment and, while it may be fixed for the first lease term, (up to thirty years) costs upon renewal are not usually negotiated for the following lease term, and may be increased to any amount that the leaseholder, the ejido, requests. Failure to pay the amount requested by the holder of the lease means that lessee (the tenant under the lease) must vacate the property and, of course, must leave behind ALL improvements affixed to the property.

In a rental situation, the tenant never owns the improvements and the amount of the rental will probably be determined by market conditions.


about the author:
LINDA JONES NEIL is the founder of The Settlement Company, which specializes in real estate transfers and escrows. Licensed as a California real estate broker, she has pursued her profession in Mexico for over forty years. Her skills and experience 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. Memberships; FIABCI, AMPI and NAR. Linda is a former member of the National Advisory Council of AMPI and serves as President Liaison for Mexico to the National Association of Realtors®. She is also co-founder of Global Mexico Real Estate Institute (IIGM), an educational institution which provides international real estate classes and designations. For reprints or further information, please contact The Settlement Company: in Mexico:
E-mail info@settlement-co.com, website: http://www.settlement-co.com

Real Estate Classifieds

ARE YOU RENTING OUT your Mexican property?

Are you aware that you MUST pay taxes on your rental income, even if income is received out of country? Failure to pay the Mexican government can result (and has resulted) in substantial penalties and legal problems. Avoid problems!

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Real Estate: An investment you can actually enjoy

Let us count the ways

BY LETICIA DIAZ RIVERA.

From multimillion dollar businesses to a real estate property, investing is a way to make your money grow. But, how often can you say that you can profit AND enjoy your investment? You can invest in bonds, stocks, commodities but you can’t take them to the beach nor make memories with your children, grandchildren and friends. I am happy to share with you the top 5 reasons why real estate investment is far better than the stock market.

You create multiple sources of income. This can be as easy as letting your property appreciate over time. With the proper maintenance and enhancement, through the passing years, it will gain value (capital appreciation) that can be monetized once you decide to sell it. It can also be a rental property: be it a short term (vacation) or long term rental, tenants will pay a rent that even after taxes and maintenance fees paid, can be translated into additional income.

It is easier (and way more fun) to do research. Stocks are usually denominated by a series of letters such as BCOR, PPP; are never tangible and the closest visual thing you will see is a report indicating its market behavior. A property, on the other hand, can take your breath away with unstoppable Sea of Cortez views or catapult your creativity by designing your new home, and are the base for stories you and your family will cherish for generations to come.

Do I need to say more? Don’t let time pass by and invest in the one thing you can actually live and enjoy: real estate in Baja California Sur. Whether building from the ground up, remodeling a home or buying a condo in downtown, an investment property will surely pay off with dividends to your peace of mind. Reach out to your Real Estate professional of choice and start enjoying your hard earned wealth.

By Leticia Diaz Riveras, Broker, Coldwell Banker Riveras Office Phone (624) 147-5471.

Cabo del Sol: A Good Option For Resort Living

Cabo del Sol, a 1,800 acre master-planned golf resort community, is located on the beautiful Sea of Cortez, approximately 5 miles from Cabo San Lucas on the tourist corridor between Cabo and San Jose. Truly, one of the premier golf communities in North America and home to two championship golf courses.

This beautiful golf resort community offers a full amenity golf clubhouse, beautiful oceanfront, golf course, ocean and desert view homes, condominiums and home sites, located within a varied selection of neighborhoods. There are currently 2 hotels on site, The Sheraton Hacienda del Mar Hotel and Fiesta Americana Grand Los Cabos.

There are many reasons to live in Cabo del Sol. Come and check out luxury living at its best. For more information contact Debra Dodson, CIPS, ABR, Broker / Owner, Cabo Gold Realty Cell: 011-521 (624) 141-6894.

Don’t be fooled by imposters!

The ONLY places to look are the OFFICIAL websites of the MLS

SEARCH ALL THE PROPERTIES FOR SALE HERE IN BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR!

When searching for your property here in paradise, make sure you are finding ALL available properties......

Use the OFFICIAL websites for the MLS BCS ONLY.

www.mlsbcs.com.mx

OR

www.mlsinbajasur.com
June 13th, 2016

**What’s New in Real Estate?**

BY CYNDI WILLIAMS

Might be time to take another look at the peso loan. We visited a couple of our local banks this week to check out what they are offering for financing options and we must say they surprised us. Although the peso loan has been available for years to both Nationals and Gringos the terms were a bit unrealistic, making bank loans not so attractive.

Well again, the times they are a changing. There are now 20 year fully amortized loans starting at around 8% interest with no pre-pay penalties. No longer are the peso loans negative amortization like days of past. Down payments start at 10% and work up to 20% based on the loan amount. In some cases if you struck up a good deal, appraisal is higher than you expect. Work here.

Gringos need to be living in Mexico for a minimum of one year and need three months bank statements, and the more you have stashed in your account the higher the loan amount you qualify for. Good credit is important and can be established by being a responsible credit card holder. If they like what they see they will begin the process and work on getting your loan approved in six months. Use your credit card for all purchases and work on building up your credit balance as much as you can in six months go on and work here.

Puerto Los Cabos Village moving right along. The long struggling condominium project located at the main intersection of Cabo (across from the soccer fields) has finally gained some ground and it looks like it is going to make it. Phase 1 is completely sold out and Phase 2 is kicking off its new sales program under the direction of the Cabo Gold team.

The project has limped along for years having the misfortune of being released during the worst of the economic crisis of 2008. The developer has shown amazing strength in weathering one of our worst financial storms. Puerto Los Cabos Village offers large two and three bedroom units beautifully appointed with the highest quality finishes.

With prices starting in the low to mid $200,000s there is no better bang for the buck than this development. Stop by their on site sales office and take a look for yourself. Tell them the Gringo Gazette made you do it. Magdalena Bay Not A Secret Anymore!

Hat’s off to you, Ed Eudis! After years and years of hard work you finally made it happen. The first new development in Magdalena Bay is now ready for market. Where’s Mag Bay? Up north a bit we say. Known as one of the migrating whales’ favorite playgrounds. Featured in many National Geographic and Nature Channel bits and now home to the beachfront development known as Magdalena Secret. These are totally off the grid, environmentally friendly and green built beachfront homes starting in the low to mid $200,000s. They are architecturally intriguing casas beautifully designed and finished without any monthly CFE payments. A perfect getaway for our locals, a favorite of environmentalists, and the best buy in Baja to bond with our whales.

It’s a Sellers market! NOT!!! Funny thing happened the other day. Someone told us they heard we were turning from a buyers’ market to a sellers’ market, so we asked them, where did you hear that? Answer, “they read it somewhere”. Sorry, bad read. And it wasn’t in this rag.

It is still a buyers’ market and expected to stay as such until supply at least equals demand. Considering all the new construction we see everywhere we are betting it is going to be awhile before any scales start tipping. A thorough look into the MLS data base reveals reported sales for all of southern Baja in the last 30 days.

