So What’s With All These Little Carts With Mexican Flags?

By Alejandra Sarachaga

As in any other country our Mexican flag is a big deal for us. But more so here. We would not wear the bandera of the country as a swimming suit for crying out loud, and we don’t understand how you can desecrate your flag like that.

We even have to memorize an oath to the flag and the meaning of its colors when we are in elementary school. I love to salute the flag when my Gringa boss is around because it makes her crazy, as she equates our salute with the way the Nazis salute. But what if we had that salute first? I chose to think the crazy krauts copied us.

The current Mexican flag was officially adopted in 1968, but the basic design has been around since 1821. Our flag has changed 13 times since then. Kinda like our constitution, it’s a fluid thing.

The current flag is also used by all the ships registered in Mexico, no matter where they go in the world.

The colors originated in the Three Guarantees Army in 1821 and there are two versions. We can say that it was B.J. and A.J. (meaning before President Juarez or after).

White meant the purity of the Catholic faith, red for the merging of Spaniards and indigenous, and green for the independence from Spain movement.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Beach Contamination Seeps To Surface

By Bridget Burke

Chileno Beach on the Cabo tourist corridor is nestled in one of the only natural bays in Cabo. It is one of our three nice swimmable beaches and it is now under the siege of a diesel spill. This beach has been designated a blue beach by the feds, which is a near and dear subject to the mayor’s heart, who has coveted the political designation of a clean beach. He finally got that designation after lots of work, and now it has been yanked away by a diesel spill.

Some guy posted a Facebook picture of an oil spill on the beach and that started a frenzy of opinions on the cleanliness of the beach. Federal officials soon descended on the beach to investigate this spill. And along with them came the fire department, the Navy, the Army, SEMARNAT (environmental protection agency), and ZOFEMAT (federal zone agency). The authorities took environmental samples, photos, videos and witness testimony for study. The evidence they gathered did indeed confirm that Chileno Beach was contaminated. Amazingly, a Facebook posting was right. Worse, the people on the beach claimed they reported it to those same agencies several months earlier and the most that happened then was there was an effort to partition off the area to stop the swimmers from plunging into the contaminated area. But people broke the barriers down and ignored the health warnings. Hence, in spite of the stinky diesel smell people continued to swim, snorkel and use the beach like nothing was wrong.

By the time the government boys came around to check it out, everyone could smell the diesel. Facebook postings stayed on it, and the government agencies were pressed to take action. Chileno Beach was finally closed and this raised alarm bells everywhere that there was a very big problem.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4
Missing girls found in Cabo. Cassidy and Gabriella Gibbs, the 4 and 6 year old girls who went missing six months ago after Santa Maria, Calif. Superior Court granted visitation rights to their father, were recovered safely last week with their mother, 44 year old Michelle Christine Gibbs, in Los Cabos.

Last Tuesday, Michelle Gibbs surrendered herself and her daughters at the U.S. Consular Agency in San Jose. Mexican immigration officials escorted the three, who appeared to be in good health, back to the U.S.

posted bail at $100,000 and is slated for arraignment on Sept. 15 in California.

Where is everybody? The city government changes hands in December, following elections last June, and our city honchos are already missing in action. Yup, many have already abandoned their jobs, showing up only to pick up their paychecks.

For instance–the new pavement project on Hidalgo Street in Cabo San Lucas, one of our most important streets that goes up and down the city, has been torn up and left with mounds of dirt at every corner. It looks like detours! New this year: There will be three starting locations in La Paz, East Cape, and Puerto Los Cabos. Start time is at 7 am. at each location, with the weigh-in at Palmas De Cortez in the East Cape between 1 and 6 p.m. Security will be on duty from Friday night the 23rd starting at 7 pm. until Saturday morning at 6 am. for all boats anchored in front of Hotel Palmas De Cortez. Also panga shore boat service until Friday at 9 p.m. Agencias Arjona or Baja Mark in La Paz will serve as event information location in each quincena.

Who’s to blame: - outgoing, lame-duck Mayor Tony Agundez finish what he started. So far, not even a return phone call.

Attention Fisherpeople! The third annual Van Wormer Resort Tuna Shoot Out format will be a tad different this year, as it is the largest Yellowfin tuna that will win. The largest tuna caught on October 24 will win approximately $35,000 (based on 100 teams entering). This is a one-day tournament, so anyone can win.

If you are entered in the tournament and you catch the fattest Yellowfin tuna you will walk away with the cash. There will be over $100,000 in cash and prizes up for grabs. Entry fee is only $300 per team. Terrific prizes for the top three teams that catch the largest tuna optional cash jackpots of $300, $500 and $1,000 and a new $2,000 jackpot with an 85% return rate.

There are great drawing prizes of tackle, rods, tackle boxes, gift certificates and return trips to Van Wormer Resorts. All participants will receive a free tournament shirt and hat. The awards dinner will be held at Hotel Palmas De Cortez on Saturday, Oct. 24 at 7:00 pm.

Instead of calling it the jim so I can say I go to the jim every morning
No thanks, we’d rather starve.

Top Mexican chefs urged the president to join them in their opposition to genetically modified corn in a country where fully 34% of this important staple has to be imported. About 100 well known chefs hopped on this bandwagon.

Last year Mexico temporarily banned cultivation of the crops in which some genes are modified to make them hardier or make them work better with a particular pesticide. But a judge ruled a week later to suspend the temporary hold.

While supporters say the modified crops may bring larger yields, detractors worry that the crop itself could be unhealthy for humans, and that pesticides will sully their farmland and water supply. Some social groups and environmental organizations have protested, calling for the ban to be permanent.

“Growing these products undermines the biodiversity of our native corn grains and endangers their very existence,” the chefs said in a statement. Mexico is a leading producer of white corn from which tortillas, a staple of the Mexican diet, are made.

President’s numbers dropping. President Peña Nieto’s strategists had predicted that his changes in the oil and telecom industries would produce growth rates of 5 to 6 percent, but expectations keep dropping. While preparing this year’s budget, the government predicted growth rates of 3.7 percent, although so far this year growth has hobbled along at only 1.6 percent. This has taken a political toll. A poll in the Reforma newspaper found Peña Nieto’s approval rating had fallen to 34%, down from 39% in March, reaching the lowest point since he took office in December 2012.