The breakdown is: Houses 15, median price of $395,000 USD, median days on the market 200 and list vs sales price minus 15.5%.

Condos, 19, median price of $214,500 USD, median days on the market 157-3170.

SOLDS

1. Los Cerritos Lot 2716, 1543m2 hilltop lot very near the beach club, MLS 14-2160, $30,000, C. Miller/Baja Realty and Investment, M. Sherman/Coldwell Banker
A History of Rancho Leonero

Pioneer resort and residential community on the East Cape keeps reinventing itself.

BY DEDE BACON

Somebody needs to write a book about Rancho Leonero, its rich history and stories!

Back when it was built the Baja peninsula was a rugged, remote area with few roads and even fewer tourists. Cabo San Lucas was a sleepy fishing village, and most Americans had never even heard of the East Cape. Wealthy sportsmen and adventurers would fly down in their private aircraft, land on rough dirt airstrips carved out of the desert, and return with wild stories of the big fish they caught here.

Gil Powell fell in love with the area. He was a wildlife cinematographer by profession and related to actor William Powell. Around 1950 he found and purchased a 300 acre piece of paradise located on the beach just south of Los Barriles. Gil was continually going off to Africa to shoot movies - hence the locals gave him the nickname “El Leonero”, which roughly translates to “The One Who Knows Lions”. During this time his ranch became known as “Rancho El Leonero”, and over the years has been shortened to “Rancho Leonero”.

During those Wild West days before paved roads and civilization came to Baja, Hollywood’s “bad boys” would fly down in their private planes for some R&R where they could escape from the notoriety of their public lives and just hang out. The likes of John Wayne, Bing Crosby, and Errol Flynn were all frequent visitors here.

In 1979 John Ireland stumbled upon Rancho Leonero, instantly falling in love with it. John spent the next two years trying to acquire the property, and finally succeeded in 1981. In 1984 he started construction of the original five rooms of what was to become “The Inn at Rancho Leonero”. Today the Inn at Rancho Leonero is a charming resort surrounded by a lovely neighborhood of lucky homeowners. This beachfront community has become the envy of many and now you too can buy a piece of this little East Cape treasure.

I would encourage everyone to visit Rancho Leonero to enjoy its charm and beauty. Take a stroll on the serene beach or a CONTINUED ON PAGE 21
Consider buying a lot and now you want to build your dream home? How exciting! But with it, there are responsibilities. Responsibilities to do it correctly here in Mexico. And with it are a ton of questions you may have. Here are a few answers:

What do I need? A permit? An architect? A structural engineer?

Plans? Yes, you need plans. The requirements for plans are less than in the United States, but, there are minimums, and always engineering plans and calculations, are required. If you have your own architect in the US or Canada, you may use their plans, BUT, your architect will need to provide them in the Spanish language and in the metric system. Trust me, this is not as easy as putting the terms through an online translator... AND your American architect should partner up with a Mexican architect / DRO. An unlicensed architect in Mexico will not be allowed to pull the permits without the stamp or a license of a Mexican architect and/or a designated DRO. This holds true for your foreign structural engineer too. The structural engineering must be done and stamped by a Mexican Structural Engineer (here called a Civil Engineer). You can also choose to hire a Mexican architect and forego the additional expense of paying two architects and engineers. There are very skilled technicians and fine designers right here in Baja California Sur.

What is a DRO? Mexico does not have regular construction inspections or building inspectors like the majority of the United States. At most, they may send someone to be a drive by before construction and one drive by after construction is reported to be complete. Technically, they are supposed to go into the building and verify completion, but I have yet to have one get out of the car! Unlike the U.S., where every stage of the construction process is inspected and you are subject to corrections or additions from the inspector before you can advance to the next stage, Mexico puts the liability directly onto a “Director of the Obra” (DRO). A DRO is an architect or engineer that has had additional training and is certified by the municipality to act in the capacity as DRO. He assumes all liability for the structure. If there is a structural failure, he is the one you would sue or the municipal...

CONTINUED ON PAGE 21
Real Estate Dispute: Courts or Mediation?

BY DON D. NELSON

Los Cabos has continued to be one of Mexico’s top destinations for foreign travel and real estate investment; but before the modern attractions of today, Los Cabos was first recognized in recent history as a small fishing village. It was the abundant source of tuna which first developed Cabo San Lucas’ commercial fishing in the 1920s. Fishing villages spotted the coasts from the Pacific to the eastern coasts of the Sea of Cortez. By 1927 the historic Cannery in Cabo San Lucas provided a living to native families for over 25 years.

By the late 1950s, the Mexican Government ended commercial fishing with the intention to develop Cabo San Lucas as a major tourist destination with a focus on sport fishing. The very first fishing resort, Rancho Las Cruces, was built on the beach near La Paz in 1950. Shortly after, in 1952, the fishing resort of Rancho Buena Vista developed in the East Cape. Further along the coast the development beginning the master planned community of Palmita awakened San Jose del Cabo in 1956. By 1961 construction continued along the corridor with the Hotel Cabo San Lucas, which today is re-developing as the Chilean Bay Resort to offer fractional, full-ownership and home site lots along with Ocean & Golf Club amenities to name a few. Not until the early to mid 1970s did Hotel Finissterra and Solmar Suites complete construction in sequence with the Transpensinular Highway and the Cabo San Lucas Marina to connect tourism both by land and sea. The expansion of the San Jose del Cabo airport in 1977 helped to bring hundreds and then thousands of visitors to Los Cabos to enjoy more than 60 miles of coastline and fishing waters from Cabo San Lucas to the East Cape.

By 1981, Bob Bisbee started the Black & Blue Marlin Tournament that has now attracted up to 150 teams of sport fisherman today with one of the largest payouts in sportfishing history. After 20 years the Bisbee Family expanded with two additional tournaments; the East Cape Offshore Tournament in Buenavista and the Los Cabos Offshore Tournament. Through the 80s and 90s as sportfishing was developing great acknowledgements in Los Cabos as the world’s top destination for sport fishing. Simultaneously, FONATUR - a Mexican government agency in charge of development and tourism, began researching and supporting golf course development which further opened Los Cabos to sportsman from around the world. Naturally, the hundreds and thousands of tourists visiting this area to fish, golf, or enjoy the pristine beaches further inspired the varieties of resort, condominium and planned residential communities into our landscapes.

Today’s Hacienda Cabo San Lucas, marina front condominiums and the 330 acre Pedregal Community are some of the most sought after real estate by fishing and boating enthusiasts. The mountain top homes and condominiums offer views and easy access to the Cabo San Lucas Marina. Condominium resorts along the Corridor are favorite vacation homes for those who like surfing fishing for Roosterfish, Mackeral, Grouper, Snapper, Yellowtail, Dorado and more. More residential real estate for the sophisticated fisherman and boater developed with the Puerto Los Cabos Marina in San Jose del Cabo, beginning in 2005. The Marina Center at Puerto Los Cabos hosts dry dock storage and a repair yard with the largest 150-ton Travelift in the southern Baja. These amenities as well as beach clubs, a future Yacht Club and the ability to host 200 feet long yachts has attracted new real estate development in Puerto Los Cabos’ Residential Communities. Here you can expect to find condominiums and homes with outstanding views to the Marina and Sea of Cortez, as well as beach front properties integrated with a composite golf course designed by Jack Nicklaus and Greg Norman, with another 18 holes planned soon. A true fisherman takes his/her sport seriously and when it comes to selecting a vacation home in Los Cabos it is important to make sure the property has all of the characteristics to make the home the perfect place to be when you are not on the water! Some properties can accommodate a boat trailer, other homes have attractive design elements like built-in fish filet station for when you arrive home with your catch. Other homes have ocean and marina views with the convenience of proximity to the marina, or you may prefer a property that is just steps away from some of the best shore fishing locations.

No matter where one chooses to place their head at night, the true adventure will still be found reeling in the prize catch of the day.

Contact Michelle at michelle@DreamHomesOfCabo.com, MX Cell: 011-521-624-157-1775, Vionage: (908) 864-0530.

WHAT’S NEW IN REAL ESTATE...

continued from page 17

Current active inventory (properties listed): 2,993.

These statistics again are for all of Southern Baja. That’s Mulege to Land’s End in Cabo. The stats leave no room for doubt! This is very much a buyers’ market. Pay attention all you buyers, it is a great time to jump in now. Sellers, trust your Realtor rather than what you read somewhere. We promise to be the first ones to let you know when the scales tip to your side.

Agent Profile

Tomas Germeses

Tomas is a world traveler, who after finding Baja, has never left. Graduated from ITESM (studying international business), he decided to invest in and develop property. Clients choose to work with Tomas and his experienced team who provide buyers and sellers with realistic information on today’s real estate market with up-to-date data and trends.

Contact Tomas Germeses at Baja Smart, Cell (624) 178 4032, Office (624) 142 6039

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

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

We are Pleased to Announce

The Grand Opening of our

NEW MARINA LOCATION

Next to Hacienda Tequila, kitty corner from The Corner, across from Lorenzillos Restaurant

On Marina Boulevard.
In the Marina Golden Zone of Cabo San Lucas

Drop by to meet our Experienced, Professional Agents

Now Hiring Qualified Agents
To work at this

High Exposure, High Traffic Location

Inquiries Strictly Confidential Contact:
Broker/Realtor©CalinoSanLucas.com or Call (624) 144-4109

WHY RE/MAX – CHECK OUT SEERE MAX

Agent Profile

Martin Posch

Martin was introduced to real estate with Coldwell Bank in 2000. Starting in 2002 he worked with Prudential California Realty in Cabo San Lucas for almost nine years. He’s been a member of AMPI since 2002 and became an international member of NAR in 2006.

Martin was a top producer at Prudential from day one. During his time there served on the boards of both MLS and AMPI as treasurer and vice president. He is currently serving as treasurer of AMPI Los Cabos.

In 2011 He was ready to open his own real estate company, and with Mark Nieman. Both are members in good standing within our local AMPI chapter and NAR.

In summer 2012, they formed a new partnership with Jay West and acquired the Windermere Real Estate Franchise in Mexico. They are excited to operate under the great brand of Windermere. Martin is a dual citizen of Switzerland and Mexico and is fluent in German, English and Spanish.

Contact Martin A. Posch, Broker, Windermere Los Cabos, martinposch@windermere.com, Cell: +521 (624) 147-5857.
A HISTORY OF RANCHER...

continued from page 18

hike up to Flat Top, hire a fishing charter, view the current listings, and end your trip with a cool drink and delicious meal at the Inn. Become one of the lucky residents of this historic, lovely neighborhood and start living the dream of many and the envy of all!

Visit Dede at Baja Properties in Los Barriales, the oldest and most respected office in East Cape, search listings at www.dede beacon.com, or call 530-545-3407 or 624-142-8990 to arrange a personal tour of current listings in Rancho Leonero.

BUILDING IN BAJA SUR...

continued from page 19

establishes your new property tax amount and it's THE LAW!

A few words about Mexican architects. Unlike the United States, where architects, by ethics, are not encouraged to be a design/builder FOR A CLIENT, in Mexico, that is the norm. In the U.S. that discouragement is in place so as to allow the architect to be your advocate, and not cross any lines of conflict of interest. I myself am an architect. I agree with this moral and ethical position. Besides, in my opinion, you are better served getting competitive bids than to be forced to build with an architect not presenting you lower costs or options. In addition, it is very rare indeed to find any individual, in any occupation, to be good at everything. Rare to find an architect that is good at design, good at business and also good at building. In my opinion, it is better to get experts in each field to work for you and let their strengths shine to YOUR benefit. However, here in Mexico, you CAN choose an architect to do be your builder as well, or you can tell them up front that you want design services only. If you choose to have your architect be they on time? On budget? Were they flexible? Did they pay the worker's social security? Did they man the job properly? Were they asking for money ahead of their payment schedule?

If you choose to have your architect do only the design, you may wish to expand their scope into the bid process as well, and/or some of the material and/or review or take on that task yourself.

Either way, make sure you have a contract, reviewed by a Mexican lawyer, set up a reasonable payment schedule and never pay ahead of the progress markers established. If your contractors need an advance outside of your payment schedule, then they are probably not solvent and are using your money to pay for a different person's job. Pay extra to have a Mexican accountant to oversee your payments. Define the accountant's scope of work so that he will also make sure that you are within the law for worker's payments/benefits, receiving facturas prior to the payments made and protecting you against any potential claims against your property. Make a written contract with the accountant for those services. Remember, you are not an expert in the law in the obligations fiscally and legally here in Mexico. Build a good team!

There are many fine Mexican local architects. The scope of their work and responsibility is in your hands to define. But remember, you as the property owner, not the builder or architect, are responsible, by law, for payments to workers, their benefits, safety; and for the payment to providers of materials even though your contractor or accountant may be charged to do so. Make sure to put together a good team. Doing so, will save you money, time and problems.

Building is always more stressful than buying a built product. But the rewards can far outweigh the extra effort. Being armed with knowledge and reasonable expectations can make your experience all the better and more rewarding.

By Cheryl T. Miller, NAR, ABR, CIP, Broker. Architect. Broker of Baja Realty and Investment. We at Baja Realty and Investment can help you find the perfect lot for those dreams...Contact us at info@for-saleinbaja.com, 624-122-2690.

With a population of approximately 2,500 inhabitants, Pescadero is considered an oasis in the desert as it is wedged between the Sierra de Laguna Mountains and the Pacific Ocean. It is rich in farmland producing organic crops consumed by locals, restuarantual and hotels, as well as for exportation. You’ll find basil, chilies, aromatic herbs, strawberries among many more regional produce.