A UNAM professor sums it up thusly: “We have an economy that practically has not grown in two-and-a-half years,” said Jonathan Heath, an economics professor at the National Autonomous University of Mexico in Mexico City. “And that has bothered a lot of people, because the government promised that we were going to grow.” Well, look, every campaign promises that. And anyway, what’s wrong with a 34 percent rating?

Part of the reason for the economic growth failure has to do with disappointment with petroleum. Mexico waited to denationalize their oil industry until the price of oil skidded to record lows. The big oil companies are closing their wallets, afraid to bid on Pemex’s offers.

What are we, chopped liver? Move over, Colima, Mérida has moved into the top spot on the National Quality of Life Index, a measurement of the best and the worst cities in Mexico in which to live. The capital of Yucatán edged up from last year’s second place to oust Colima, the capital of the state with the same name, which plunged to sixth place in the fourth annual survey of Mexico’s most habitable cities. Mérida scored 83.3 points out of 100 on an index based on residents’ views about housing, schooling, mobility, cleanliness, recreational opportunities, citizen coexistence, museums and historical places, natural beauty, quality of life compared to last year and quality of life compared to the rest of the country. Well, we’ll take Cabo over some dumpy city over on the mainland.

What is wrong with these people? A recent poll asked, “If you were offered a meal of turtle eggs, whose possession is illegal, would you eat them?” 3% said they would gulp them right down, yes indeedy, screw the turtles. 97% claimed they wouldn’t, but there...
Of course there has been much speculation about who screwed up and who is going to take responsibility. Accusations flew to and fro, and most were in the direction of the developer who is currently building a new luxury hotel and residences on the polluted area of Chileno Beach.

The municipal and federal authorities announced that regardless of who was at fault, there were very specific precautions and conditions for construction near beaches and of course there is a law against dumping stinky stuff into the sea. The authorities then said they would speak with the developer and monitor the site. They stated that no matter how it happened, the perpetrators would be held accountable for the environmental damage to the reef and land.

The potential environmental impact of hydrocarbon fuel on Chileno Bay marine and land species alarmed the community. It was reported that Benito Bermudez, Director of CONANP in Baja Sur California, advised that based on the test samples his agency saw, the impact was more severe on the beach than in the water. The penetration of the diesel into the rock crevices and loose sand directly affected the microscopic and medium sized fauna living on the ground, he said.

PROFEPA officials stated that site testing confirmed the soil was contaminated but that the damage may have been done long ago. Their experts said it is very possible that the current development project at the site may not have caused the soil damage at all. The development under construction at the contamination site is the VieVage Los Cabos. It is a new beachfront hotel and residential condo resort being built by the Red Group in the 1,200 acre Chileno Bay master development. The Red Group is a Cabo-based construction and development firm led by Edward Hooton, whose projects include the Cabo Azul Resort. The Red Group along with SV Capital Partners (SVCP) and the Auberge Resorts Collection is responsible for VieVage. SV Capital Partners is a real estate investment and development firm whose portfolio includes Esperanza Resort in Cabo San Lucas, which is a property in the Auberge Resorts Collection. The Auberge Resorts Collection owns and operates a portfolio of hotels, resorts, residences and private clubs.

According to the VieVage team, the contamination happened 30 to 40 years ago, long before SVCP purchased the land in June 2013. SVCP purchased a 22 acre real estate parcel from the owners of the Chileno Bay partners master development. SVCP officials say they were not aware of the contamination at the time of purchase but during the course of pre-construction excavation, they discovered underground petrochemical residue.

SVCP stopped excavation immediately and hired experts in the field of environmental mediation and clean-up to make a full review and analysis of the property. They determined that...
When Benny Juarez became president he changed the meaning because he also established a law which made the country secularized, meaning that no religion will be official and schools should not teach religion, but only civic principles. So the colors became to be green for hope, white for unity and red for the blood shed by the national heroes.

On September 16th we celebrate our independence from Spain and we really like to make a big deal of it, and there are many ways to do this. One, is going to the Delegación building here in Cabo or to the Palacio Municipal, (City Hall), in San José, to see the Presidente Municipal, (which we translate as mayor), come out on the balcony and yell out loud Viva Mexico! three times. Then he rings a bell, waves our flag like crazy, and people gathered around below make noise with whistles, clappers, voices, whatever we have handy. Horns all over the republic are honked at this precise moment. Also this is when the fireworks start. This ceremony thing with the grito, the viva Mexico yell, goes on in every big city and every little burg all over Mexico. It’s a tradition for many families to go to the square to participate in the noise making. In La Paz, because it is the capitol of the state, the governor performs the grito.

All this is to emulate Padre Miguel Hidalgo, the father of independence, who grabbed a Virgin of Guadalupe banner, waved it around like crazy and yelled out Viva Mexico, and calling for independence.

Another way to celebrate is to gather in someone’s house, dress up with period folk clothing, or at least wear the Mexican flag colors, bring Mexican dishes, turn the TV on, and wait until the Presidente de la República performs the grito from the palace balcony in México City.

It’s a great holiday. So here is where the carritos are explained.

You can buy all kinds of holiday paraphernalia on those little carts that have sprung up around town. (Carritos). Hung on these girls. There are Mexican dolls, bobby pins, and the image of St. Jude and the Guadalupe Virgin decorated with the colors of the Mexican flag. Green, white and red, pay attention! There are also whistles, trumpets, stickers, and even dresses for little

or at least wear the Mexican flag colors, bring Mexican dishes, turn the TV on, and wait until the Presidente de la República performs the grito from the palace balcony in México City.

It’s a great holiday. So here is where the carritos are explained.

You can buy all kinds of holiday paraphernalia on those little carts that have sprung up around town. (Carritos). Hung on these green, white, and red carts you will find Mexican flags of course, in all sizes and for all purposes, to decorate your house, your office, your car, or yourself. There are also whistles, trumpets, stickers, and even dresses for little

Ask a Mexican

This Week’s Question is: What do you do for fun? Do you enjoy Cabo like the tourists do?

1. Carlos Torres 44 years old, aviation mechanic. I live in San José and I work for twelve hours and rest forty-eight, so I feel like I am on vacation every other day. I am a fisherman aficionado, and an avid surfer; I spend my days on the beach, from when the sun is up until it goes down. Sometimes at night when I can, I go and have a couple of beers at the local bar and go home to sleep after a while. I have never rented a paddle board, I have my own and spend most of my time repairing my boards, they usually take very rough blows. I also take my kids, and we all surf, paddle and swim. I am in love with the ocean, it makes me very happy. Every couple of days I go to Medano Beach, or one of the fancy restaurants in Cabo, but not very often. I don’t enjoy the club scene downtown.