And what about the real estate market? Opportunities in Pescadero go from large tracts of land to small ¼ acre lots. Several new building projects are underway with a healthy mix of national and foreigners enjoying everyday life in her.

Perfect climate, relaxed lifestyle and delicious food await for you!

Contact Lisa Welsh lwelsh@cbriveras.com 612 140.1414, or Alvaro Colindres acolindres@cbriveras.com at 624.103.1036 of CB Riveras for more information. Photos by Alvaro Colindres acolindres@cbriveras.com.
Fish Report

BY GARY GRAHAM

June is bustin’ out all over and the month promises to be an exciting time for the steady stream of visitors now arriving. There’s enough variety to satisfy beginners and seasoned anglers alike looking for a fun-filled, fishy day or two.

Tight Lines and Good Luck,
Gary Graham, gary@garygraham.com

Cabo San Lucas

While some of the boats scored multiple striped marlin releases along with a few sailfish and the larger blue marlin, two areas were responsible for the best billfish action — the area around the 1150 Fathom Spot and the area just outside Cabo Falso (aka the Lighthouse). Live bait provided the best catch action but artificials were also doing some billfish attractions for the boats focused on catching a big billfish.

Inshore action continued to be the mainstay of the action for many. The tuna bite was spread over a wide area ranging from Migrino to the 95 Fathom Spot, including Herradura and Cabo Falso.

Closer to shore from Cape Rocks up the Pacific side, anglers

and the Pacific side cooled down! The balmy mornings recede to the boat within gaff distance. Most were fish taken from La Ribera to Cabo Pulmo on rigged ballyhoo. Dorado are back on the bite.

The Finger Bank is currently at 64-65 degrees; Todos Santos to Cristobal, from the shoreline to about 5- or 6-miles out all at 65-67 degrees; Golden Gate to Jaime Bank at 72 degrees; Cabo Falso and south across the 1,000 Fathom Curve at 74-75 degrees, and Cabo San Lucas northerly to Los Frailes, all at 77-79 degrees. Surface breezes are flowing from the westerly directions, fairly calm mornings to about 13 mph in the afternoon.

San Jose

The local bait situation remains the same — anglers are using strips of squid, ballyhoo, caballito, jurelito and moonfish.

The amberjack, in the 20 to 40 pound range, were found close to the Marina entrance, off the San Jose Estuary and off Palmilla Point, as well as on the San Luis Bank. They were striking on live bait, either caballito or moonfish.

A couple of dogtooth snapper were also caught, plus plenty of smaller-sized triggerfish; we are also seeing a mix of some barred pargo and yellow snapper.

Yellowfin tuna has been hit or miss with smaller-grade yellowfin striking on smaller-trolled hoochies from Red Hill to Chileno Bay and north between Iman and Vizunora. Anglers found tuna up to 40 pounds on high spots while drift-fishing strips of squid or slow-trolling the surf with caballito or moonfish.

More dorado are being spotted — smaller, up to 20 pounds.

East Cape

After a solid finish in May, it’s safe to say summer season is underway as most of the favorite species are now in the zone!

The balmy mornings recede as afternoon easterly breezes kick in holding the temperatures to mid-80s, with water clear and flat.

So far there has been ample bait, with caballito and occasionally the much sought after sardina, with squid and ballyhoo available for sale every morning.

Billfish action continued to be mostly a striped show with enough sailfish and occasional blue marlin to keep the offshore crowd happy. Most were fish taken from La Ribera to Cabo Pulmo on rigged ballyhoo.

Dorado are back on the bite.

Mostly smaller fish, but a few were 30-pounders. Locals claim that there already have been more dorado caught than all last year. Some boats found floating debris outside and did well while other boats fished closer inshore with success.

The very consistent wahoo bite has continued with good, husky fish. Best area was to the south. Fish seem to be mostly hitting Rapalas.

There were tuna ranging from football-size under porpoise about 20 miles out, to 25-pounders south on the Iman...
Squash Blossom

All these years, that I have been writing the Mexican cooking column I have been tempted more than once to write about the Flor de Calabaza (Squash Blossom or Pumpkin flower), and never did because I was either too early or too late for the season and when they were not easy to find at all.

But this year I am right on time and not only that, but I have seen this beautiful product in every supermarket and organic markets/stores around town. So this is my time to go for it.

First cultivated for food in pre-Hispanic Mexico as one of the three sisters: squash, maize, and climbing beans (typically teary beans or common beans). They’re commonly called other countries such as Italy, as weird as it may be for you might guess, this is because it doesn’t matter too much what kind of squash they’re from. They’ll most commonly be from smaller summer squash plants (e.g. zucchini) though, since they produce many small squash instead of a few large squash, (like pumpkins), so you can get more blossoms for your trouble.

As weird as it may be for those who were not born in Mexico, the squash blossom is edible and it is delicious by the way and it is part of the Mexican traditional gastronomy that has influenced the Italian cuisine. These flowers give to the different dishes a delicate flavor and texture.

Proteins, Carbohydrates, iron, folic acid, aspartic, oleic and palmitic acid. Squash blossom contain mainly water, but also active components are linoleic flower, iron, potassium, sodium, magnesium, calcium, phosphorus and vitamins A, B1, B2, B3, C and folic acid.

Squash blossom contain mainly water, but also active components are linoleic flower, aspartic, oleic and palmitic acid. Proteins, Carbohydrates, iron, potassium, sodium, magnesium, calcium, phosphorus and vitamins A, B1, B2, B3, C and folic acid.

Squash blossoms look like something you would stick in a vase, not in your tummy but you would be wrong.

It is also used in cooking in the season and when they were not born in Mexico, the squash blossom is edible and it is delicious by the way and it is part of the Mexican traditional gastronomy that has influenced the Italian cuisine.

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By the time they have left, telephone and internet users are just beginning to complain about disrupted service. Society has become dependent on telephone communications and a single robbery can affect as many as 14,000 telephone lines and add great cost to telephone companies and private businesses for repairs, replacement, and the loss of communication.

Between 2010 and 2011, up to 7,000 miles of cable was stolen, which caused more than 5,000 blackouts throughout the country. In 2014, a bill was passed to increase the length of incarceration for copper cable capers up to seven years. The new law makes the theft a federal crime when it causes interruptions in public utility services.

But in a country where only 7% of crimes are ever investigated, and only about 2% of crimes result in a conviction, this may not stop any time soon.
She’s booked six days a week.

**BY CATHY WATKINS**

Luna Itzel has been playing in and around Los Cabos for many many years, yet it’s surprising some people don’t recognize her name. She is a talented, passionate Mexican singer who is accompanied by her husband, Helder Ruelas, on acoustic guitar and he is also an occasional bass player. She has been with him for 24 years, and he has worked beside Luna since her first steps as a professional musician. They play Latin pop, bolero, and traditional Mexican music. Their music is not only something to listen to but experience as well.

Her name is unique. Not a traditional name like Maria, Ana, or Patricia. Luna, her first name, is of Latin origin and means the moon. In mythology Luna is of Latin origin and was the moon goddess. Now, she is also a music goddess.

Her dream as a child was to be a teacher or a doctor and after her grandfather, and he didn’t like it, as it made her nervous, Luna started singing and played guitar in Guanajuato, and her family lived in Mexico City.

When she was five years old, little Luna started singing at family parties. At first, she didn’t like it, it made her nervous, but it perked her interest, and she soon realized she had talent. Little Luna grew up to attain a bachelor’s degree in theater and philosophy from UNAM (National Autonomous University of Mexico). For nine years, she took private lessons from Ricardo Sanchez who had trained her idols Eugenia Leon and Tania Libertad. In addition, she studied a year in the Escuela Libre de Musica (Free School of Music).

All that training paid off. No longer being a nervous little girl, she discovered that she enjoyed the excitement of performing in front of a live audience and the connection with the crowd. It was then that Luna decided to make a career out of music, and she’s never looked back.

Luna Itzel has been on the music charts for over 25 years and has 7 CDs with original songs. She has toured abroad in Canada, Argentina, the USA (Colorado, New Mexico, California, Texas) and all over Mexico.

Luna has a heart for the community, and often gives benefit concerts to raise funds for charities that help to improve people’s lives. She works with the Choir Without Voices (Coro Sin Voces) which is composed of hearing impaired children. Once a month, together they perform at Cascadas de Baja in conjunction with the Mexican Fiesta night. She sings, and they sing with their hands using sign language while the Mexican folklore dancers perform. The proceeds are used to help support the choir and the children’s needs by providing hearing devices, surgeries, and other treatments.

Last May, Luna gave a benefit concert at the Cultural Center in Cabo for the Sarahuaro Foundation (Fundacion Sarahuaro). The proceeds were donated to build a house called the Sarahuaro Women’s House (Casa de la Mujer Sarahuaro) in the Tierra y Libertad neighborhood of Cabo San Lucas. The center provides educational programs and help to benefit women living in vulnerable situations.

Luna Itzel has a busy schedule playing all around town six nights a week. You will find her at the following places starting at 7:00 pm except as noted.

**Tuesdays:** The Office

**Wednesdays:** Solomon’s

**Thursdays:** Playa Grande Risco Restaurante

**Fridays:** Cascadas de Baja 7:30-8:30 pm

**Saturdays:** Grand Mayan

**Sundays:** Fiesta Americana Fire Pit 8:00 pm

**COOKING LIKE A MEXICAN... continued from page 23**

**Fried:** From Mexico to Italy, squash blossoms are already fried in butter.

I think this is the best way to really taste the flavor of squash blossoms, but here are other ways to cook it. Try them all, pick your favorite or dare to create your own recipe. If you do, be nice and share it with me. Also the blossoms are often served fried -- a dish we will never turn down, but there are several other ways to fully enjoy the beautiful color and delicate texture and flavor of this summer treat.

Fried: From Mexico to Italy, frying is one of the most popular ways to prepare squash blossoms. Simply batter and fry them or stuff them first. Cheeses (ricotta, fresh mozzarella, goat cheese) and herbs (basil, thyme, and parsley) make good fillings. Try adding lemon zest to the cheese or season the crispy fried blossoms with a squeeze of lemon juice and sprinkling of coarse salt.

Baked: If deep frying turns you off, or you just want to try something different, you could stuff the blossoms with cheese – savory or sweet – and then bake them in the oven. Steaming is another healthy option.

Pasta: We sometimes gently tear or make a “chiffonade” of squash blossoms to serve over pasta, risotto, or salad. The blossoms can also be cooked into a pasta sauce. This is one of our favorite recipes.

Quesadilla: There’s something very satisfying about the combination of the mildly sweet, squash-y blossoms with creamy cheese.

Alicandra
Clean Up Underway, Have You Noticed?

Everywhere you look, Cabo is looking cleaner, have you noticed? Well, get a clue and notice! Debris along the way. Now that there’s a good road and it’s been cleaned up, everyone should keep their trash in their car, but that’s a tough sell to many Mexicans. So the kids are being taught roadside hygiene in school, which is a slow slog to improving these bad habits but it should kick in in the upcoming generation.

Employees can also be seen along the Federal Highway in the Corredor sweeping up the dirt and dirt that accumulates along the edge. Outside of the restaurant Puerta Vieja, owner Manuel is doing his part with a landscapemaker. He’s removing dead bushes, trimming, raking, clearing, and picking up debris along the road...
Book Report

BY JEANNINE PEREZ

The Underdogs, by Mariano Azuela. Translated by E. Maru-
161 pp. used. 40 pesos.

“...These are bad times and you’ve got to take advantage of
everything. If there are some days when a duck can swim,
there’s others when he can’t take a drink.” Quail

The Underdogs is a quick read, graphic and violent, writ-
ten in 1915 (the midst of the Revolution), and is said to be the
first book written about the Mexican Revolution. The
story of Demetrio Macias is not a happy one. It does not contain
the ‘magical realism’ and familial
survival accounts of the Mexican
Revolution, (i.e. Hummingbird’s
Daughter, and Rain of Gold),
but it is poetic in description,
realistic, and the characters are
vignettes of people you might
imagine or even know; colorful,
full of rebellion, hope, ambition,
confusion, disappointment, and
depth sorrow. From the excited
Demetrio, patriot, to the dis-
illusioned and war-weary rebel he
becomes, it is soon apparent to
the reader that the author sees no
real glory or heroes on either side of
this war. Random burnings,
total destruction of property,
looting, and finally, killing just
because they can do so, creates
a tragedy too big for description,
and has left long lasting scars on
the countryside and the Mexican
people.

Of course, I immediately
Googled the author after reading
his book, and discovered that
many of his own life experiences
have influenced Azuela’s writings.
His life story is as fascinat-
ing as the variety of characters
peopling his novels.

Mariano Azuela, was born in
Jalisco, studied medicine in
Guadalajara, and practiced
medicine while also publishing
and writing a newspaper serial
in a weekly paper. One of his first
novels, Andres Perez Maderista,
was published in 1911. Azuela
had five daughters and five sons,
but I could nothing about his
ancestors, and to the land. As
Demetrio heads
revolution. “...Villa, the magic word...the
unconquerable, who even at a
distance, exerts the fascina-
tion ...of a boa constrictor.”

Demetrio’s drinking buddies also describe Villa in glowing
terms.”Our Mexican Napoleon!”

“Yes, the Aztec Eagle!”

Killing and looting soon
became so accepted and so easy
to these rebels, it dominates the
middle of the book. “...I killed
an old lady who refused to sell
me some enchiladas.....I got no
enchiladas, but I felt satisfied
anyhow!” “...I killed a man
because I saw him...whenever I
went in to eat...I hated the looks
of him, so I just killed him.
What the hell could I do?” The
theme of killing and destruction,
and disillusion continues as fighting
escalates.