2. Juan Virgen 43 years old, federal worker at the airport. On my day off, I sleep and mop mostly. I like La Paz a lot, walking down the pier, eat at the restaurants enjoying the sunsets, see the fishermen bring in their catch of the day. I like to have a couple of beers at home, I find it more comfortable than going out. Sometimes I like to go to the pub, but not too much, it’s so loud and hot sometimes. I also like the beach on Sundays, I like going to the few beaches he has left for the locals. They are the nicest beaches. I also like to go out to dance salsa on Fridays and Saturdays at a couple of local bars that feature salsa music in San José. I have never bought tours or tourist activities and I like talking to the tourists you usually learn a lot from people who are from a different country, but I like quieter places, like the beach for example. I like loud music when I go out clubbing. I go every 3 or 6 months to Downtown San Lucas to the club scene, when my family or friends come here for a visit.

3. Angel Torres 36 years old, federal employee. I go to Palmilla Beach and Chileno on my day off, and dance with my girl very often. I don’t enjoy the restaurants in Cabo, but not too much, it’s so loud music when I go there. I also take my kids, and most of my time repairing my boards, they usually take very rough blows. I also take my kids, and we all surf, paddle and swim. I am in love with the ocean, it makes me very happy. Every couple of days I go to Medano Beach, or one of the fancy restaurants in Cabo, but not very often. I don’t enjoy the club scene downtown.

4. Sumbida Santiago 58 years old, artisan. I help my daughter at her shop, I usually take half Sunday off, I only like going to the movies or having a cup of coffee in Puerto Paraíso, San Lucas is very nice because of the marina, I like both in San José and San Lucas. To be honest, with this heat, I like to have one, or two or three very cold beers, but that’s it. I also have to travel to Vera cruz and Oaxaca very often because of the crafts, but in Cabo I enjoy quiet and tranquil things, I am not very into loud or crowded places because they make me anxious.

5. Zen Diego 26 years old, works in insurance. I help my daughter at her shop, I usually take half Sunday off, I only like going to the movies or having a cup of coffee in Puerto Paraíso, San Lucas is very nice because of the marina, I like both in San José and San Lucas. To be honest, with this heat, I like to have one, or two or three very cold beers, but that’s it. I also have to travel to Vera cruz and Oaxaca very often because of the crafts, but in Cabo I enjoy quiet and tranquil things, I am not very into loud or crowded places because they make me anxious.

6. Jacarandá Costich 23 years old, nutritionist. I love to go to the beach, specially Santa Maria with my family and friends. I also love to dance, so I go sometimes downtown to the clubs and dance with my girl very often. I don’t enjoy the restaurants in Cabo, but not too much, it’s so loud music when I go there. I also take my kids, and we all surf, paddle and swim. I am in love with the ocean, it makes me very happy. Every couple of days I go to Medano Beach, or one of the fancy restaurants in Cabo, but not very often. I don’t enjoy the club scene downtown.

This Week’s Question is: What do you do for fun? Do you enjoy Cabo like the tourists do?
QUE PASA IN CABO?...
continued from page 2

...problem locations, as well as The
Marina office and store at Puerto
Los Cabos.

What about El Niño? The wa-
ters of the eastern Pacific Ocean
are heating up, scientists say,
bueling towards a strong El Niño
event that could rival the inten-
sity of the record 1997 event that
wreaked weather-related havoc
across the globe, from mud slides
in California to fires in Australia.
According to the latest fore-
cast released by the National
Oceanic and Atmospheric Ad-
ministration (NOAA) Climate
Prediction Center, this year’s El
Niño is “significant and strength-
ening. There is a greater than 90%
chance that El Niño will continue
through Northern Hemisphere
winter 2015-16, and around an
85% chance it will last into early
spring 2016,” the NOAA said in
a statement.

A strong El Niño heats up the
atmosphere and changes circula-
tion patterns around the globe,
especially the jet stream over the
Pacific, which becomes
stronger and dumps
more frequent and
intense storms
over the west-
erm U.S., es-
pecially Cali-
ifornia. It also
means more rain
for the west coast of
South America.

The weather
isn’t the only thing that’s af-
ected. Warmer surface waters
in the eastern Pacific drive away
the cold water fish that are the
backbone of the fishing industry
in much of Latin America. It was
here that the phenomenon was
first noticed by fishermen, who
named it “El Niño” — meaning
“little boy” or “Christ child” in
Spanish — since it would often
appear around Christmas. Stay
throughout the year, it became
more predictable and was
named El Niño.

The El Niño of 1997-98 was the
strongest on record, causing
anomalous warm water to
form throughout the South
Pacific, because the current
that normally moves warm
eastward along the coast
of Peru stopped and
flowed westward.

This caused the
Peruvian current
to weaken,
allowing nutrients
in the water
below the
surface
to rise
up.

The result was
a
massive
upwelling of nutrient
rich water, which
led to a
massive
blooming
of plankton
and a
massive
increase
in fish
abundance.

The
upwelling
also caused
a
death
of
the
famous
Peruvian
current,
which
is
responsible
for
keeping
the
coast
cool
and
the
fish
abundant.

The
upwelling
also
caused
a
massive
increase
in
wind
and
wave
activity,
which
led
to
a
massive
increase
in
rainfall
and
floods,
which
led
to
a
tremendous
increase
in
tourism.

The
upwelling
also
caused
a
massive
increase
in
water
levels,
which
led
to
a
massive
increase
in
tidal
power.

The
upwelling
also
caused
a
massive
increase
in
ocean
oxygen
levels,
which
led
to
a
massive
increase
in
sea
life.

The
upwelling
also
caused
a
massive
increase
in
sea
temperature,
which
led
to
a
massive
increase
in
sea
bathing.

The
upwelling
also
caused
a
massive
increase
in
sea
nutrients,
which
led
to
a
massive
increase
in
sea
life.

The
upwelling
also
caused
a
massive
increase
in
sea
sediment,
which
led
to
a
massive
increase
in
sea
bottom.

The
upwelling
also
caused
a
massive
increase
in
sea
drift,
which
led
to
a
massive
increase
in
sea
tides.