Far from his home and
family, Demetrio finds solace in
the women accompanying the sol-
diers, War Paint is the name of
one, and Camilla another.

Part Three of the novel be-
What’s the difference? I love the revolution
like a volcano in eruption; I love the volcano
because it’s a volcano, the revolu-
tion because it’s a revolution.”

The ending, as
Demetrio heads
home, is poignant,
and Azuela’s word
pictures throughout
this book force his read-
ers to also participate in
this war.

Azuela was the first Mexican
to write realistically about
the Revolution. He fought, think-
ing and hoping always, for a
cinder, and better Mexico for
the corruption and foiled ideas.

An underlying theme of fate,
can be found in most of his
novels. His last book was titled
Lust, (La Maldecion), and it was
published after he died.

Azuela was a liberal, and
at first fully supported Made-
redo’s uprising against the
atrocities of Diaz. Be-
ing patriotic, he joined
Pancho Villa’s army as
a doctor. His war expe-
riences gave him first
hand material for future
writing. He wrote from the
perspective of the unrained and
naive rebel soldiers. As the
Revolution’s violence in-
creased, he emigrated to
El Paso, Texas, and wrote
this book: Los de Abajo, (the
Underdogs). He won many
awards for this book. He never
tells us if the characters and
happenings in the Underdogs,
taken from some of his own
war experiences, but certainly
those experiences must have
influenced him greatly.

The chief character in
The Underdogs, is Demetrio,
"...a full blooded Aztec”. Azuela’s
descriptions of this ordinary
man on the beginning pages,
peace loving, a rebel, and an of-
ficer, serves to also connect the
main character Demetrio to his
ancestors, and to the land. As
the war continues, he begins to
contrast the reality of war to the
Revolution, and describes his
idealistic view of Poncho Villa
(“...Villa, the magic word...the
unconquerable, who even at a
distance, exerts the fascina-
tion ...of a boa constrictor.”

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What the hell could I do?” The
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and disillusion continues as fighting
escalates.
Calendar of Performing-Arts

MIRAFLORES
July 15, 16 and 17. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The 17th will be a main event. Pitaya Festival. Traditional cultural event with traditional food, art, crafts, and pitayas! Spanish maybe some help in English. Free.

TROPIC OF CANCER MARKER NEAR MIRAFLORES
June 21. Tuesday. 5:00 pm. Full Moon Nights at the Tropic of Cancer handicrafts center on the road to Los Bariles. A bohemian festival with live music, reading, poetry, regional history, local artistic works exhibition, regional food, and more. Looking for more artists to celebrate every full moon at this geographical point of interest. More info with Alan Castro mail: axlxaxn@gmail.com. Every Friday from 1:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Handcraft market by local craftsmen. and craftschicks.

SAN LUCAS
CASA DE LA DANZA On de la Roca St. and Costa Azul St. At the Holzagen barrio. July from 16 to 23. From Saturday to Saturday. Dance lessons. Basic level from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. Advance level from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Formulation and update for dancers project. Gymnastic, classic dance French technic and more. Info and registration: casadelaanza.loscabos@gmail.com Span. 624 171 9117.

MACONDO BOOK STORE Above La Europea at Walmart
Every Saturday. 8:30 pm. Live music by different guest artists. Caffe showing every Wednesday. 7:30 pm. Movie club. Some English. Free. https://www.facebook.com/macondo.cl

NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM
Open Monday to Sunday. From 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Donations welcome.

CABO MARINA FRONT
Every Saturday. From 12:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Art exhibition by local artists, workshops, paint, sculpture, photography, food tasting, theater, live music and dance. Spanish. Free.

CERRITO DEL TIMBRE CULTURAL HOUSE
Behind Amaryllo Supermarket, downtown Cabo. Spanish and some help in English. Free.

June 20. Monday. 8:00 pm. Full Moon Nights. Every full moon at the Cultural Center of Cabo. Local and guest artists celebrate a bohemian night with live music, dance and poetry, songs written and sung by their artist. For all audiences. AMELIA WILKES PLAZA downtown Cabo main plaza on Friday.

Starting June 26. Every Sunday from 12:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Kermes Sundays. Food, games, music, handicraft market and more by the local people, organized by The Culture and Arts Municipally Institute.


MACONDO BOOKSTORE Above La Europea at Walmart
Vagabond movie club presents:
June 16. Thursday. 7:30 pm. The Lobster. Greece, 2015. Comedy, drama, romance, fantasy, science fiction. In a dystopian near future, single people, according to the laws of The City, are taken to The Hotel, where they are obliged to find a romantic partner in 45 days or are transformed into beasts and sent off into the woods. English with Spanish subtitles. Free.

June 23. Thursday. 7:30 pm. Human Capital. Italy, 2015. Drama, Art House & International. Human Capital begins at the end, as a cyclist is run off the road by a jeep on the night before Christmas Eve. The destinies of two families are irrevocably tied together after that. English with Spanish subtitles. Free.


To see more activities at Macondo visit www.facebook.com/macondo.cl.

CULTURAL PAVILION Downtown Cabo
Every Thursday. 7:00 pm. The Pavilion Movie Club is back again. Every Thursday a different movie. Different languages. Mostly English with Spanish subtitles. Free.

June 19. Saturday. 5:00 pm and 7:30 pm. Inside Out - The Musical. An adaptation from the Disney-Pixar kids movie is played by the by the Green Apple Students academy. All audiences. Tickets 150 pesos. Spanish. Cell: 624 110 0328.

July 2. Saturday. 7:30 pm. The Magic Has Hope. Dance by the students of Estudio del Angel ballet academy. All audiences. Spanish with some help in English. Tickets 200 pesos. More info at Estudio del Angel academy phone: 143 3606.

SAN JOSE DOWNTOWN
June 18. Saturday. From 6:00 pm until 1:30 am. International Music Day Festival. Featuring many musicians and groups. Dozens of stages with dozens of different kinds of music. International and local artists and bands. The stages will be at the principal points of downtown San Jose. Free. This is a biggie, the celebration of the first day of summer. OK, so it’s off by a couple days. Go with it.

6:00 pm. The Pavilion Movie Club.

8:00 pm. The Pavilion Movie Club.

10:00 pm. The Pavilion Movie Club.

JULY 2. SATURDAY.

10:00 pm. The Pavilion Movie Club.

12:00 am. The Pavilion Movie Club.

CABO MARINA FRONT
Open Monday to Sunday. From 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

CENTRO CULTURAL LA PAZ
Every Thursday. 6:00 pm. Documentary Movie Club. Every Thursday a different documentary about human issues and wild life. Spanish, sometimes in English. Free.

LA PAZ
ALIANZA FRANCESA
Every Thursday. 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 act. facebook.com/alianza.cabapaz. Spanish, French, English and other languages. Free.