The
upwelling
also
caused
a
massive
increase
in
sea
waves,
which
led
to
a
massive
increase
in
sea
storms.

The
upwelling
also
caused
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massive
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which
led
to
a
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increase
in
sea
life.

The
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increase
in
sea
life.

The
upwelling
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sea
power.

The
upwelling
also
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which
led
to
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sea
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The
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The
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The
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The
upwelling
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The
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The
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massive
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sea
fishing.
City Of Peace Throws A Peace Festival
La Paz celebrates their 9th annual, with no lasting peace in sight

BY ALEJANDRA BORBOLLA

The 9th annual Peace Festival in La Paz will be held this year on September 17 through 21.

The Pax festival, as it’s called, first started in 2003, and is looking to be a yearly project with UN support, along with support from the municipality of La Paz, the government of Baja California Sur, the cultural institutions of La Paz, City Hall, and various NGOs of the city.

Prof. Victor Castro, president of the 12th district, Rosa Delia Cota, president of the 8th district, Esthela Ponce, former president of the 14th district, and the current president Francisco Monroy, have been the carriers of the flag of peace, representing the citizens of La Paz. This thing goes on eyear after eyear with the intention of promoting a culture of peace, well-being and healthy human development. We can still hold out hopes for the well being and human development stuff, but we think it’s safe to say peace is not going to happen.

Every year the Pax festival is endorsed and coordinated by the cultural division of the city of La Paz, and this year the festival’s

CONTINUED ON PAGE 21

What Preventive Medicine Can Do For You
And in Mexico it’s a bargain

By Dr. Dick

Medical research has come a long way, and as a result people are living longer lives than at any time before. The average life expectancy for an American is now approaching 80 years, and with simple lifestyle changes many people can live to 95 years and beyond!

Simple lifestyle factors such as a healthy weight, regulating blood pressure and cholesterol levels can easily add an extra decade or more to your life span. Other steps are managing diabetes, a healthy diet and staying active, mentally and physically.

Preventive medicine is a branch of medicine dealing with the prevention of disease and the maintenance of good health practices. Every year millions of people die from preventable diseases, many diseases which can be avoided if detected early. The most effective method for prevention of disease is to have a regular check-up, even if you are healthy. With a preventive health check-up we can detect many disease before they start, and find problems early, when chances for treatment and cure are better. By getting the right screenings, and treatments, you are on the path to living a longer, healthier life.

One World and Saint Luke’s Hospitals know the importance of early detection and timely treatment, and combine world class medical care with preventive health check-ups to endorse healthy living. They offer a range of health check-up packages, which includes clinical evaluations with scans, medical tests and investigations, and advice on a healthy lifestyle and diet. The packages are designed for different age, groups and disease profiles, and include:

- Basic Check-up
- Hypertension Check-up
- Heart Check-up
- Whole Body Check-up for Men & Women
- Check-up Plus
- Diabetic Check-up
- Master check-up

The Whole Body Check-up for Men & Women is designed to meet individual health needs and preferences. This test will screen each organ closely to detect even the smallest symptom that could be an indication of a major disease. Also screens for anemia, diabetes, including a lipid panel to access cardiac and stroke risk factors, and other tests.

Now is a good time to get a check-up. Until October 31 health check-ups are at significantly reduced prices, starting at $650 pesos. Contact the hospital about the check-up package that’s right for you.

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New Hotel Opens
The first of many under construction on the corridor

BY BRIDGET BURKE

The Cape is the first Mexico based property from the Thompson hotels luxury brand. The 161 room hotel just opened on the shores of Los Cabos’ Monuments Beach, a beach favored by surfers and one of the few swimmable beaches on the corridor. The new hotel blends the upscale urban aesthetic with a distinct 1960s Baja-meets-Southern-California vibe.

The look. They assembled an impressive team of collaborators for The Cape, including Mexican

architect Javier Sánchez of JSA Arquitectura; interior designer Mariabel Gómez, Mexican ceramist Jose Noé Suro; and chef Enrique Olvera, whose restaurant led by Enrique Olvera, whose restauranteur Jose Noé Suro; and chef Marisabel Gómez, Mexican executive team.

The style of The Cape is unique in Cabo, as it’s a departure from the same old hacienda style. When architect Javier Sanzé first visited the ocean side site that would become The Cape, he envisioned a seamless transition between indoors and outdoors, a juxtaposition of modern and natural elements. The result is an arrestingly sleek modern design, with an open air layout with amazing views. Contrasting design elements such as the lobby’s deep black concrete ceilings suspended above a life size whale sculpture made from salvaged driftwood define the duo’s synergistic balance of urban and natural elements. They focused on handmade modern furniture made of materials like solid hardwoods, leather and brass, all highlighted by hand-painted original tilework.

The amenities. Each of the 161 rooms, (1,2,3-bedrooms), features an amazing unobstructed view of the Sea of Cortez and the iconic arch. Guests will enjoy two pools, a fresh water infinity pool with swim up bar, and another built within a natural rock formation. The sixth story rooftop bar and lounge with unmatched views of the city and sea is not to be missed. A seven treatment room spa allows for relaxation with two private outdoor cabanas for treatments with an ocean view. A fitness center featuring floor to ceiling, panoramic windows overlooks the Sea of Cortez.

The Dining. Celebrated chef

Enrique Olvera, a 2015 James Beard Foundation Award finalist, oversees the hotel’s 114 seat signature restaurant called Manta. Olvera’s menu features Pacific Rim traditions, taking inspiration from his native Mexico, as well as Peru, Japan, and beyond. There is a dedicated tortilla nook—a section of the restaurant where staff trained in traditional technique will hand prepare all tortillas. Huh? Tortilla guys trained in

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

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These days everybody wants to look beautiful. As 78 million “baby boomers” approach retirement, age is beginning to show. But with the fast pace of today’s aging society, people now want that fresh look without spending weeks of painful recovery. A rejuvenation vacation is the solution. Spa Cielo Laser, Wellness and Weight Loss Center named “2009 Best Medical Spa”, is located in San Jose del Cabo, and has built their business over the past 10 years here in Los Cabos to meet those vacationer desires. “People want to look better, but they don’t want to give up any time from their daily lives or vacation” said Cathy Dammann, Medical Aesthetics Practitioner and Owner of Spa Cielo Laser, Wellness and Weight Loss Center. “The public is demanding transformation with little or no downtime” states Dammann. Spa Cielo, which specializes in the latest light and laser treatments, offers a variety of treatments from LED and Photo-facials, to TITAN™ Skin Tightening and Luminis Accupulse™ Fractional CO2 Laser. With the recent addition of the award winning HydraFacial™, Voted Best Non-Laser, Non-Surgical Skin Rejuvenation 2012, Spa Cielo now has something for everyone, whether it is aging Skin Rejuvenation by WebMD, which offers a superior solution for rejuvenating and resurfacing the skin. The fractional laser can be used effectively to treat fine lines, wrinkles, acne, stretch marks, acne and burn scars, skin pigmentation, discoloration, sun damage, precancerous as well as benign lesions and uneven skin texture. This is the only laser treatment at Spa Cielo that requires any downtime, typically less than 5 days.

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Rated with five stars on
November 5th, 2012

Let’s clap them in jail. As nine state governors prepare to leave office after completing their six-year terms later this year, it seems most of them are taking a big chunk of their state’s funds with them. The governors of Michoacán, Colima, Nuevo León, Querétaro, Sonora, Guerrero, San Luis Potosí, Campeche and our own Baja California Sur, have yet to account to the Federal Auditor’s Office (ASF) for some dodgy expenditures, which amount to the not insignificant sum of $972.8 million U.S. The most common irregularities detected by the auditor include bank transfers to unauthorized accounts, the absence of refunds for interest income or under spending, overpriced and/or under used purchases, spending in areas other than those originally intended, or payments made to unqualified teaching and medical staff.

The governor of Michoacán is the biggest thief, according to ASF data: expenditures of 7.8 billion pesos have yet to be explained by the government of former governor Fausto Vallejo Figueroa, who left office early for health reasons. Yeah, it’s unhealthy to live in jail and he loses his immunity the day he leaves office. A head start is a good thing.

The state Finance Secretary claims that the current administration inherited debt from the previous one, a situation that has only worsened since. He also accepted the amount claimed by the auditor’s office, while the current government will try to clarify its expenditures, it is a questionable payment of 1.7 million pesos from a health services fund to pay six medical specialists who couldn’t prove their qualifications and were thus deemed unfit for the positions for which they were hired.

The total of the funds in question is almost as much as the budget of the entire state of Aguascalientes for the 2015 fiscal year, 17.2 billion pesos. The Federal Auditor’s Office says that as of this week none of the nine states has rectified or explained the anomalies and misappropriation of federal resources.

Cancun beaches, well, no day continued on page 25

WHAT’S GOING ON IN THIS... continued from page 3

is such a thriving black market for turtle eggs, you know half of that 97% is lying their ass off.

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Cancun beaches, well, no day continued on page 25
BEACH CONTAMINATION...

continued from page 4

the contamination affected about 1% of the property and was likely diesel fuel from fishing boats stored on the property 30 to 40 years ago when the site was a junk yard for ships.

Interestingly, SVCP states that all of the authorities were already aware of the contamination and were working with SVCP on it prior to the Facebook post. Many months ago, SVCP officials say, their expert consultants proposed a containment, removal and remediation plan, which was approved by SEMARNAT. Furthermore, PROFEPA, CA-NAGUA and SEMARNAT, purportedly were all heavily involved from day one, analyzing both the remediation plan as well as the actual results of remediation.

SVCP followed the official remediation process, the affected soil was moved and stockpiled on a non-permeable membrane, after which the soil was then cleaned, (injected with enzymes to break down the contaminant). To date, 1,500 cubic meters of soil have been removed. SVCP has adhered strictly to the remediation plan required by Mexican law, their officials say. Currently, they are waiting on the final green light from the Mexican authorities in order to perform the mitigation process on the soil. This is expected to happen in the next week.

Additionally, there is an area outside of the SVCP property that also has been affected. This area is called the Concession Area. SVCP suggests that this might be the area that people saw and reported in the Facebook post. In this area, white PVC pipes were pounded into the ground to take ground samples. The Concession Area property is not owned by SVCP, it is owned by the Chileno Bay development partners company. However, SVCP has been working with the authorities to clean that up as well. The soil there is expected to go through the same mitigation process described above, as soon as they receive the green light from SEMARANT.

Thus far, SVCP officials say they have invested more than $800,000 USD to formulate, implement and finalize remediation for the contaminants and state that they remain committed to maintaining and implementing policies that will hold Chileno Bay and the new VieVage resort to the highest standards of green living and environmental stewardship. PROFEPA issued a bulletin two weeks ago saying SVCP is in full compliance regarding the contaminate remediation. While SVCP took on the responsibility for remediation of the diesel contamination found after they purchased the property as required by Mexican law, they are saying the spill is not their fault. They are conducting an investigation to identify the company(s) that may have originally caused the spill, be it the boat junk yard, possibly the road builders, or some yet unidentified culprit.

SEMARNAT issued a report last week confirming that there is now no contaminant in the ocean water and Chileno Beach has been reopened. So for SVCP the battle continues while for Chileno Beach visitors it is time to grab your swimsuit, head to the beach, and hopefully soon see the treasured blue flag once again waving proudly above Chileno Beach’s turquoise waters. ☀

San Jose Al-Anon Family Group
Meeting Fridays 11:00 a.m.
Next to Calvary Chapel
Corner of Degollado and Margarita Mazza de Juarez
Info: Cell 624-127-1892

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Children’s Foundation Shakes The Money Tree

They have a new outreach program that is effective, painless, and very professional

BY BRIDGET BURKE

The Los Cabos Children’s Foundation, a local charity started and supported by Americans, has a new fund raising program called One Dollar A Day.

Since this successful charity began more than a decade ago, it has been passing the sombrero among the richie rich, which has worked out well, but now they are adding an additional outreach program.

The Foundation has hired Vanessa Figueroa, as development director to contact all the timeshare hotels to enroll them in this program which wrings a buck a day out of each of the hotel guests. The buck a day is automatically added to their hotel bill and is usually not even noticed when they check out. Also, the charity has created a program which automatically deducts a few dollars from each pay check the time share workers earn.

When Vanessa contacted Chris Erickson, who owns Cabo Villas on Medano Beach, he ponied right up, and was glad to be the first in line to support the Foundation’s good works. Chris said he was especially interested in the Foundation’s “Spirit of Love” surgical and intensive care program that provides help for children born with congenital heart defects. These children

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

LCCF has been addressing congenital heart defects in the state since 2004. During the first eight years of this program, patients were sent to their partner in Omaha, Nebraska, the Children’s Hospital and Medical Center (CHMC).