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

HOLLYDANCE CAFÉ. Leona Vicario St. And 12 de Octubre St, 2° Floor, downtown Cabo. Every Tuesday from 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm. Trotamundos Reading Club. Spanish mostly. More info and special activities on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/saladecturatrotamundos/timeline

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: https://www.facebook.com/Sala-de-lectura-La-Mar%C3%B8mala-Kinesis-Fabulandia-6910397797630803/timeline

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-57789705535733/timeline

Community Reading Lounges
At AMELIA WILKES PLAZA Main plaza downtown CSL, 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 Nixania 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 the main park in Cabo San Lucas. Spanish and some in English. Free.

At HOLLYDANCE CAFÉ. Leona Vicario St. And 12 de Octubre St, 2° Floor, downtown Cabo. Every Tuesday from 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm. Trotamundos Reading Club. Spanish mostly. More info and special activities on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/saladecturatrotamundos/timeline

SAN JOSE CULTURAL HOUSE downtown.
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.

Every Tuesday. 8:00 pm. Documentary Movie Club. Every Tuesday a different documentary about human issues and wild life. Spanish, sometimes in English. Free.

EL GANZO HOTEL at La Playita

Every Thursday. 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 act. facebook.com/alianza.cabapaz. Spanish, French, English and other languages. Free.

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

To get your event listed here, email the details to david@gringogazette.com. There is no charge.
CHRISTIAN WORSHIP In English (La Paz) Crossroads Christian Fellowship. Sharing the living water of Jesus with thirsty people. 3124 Abosol between Sonora and Sinaloa. (Up the alley under the Crossroads sign) Call Milton Sanders at 6121375767 or 6121491832. www.crossroadslapaz.org (ed)

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GOLDEN CACTUS GALLERY is excited to now be in Plaza Casa Blanca on the highway to Todos Santos, across from the motel La Roca near the animal shelter. There is a stop light there so make a U-turn and voilá! (It’s just 3 miles from the marina.) Mon - Sat 12 - 6 PM. Cell: 624-147-5287 (ed)

MON - SAT 12 - 6 PM. Cell: 624-147-5287 (ed)

CIERROS DEL MAR: Great location, 6000 sq feet, newly gated community with a community center, pool, & spa. Call 624 178 5333 or 143-6400. (ed)

LIQUOR LICENSE FOR SALE. Cell 624-155-1049 (ed)

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

DENNIS RAYMOND SMITH. Pay your outstanding debt on the car, lease or any other loan! (It’s just 3 miles from the marina.) Mon-Sat 12-6 PM. Cell: 624-147-5287 (ed)

DIFFERENT NEWSPAPER! Your Name: _____________________________________

Questions? Call the office in Cabo at 14 30865. U.S. number is 562 714 6735

Email It In

You can mail it to 303 Magnolia Dr, Laguna Beach, CA, 92651

www.gringogazette.com (tf)

Click on Cabo Condo. Contact Mariana Cabo Condo. mrandr@mex.com (tf)

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3166 Email: dgraficortes@hotmail.com (tf)

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GRINGO HALF PRICE SPECIAL. 2 ½ bedroom 2 ½ bath Condo near Cabo Marina available for short term rental. $125 per night plus cleaning. More information at FishTalkRadio.com. To bottom of any page and click on Cabo Condo. Contact John at 805-207-3522 or John@FishTalkRadio.com. (ed)

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


FOR SALE BY OWNER NEW LARGE 5 bedroom house. Panoramic views of Cabo and The Sea of Cortez. Many extra features in the house. Located in a gated community with a common area pool on the Cabo Corridor. $299,000.00 US and includes all furnishings. MLS #15 – 2158. For more info please call Realty World Baja. Tel 624 143 5435 (ed)

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GREAT DEAL on 2006 black H3 Hammer. 63,000 miles. Arizona plates. only $14,750 usd 044 624 1551661 14-5856762 (ed)

RESTAURANT BAR FOR SALE in Cabo San Lucas downtown, great location, 6000 sq feet, newly remodeled. 624 157 0800
Every Monday, 8:30 am Pickleball in San Jose. Contact rondumbarton@gmail.com

Every Tuesday at 8 a.m. Rotary Club at the Sheraton Hacienda del Mar resort. In the Chapel. RSVP: 172-0009 and 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. info@sportia.mx

First Thursday, Yo Reciclo sets up tents to receive clear glass bottles, metal cans, plastics (except Styrofoam), thick cardboard, computer equipment (except monitors), small home appliances (except TV’s of all kinds), monitors), small home appliances, electronics (except TVs of all kinds), black ink jet printer ink cartridges and cellphones and accessories, electronics (except TVs of all kinds), small home appliances. The program sets up tents to receive clear glass bottles, metal cans, plastics (except Styrofoam), thick cardboard, computer equipment (except monitors), small home appliances (except TV’s of all kinds), monitors), small home appliances. The program sets up tents to receive clear glass bottles, metal cans, plastics (except Styrofoam), thick cardboard, computer equipment (except monitors), small home appliances (except TV’s of all kinds), monitors), small home appliances. 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Ask a Mexican

This Week’s Question is:
What is your favorite Mexican dicho and why?

A little background: Mexicans love their dichos, which are short charming phrases full of wisdom, often said by the eldest in the family and passed down to the younger generations. Some may contain heavy language but in the least offensive way possible, but they lose some of their flavor without the swear words, so toughen up.

1. Sarah Borbolla Garces 16 years old, student.
    Mine is “Del dicho al hecho hay mucho trecho” it translates roughly to “there’s a long way from words to action” and I like it because it’s easier to say one will do something but when it comes to actually doing it, we face obstacles that we didn’t know we would encounter. The person who carries out what they know we would encounter. The one who knows it all.

2. Gerardo Borbolla Alegria, 55 years old, business owner.
   “Más sabe el diablo por viejo, que por diablo.” And it translates to “The devil knows more by being old than by being the devil” I like it because in this life the one who knows more will always be the eldest rather than the one who thinks he knows it all.

3. Ivonne Garces de Isla, 48 years old, businesswoman.
   My favorite is “El que por gusto es buey, hasta la yunta lame” (there is a play on words here, “buey” is played as “wey” it sometimes can mean stupid) which literally translates to “He, who by his own liking/choosing is an Ox (jackass, an animal of burden), even the very rope he licks/kisses”. I like it because there are some people who we can’t help and there’s no way we can even try because they are comfortable in their mistakes, or are being taken advantage of and don’t realize or turn a blind eye.

4. Alfredo Ochoa, 30 years old, teacher.
   The one I like the most is “No hay fecha que no llegue ni plazo que no se cumpla”, which translates to “no date is unreachable or deadline is not met” I like it simply because time is so powerful and flowing, nothing and no one is exempt from its voraciousness. Money, power and social status can’t help either, that makes us all equally human and vulnerable.

5. Adriana Romero, 43 years old, housewife.
   “Ojo por ojo…” which means “eye for an eye” has to be my favorite, because when someone does something to you, you do it right back in the same scale, as revenge. I do not like it though, I don’t believe in doing wrong to anyone, but what I do like is the fact that the actions should be equal.

   “Farol de la calle oscuridad de su casa” which kind of translates to “light of the Street, darkness at home” is the best dicho out there, and recently is being more relevant. I like it because lately, I’ve seen women who dress up and do their makeup really nice but their homes are not exactly clean, they live in a mess.

And now maybe I add one from my boss, who harangues us with “Un gran poder conlleva una gran responsabilidad” With great power comes great responsibility. She’s trying to tell us here at the newspaper not to misuse the power we have in our writing. (She thinks we’re fooled into thinking she invented it, but we secretly know she stole it from a Spiderman movie).

Oh now she wants another one. But truthfully, she says this one with plenty of sarcasm. “Mejor tarde que nunca”. It means better late than never. She not so cleverly cribbed this one from the roadside sign that cautions drivers to slow down.

And yes, she’s the one who invents and steals the dichos scattered around in each issue of this paper. Not usually pithy or instructive, but fun nevertheless.

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These materials are not an offer to sell or solicitation to purchase property to any resident of a state or country where registration is required prior to such offer or solicitation, and is void where prohibited by law.
Editor, Not sure if this picture would fit the criteria to make the front page of the GG but it’s definitely hilarious! Cabo attracts all kinds! If it’s too risque maybe the black cat can go over his butt!!
Natalie Evaniew via email

Black cat? Black cat, you say? That black cat has a name and it’s Santiago, and I’ve been writing the State and National column for six months now! I like to be called by my name, if you please. And if you will be so kind to address me by name, I will indeed cover up the dirty picture you sent. You must be a pervert.
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Punta Baellena is cleaning up their exit off the highway and repainting the sign.
The downtown boulevards are getting new palm trees and cacti. Along the sides, colorful oleander and bougainvillea have been planted. City curbs have fresh coats of paint with way too many painted red which means no parking, but hey, if they allowed parking the business owners and employees would just clog up the streets and we civilians still wouldn’t find a parking spot. However, there are still a few more areas around town that need attention. One of them is the dirt lot across the street from the Puerto Paraiso parking garage. Especially the corner which is across from Marina Sol condos and on the way to Medano Beach. But it’s private property, heaped high with private junk, and if the owner wants it to look like that, there isn’t much we can do about it. Many of these particularly nasty lots belong to out of towners who never have to look at it.

Bottom line, our municipal government is trying hard to do right by us.

Well another day has passed and I didn’t use algebra once
Liga MAC Runs ESL Program

Surely you know by now what ESL stands for, no? Sigh.

By Willie Makit

Liga MAC is the league of Mexican, American and Canadian volunteers, mostly ladies, who bring much needed help to poor people in San Jose.

One of their programs is working with about 65 students who want to learn English. The 28 volunteer native speakers of English show up every Saturday morning three months a year to teach these kids who are all there because they know English is the way to a better job, and better life. Some only pursue English to become a deck hand on a fishing charter boat, others because they want to go to the United States for college, but they are all giving up their Saturday mornings to prepare for their future. Each of the teenagers is encouraged to dream big, and they all have various aspirations for their futures.

The following are some of the responses to a questionnaire given to the high school age students at the end of this season’s program.

The answers on the left of the forward slash are what they think they will do in the future. But the answers on the right of the line are the big dreams of what they would like to do. It’s interesting that their likely paths aren’t too different from their dreams.

Roberto - Law Degree / Singer
Yesenia - Lawyer / Lawyer
Abraham - Military Doctor, Lawyer / Doctor
Emilio - Business Administrator, Coach of A Soccer Team / Veterinarian, Businessman
Francisca - Human Resources, Air Force Soldier / Owner of Social Networks
Rosario - Computer Technician / Actress
Beatriz - Lawyer / Criminologist
Selina - Teacher, Lawyer /

Continued on page 35
So, Do You Think You Have The Right Stuff?

The right blood, that is, and are you healthy enough to give? Here are some pointers.

Probably not if you have a fever or a productive cough, (you’re bringing up icky stuff). Probably not if you do not feel completely perky on the day of donation. Probably you should wait until you have completed antibiotic treatment for sinus, throat, lung infections, or that smelly stuff coming out of your smelly parts.

Probably you’re still good to go if you have well controlled diabetes.

Probably not if you’re a man who has gotten it on with another man any time since 1977. Yes, even that one time when you were so drunk you were a bit gender confused. It only takes once to mess up your blood with AIDS.

You must be at least 17 years old and there is no upper age limit for blood donation as long as you are generally well with no restrictions or limitations to your activities.

High blood pressure is acceptable as long as your blood pressure is below 180/100 at the time of donation. Yikes! If it’s that high, they won’t need to pump it out of you, it will gush out by itself as they puncture the hole into you. Medications for high blood pressure do not disqualify you from donating. Well, if you’re on pills for high blood pressure and it’s still that high, take another pill, hellooo.

Probably not if you have had a tongue, nose, belly button or genital piercing in the past 12 months. (Genital piercing? They do that?) Donors with pierced ears are eligible. Now what’s the difference we don’t know. Seems like a poke is a poke. Are they observing social niceties here, or scientific based pronouncements, or no?

You need to weigh at least 110 pounds because blood volume is in proportion to body weight. Donors who weigh less than that might keel over from giving a whole pint. (Well, why don’t they just take a half a pint out of a half pint? They need us to think of these things?) There is no upper weight limit as long as you don’t weight more than the donor bed

The Donald Eats Mexican!

Donald Trump provided a photo op on Cinco de Mayo, but we’re not buying it. We can eat watermellon on Martin Luther King Day but that doesn’t make us Black.

Not good enough. We don’t forgive

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Not good enough. We don’t forgive
The three year old white terrier was dumped, as always, it seems, on the streets of San Jose. He was living like a hobo for a while, dumpster diving for his meals until he was brought to our vet for a overhaul of his handsome white coat. He's keeping himself slicked up now, everyday looking hopeful and holding a stiff upper lip when folks come by to look for a dog. We kept him because he's just such a loving animal, and well behaved.

FIDJI This female terrier was found two months ago on the highway north, artfully dodging cars and trucks, and is now off the streets and ready to be your friend. She is about six years old and had way more than her share of puppies before Baja SAFE got her under their care and tied her tubes. She is now safe from those pushy male dogs, but we can't keep her, she needs a home.

REAGAN The three year old white terrier was dumped, as always, it seems, on the streets of San Jose. He was living like a hobo for a while, dumpster diving for his meals until he was brought to our vet for a overhaul of his handsome white coat. He's keeping himself slicked up now, everyday looking hopeful and holding a stiff upper lip when folks come by to look for a dog. We kept him because he's just such a loving animal, and well behaved.

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