But LCCF decided to establish a pediatric cardiology program at the Salvatierra Hospital in La Paz, partly to save money so they can serve more families, partly to keep families together, partly to avoid visa problems, and partly to train and equip the local population.

In June 2013, the first open heart surgery was performed in Baja California Sur and since then, five rounds of surgeries have been possible thanks to the leadership of Dr. Jim Hammel of CHMC, in which the lives of 54 children from all across the state have been saved.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14
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QUE PASA EN CABO?...
continued from page 6
rachera (flank) steak and all the trimmings. Proceeds will be used to buy school supplies, school clothes and shoes. Come see the new building (replacement for building destroyed by Odile) and other improvements. Reservations must be made in advance to Nancy Naigle at nnai@att.net, 612-178-0040. No drop ins, so make your reservations.

La Paz sued for fast cash.
The financial institution named “Dinero Fácil y Rápido” or fast easy money out of its employees’ paychecks to pay back the loans they made to city employees.

City Hall has been cut off by the same land has already been sold. Holy shit. Did we realize that the same land has already been sold. Holy shit. Did we

Downs is an activist for indigenous people’s rights and traditions, and usually sings Mexican traditional and popular music dressed in typical Mexican indigenous attire. Her achievements include a Grammy Award and two Latin Grammy Awards. Look her up on YouTube. If you plan to attend the Sabor a Cabo Food Fest the cost of admission is $120.00, and the profits are to be donated to the Cabo San Lucas Children Foundation. For more information, visit: www.saboracabo.mx. For tickets, call 624 143 3944 or email: ticket@caniracloscabos.mx. Congrats to Reachi. Secretary of Tourism for our state Ruben Reachi has been transferred to head the Los Cabos tourism fund, known as Fiturca, just weeks before the state government changes hands Sept. 10.

Reachi, former director of the Puerto Paraíso Mall, and former president of the influential Los Cabos Coordinating Council, an umbrella group of the most powerful businesses associations in our municipality, was in charge of the renovation of the San Jose, Cabo San Lucas and Todos Santos downtown areas. You willnote we’re keeping a straight face here, out of respect for the position, not the man. All three of

Continued on Page 22...
surgery, but now most of them are treated in La Paz, thanks to all the equipment bought and doctors trained by the Los Cabos Children’s Foundation. “Since the program started, Cabo Villas has given us close to $75,000 dollars,” announced Marisa Comella, executive director for the Los Cabos Children’s Foundation. “We are so

very thankful for having such committed people on board, working alongside us to create awareness of the health care needs of children in Baja California Sur and making a difference in the way locals and tourists approach charitable giving by having a continuous program with quantifiable results.”

Vanessa is out beating the bushes for more hotels to get “involved”. (Translation: Pony up $$$ from their guests and their staff). Her latest success has been with the Hacienda del Mar Vacation Club that is giving it a trial.

The reason this program works so well, says Vanessa, is that once it’s in place, it’s all automatic, because the money deducted from the hotel guests is programmed into the preparation of the bills, and the one payroll service all these time share companies use to prepare their paycheck, programs the charitable deduction right into their final pay.

For any companies, of any kind, that want to jump into this really effective charity, go to www.loscaboschildren.org/get-involved. or call Vanessa, She will come out like a fire truck to explain the program details and help you get started. We’re betting your employees would be glad to know how they can give to the community in a way that’s easy and secure for them. She can be reached at cellie 624-157-3851.

HERE’S WHAT A BUCK A DAY...
continued from page 11

This program offers evaluations, echocardiograms, and catheterizations throughout the year, in addition to the open heart surgery rounds. Training for the doctors, nurses and hospital support staff is provided as well, so eventually the program can be accredited by the Mexican Seguro Popular and become self-sustaining.

They also support the only pediatric intensive care unit found in our state at the Salvatierra Hospital. Their goal is to continue working for all the children of Southern Baja to receive world-class medical care in their home state, so they can have a better quality of life.
FAQ About Trust For Foreigners

With residential purposes. (RZT), Part 3

BY RAUL LEON

6.- What benefits does the restricted zone trust provide?
Besides being the only legal way of acquiring a real estate property for residential purposes in restricted zone for a foreigner, it provides the following benefits:

Discretion: In real estate transactions with nationals, the names of the purchaser and seller are public and can be known by everybody because the purchase is registered on the Property and Commerce Public Registry and in the inscription the relevant information of the transaction appears and if property is owned through a trust. Public registry only shows that the property is under trust number “X” and the beneficiary information stays confidential. This benefit is so big that many Mexican nationals make trusts just to keep their patrimony and assets information private.

Protection of patrimony: The legal owner of the property is a trustee, not the foreigner and because of that, so no lien can be placed over the property for debts of the foreigner or a Beneficiary and his creditors cannot know who the owner of a certain property is. Many Mexicans hold their properties in trust for this reason as well.

The free ability to designate substitute beneficiaries: It doesn’t matter what a will establishes in Mexico or a foreign country, the designation of substitute beneficiaries in a trust prevails.

Support of a Financial Institution: The trustee, by law, must be a financial institution, a bank is the owner and in case of any legal situation, he’s involved as legal owner and defends the title in court.

All trust are regulated in Mexico by mercantile, federal laws, so most trials or legal disputes has to be under Federal Laws and in Federal Court, so this avoids confrontations on the local level or local domestic regulations in local trials.

7.- Who can be designated as beneficiary in a Restricted zone trust?

A trust can be executed in behalf of the following:

One or more individual persons even it they are under legal age.

An incorporated foreign person (an INC, LLC, etc.)

A foreign trust (family or living trust in a foreign country)

A Mexican incorporated person that allows foreigners as partners of the company.

It’s important to notice that if more than one person acquires a real estate property in restricted zone for residential purposes, they’ll need a trust if only one is a foreigner. If you have a Mexican partner, but you are foreign, you need a trust.

8.- What happens if a foreigner becomes a Mexican citizen?

The trustee can immediately transfer the direct title to the beneficiary and there is no taxation regarding the acquisition or capital gains taxes, if requested.

9.- What restrictions apply for the constitution of a Restricted Zone trust?

There are only two restrictions to have in mind:

If the real estate property is subject to an “ejido” (a Mexican Land Grant).

CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

Agent Profile

Marco Klein

Marco Klein was born in México City, where he resided until 1986. When he came to Los Cabos to spend some time with his father, he fell in love on the spot with the Baja’s dramatic beauty!

Marco began his professional career in Los Cabos in 1997 with the introduction of the first internet service by ISP. His Real Estate experience started out at Baja Properties for 5 years, and afterward at Snell Real Estate, specializing in high-end property sales. In 2004, when he started his own company, M&R Marketing and Real Estate. Marco is a Certified International Property Specialist by the NAR, (US), an active member of the AMPI, was a member of the Honor and Justice Committee, and member of the MLS BCS.

Marco studied graphic design at the Universidad de Guadalajara, married his college sweetheart, and is the father of three wonderful boys ages 17, 15 and 11.

Contact Marco, M&RR Real Estate at (624) 147-0242 or marco@myrmexico.com.

Buying or Selling REAL ESTATE in Baja California Sur?

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

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We now call ourselves MLS BCS, and we operate a Multiple Listing Service statewide in Baja California Sur with over 3000 available properties. We cover Los Cabos, Los Barriles, Todos Santos, La Paz and Loreto. Any affiliate Broker or Agent can help you locate available inventory anywhere in the state, and can quickly connect you with the properties and agents in the area of interest.

WHY USE AN MLS BCS AGENT?

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

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

BY NICK FONG

When traveling or living in Mexico, it is not surprising to see everything in Spanish (when in Cabo, most everywhere you go there will be someone who speaks English and in many restaurants the menu is available in English). If a Mexican were to travel to the U.S. they would find everything in English except in the Border States where Spanish is also spoken.

But why Spanish?

Spanish control of Mexico led to the dominance of Spanish, the official language. As many as 100 Native American languages are spoken in Mexico, but no single alternative language prevails. Eighty percent of Native Americans speak an indigenous language, some of which are also speak Spanish.

The most important of the Native American languages is Nahua. It is the primary language of more than a million Mexicans and is spoken by nearly one-fourth of all Native Americans in the country. This is followed by Maya, used by 14 percent of Native Americans, and Mixteco and Zapoteco, each spoken by about 7 percent of Native Americans. No other Indigenous language is spoken by more than 5 percent of Mexico's Native Americans.

Why not learn some useful Spanish phrases?

Speaking and understanding Spanish simplifies your stay in Mexico. But it is also important to understand the culture of Mexico which differs from the culture north of the border in many respects.

Mexican Family Values

The family is at the center of the social structure.

Outside of the major cosmopolitan cities, families are still generally large.

The extended family is as important as the nuclear family, since it provides a sense of stability.

Mexicans consider it their duty and responsibility to help family members. For example, they will help find employment of a house or other large purchase.

Most Mexican families are extremely traditional, with the father as the head, the authority figure and the decision-maker.

Mothers are greatly revered, but their role may be seen as secondary to that of their husband.

Hierarchical Society

Mexican society and business are highly stratified and vertically structured.

Mexicans emphasize hierarchical relationships.

People respect authority and look to those above them for guidance and decision-making. Rank is important, and those above you in rank must always be treated with respect.

This makes it important to know which person is in charge, and leads to an authoritarian approach to decision-making and problem solving.

Mexicans are very aware of how each individual fits into each hierarchy—be in family, friends or business.

It would be disrespectful to break the chain of hierarchy.

Meeting Etiquette

When greeting in social situations, women put each other on the right forearm or shoulder, rather than shake hands.

Men shake hands until they know someone well, at which time they progress to the more traditional hug and back slapping.

Wait until invited before using a Mexican's first name.

Gift Giving Etiquette

If invited to a Mexican's house, bring a gift such as flowers or sweets.

Gift wrapping does not follow any particular protocol. Do not give marigolds as they symbolize death.

Do not give red flowers as they have a negative connotation.

White flowers are a good gift as they are considered uplifting. Gifts are not opened immediately.

Dining Etiquette

If you are invited to a Mexican's home:

Arrive 30 minutes late in most places

Arriving on time or early is considered inappropriate.

At a large party you intro

duce yourself.

At a smaller gathering the host usually handles the introductions.

Watch your table manners!

Always keep your hands visible when eating. Keep your wrists resting on the edge of the table.

When you have finished eating, place your knife and fork across your plate with the prongs facing down the handle facing to the right.

Do not sit down until you are invited to and told where to sit.

Do not begin eating until the hostess starts.

Do not give toast.

It is polite to leave some food on your plate after a meal.

In a restaurant, the bill is not automatically presented. You must request the bill. It is considered impolite to place the bill on the table if not requested. A real no-no.

Speaking a few words of Spanish and understanding some of the cultural differences is bound to make your stay or life in Mexico easier.

In regards to real estate transactions the offer to purchase is many times only in English especially when both Seller and Buyer are English speaking but if one or both parties are Spanish speaking then the offer to purchase is in Spanish and/or English. The actual title (escritura) or real estate trust paperwork (fideicomiso) is always in Spanish. This is the legal document conveying ownership from Seller to Buyer. If you are a non-Spanish speaking foreigner the fideicomiso is translated at closing to you, by law, generally, verbally by a translator or your closing agent. After all, it is important to know what is going on in your written contract.
5 tips to sell your property FAST

BY COLDWELL BANKER RIVERAS TEAM

What makes a property sell fast? Is it its location? Is it the listing price? Market conditions? Truth be told, all of the above influence the speed of the sale in one way or another. As a seller, you must be ready to face all the different scenarios by assuring your property is prepared for a fast sale. Here are five tips to make sure you sell it quickly.

Competitively price your property. Even though each property has an emotional value, it must not influence when fixing the price. The smartest thing to do is to analyze its features, location, amenities and finishes, and then, compare it to what is being offered in the area, and to what has been sold. This is called a CMA (comparative market analysis), that will help you generate the right price for a fast sale. Your Coldwell Banker Rivera’s listing agent can help you in this step.

Have a complete document package including: a title report, disclosure statement, construction manifestation and plot map with survey markers shown on the property. By having all these documents ready, once you have an accepted offer, it helps expedite the closing process.

De-clutter. Have you heard of the term less is more? It fits perfectly here! If it is a home get rid of all personal items that you no longer need; think of it as a spring cleaning and whatever you don’t want to take with you to your new home, give it away! Immaculate gardens and yard say that the house has been cared and loved. Taking off personal pictures from the fridge can help too; remember that the buyer needs to see himself in the home.

Spruce up your entryway and a fresh coat of paint is a great way to improve the appearance and cleanliness of a home. It is not expensive and it will validate the price you set for the property.

If it is a lot be sure to have a complete document package including: a title report, disclosure statement, construction manifestation and plot map with survey markers shown on the property. By having all these documents ready, you can help too; remember that the buyer needs to see himself in the home.

Have a complete document package including: a title report, disclosure statement, construction manifestation and plot map with survey markers shown on the property. By having all these documents ready, once you have an accepted offer, it helps expedite the closing process.

Gabriela Alvarez

Gabriela has been working with the Coldwell Banker Rivers team since February 2005, where she had the chance to be the administrative manager for the La Paz office. During these years, she learned about the real estate market, had the opportunity to network with several agents and clients, and liked it so much that became a Sales Associate in 2007 to be one of the most successful professionals in the area. Gabriela has witnessed the constant growth of the real estate market and all the activities in the south of Baja, making it one of the most desirable places to be in Mexico. Contact Gabriela at galvarez@cbriveras.com Cel (612) 140 4677 www.cbriveras.com.
Arbitration Laws Are Great in Mexico

And it’s Less Costly and Much Faster than the Mexican Court System

BY DON NELSON

Mexico has excellent arbitration laws. If you live and work in Mexico, you should consider putting an arbitration clause in your next contract or agreement. Such a clause in the event of a dispute may save you untold amounts of legal fees and time. It is a fact that in many cases arbitration can be represented by an attorney if you choose.

When parties arbitrate they can pick the arbitrator with experience in the particular area of law governing the dispute. Often when disputes are litigated in Court, the judge has little or no background in the governing law and therefore the final decision can be arbitrary and not predictable.

Arbitration decisions in most situations cannot be appealed. But if you have choose a knowledgeable arbitrator (1 or 3 arbitrators can be used), and it saves you waiting 5 to 10 or more years for a decision, that disadvantage may be worth ignoring.

In lieu of arbitration of disputes, consider mediation. When parties mediate a neutral mediator with experience in the applicable laws works with the two opposing parties to help them reach a mutually satisfactory solution. Statistics show that mediation has a 30 to 50 percent chance of success and it is significantly less expensive than arbitration or litigation in Court.

Want to know more about Arbitration or Mediation in Mexico? Want the proper provisions included in your legal agreements and wish to know how to arbitrate your legal dispute in Mexico? To learn on how to use arbitration in your legal disputes in Baja Sur email us at ddnelson@gmail.com.

Don D. Nelson, Attorney at Law, CPA.

FAQ ABOUT TRUST FOR...

continued from page 15

can special type of communal ownership (originally established for farming communities), such property must pass through the legal process of Derecho Al Tanto or it may not be legally transferred and may be subject to nullification of the transaction.

If the total land surface of the real estate property is more than 2000 square meters, the foreigner is obligated to subscribe and grant to the Foreign Affairs Ministry a Promise of Investment Letter, through which he legally obligates himself to invest certain amount of money into the property in a certain time frame according to the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size (SQM)</th>
<th>Investment Required</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 to 1000</td>
<td>$0 USD</td>
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<tr>
<td>1001 to 2000</td>
<td>$20,000 USD</td>
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<td>2001 to 3000</td>
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<td>3001 to 4000</td>
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<td>4001 to 5000</td>
<td>$80,000 USD</td>
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<td>5001 to 6000</td>
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<td>$180,000 USD</td>
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<td>10,001 to 12,000</td>
<td>$200,000 USD</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Increasing successively each 1,000 M2 or fraction.

By Raúl León, Attorney At Law, Expert in Mexican Trust (Fideicomiso), Commerce & Real Estate Attorney,From US: Cel: 011 521 624-151- 6332, Local Cel: (624) 151-6332, e-Mail: posaideon@prodigy.net.mx posaideon@gmail.com

Loma Cactaea is a very quaint development at the end of a short cul-de-sac in the heart of San Jose del Cabo. Loma Cactaea condos offer tremendous views from every window of every unit, while situated in the heart of the town. Loma Cactaea is such a good location that you can walk to almost everything including the beach, movie theatre, Mega, many wonderful restaurants and the Fonatour golf course just across the street. This a pet friend development of only 6, yet very large 1750 sq ft units, securing its private feel. Each home includes 2 underground parking spaces. Beautiful grounds and pool area finishes off its very intelligent design.

Contact Leeroy Jarvis of Cabo4Sale at 624-164-2607 for more information.

Featured Property: Cabo Corridor

Tamar Condos

This little gated project boasts awesome amenities for only 36 units! There is an oversized pool, meeting room, BBQ area, gym and palapa. Not only do you have manicured gardens, low HOA fees and outstanding views of the arch but the price point on these condos is quite low. The large one bedroom, one bath units are 869 square feet and start at $100,000 USD. Two and three bedroom units also available. The complex is within walking distance from restaurants, the beach and shopping.

Individual resale units and a special investor package price for all 5 units offering a 10% discount from listing’s total.

Please visit www.cabocasa4u.com or call Pierre Lautischer from Prudential Cabo Gold Realty at 624-121-0890 for information or viewing.

Featured Property: San Jose del Cabo

Lomas Cactaea

Loma Cactaea...
Fish Report

BY GARY GRAHAM

Goodbye, August and hello, September! Baja Sur is anticipating an exciting fall fishing season filled with big game tournaments that will dominate the fishing scene though November and will feature catches that will exceed hundreds of pounds. Let the spectacle begin! Hopefully, the weather gods will be kinder to us this year. Gary Graham, gary@garycgraham.com

Cabo San Lucas

If you are looking for billfish, the gang’s all here — blue, black, striped marlin and sailfish; although, not entirely unexpected with the recent influx of yellowfin tuna — one of the favorite foods of billfish. The yellowfin are ranging from football-sized to granders exceeding several hundred pounds, real crowd pleasers. However, sea conditions have allowed the fleet to fish comfortably on either side of the peninsula.

Cabo Climate: Mostly very hot; sunny days with just a few passing clouds. Air temps varied from 78 nights to 96 daytime highs and a 66% humidity level. Sea Conditions: Sea temps are warm and ranged from 85 to 88 on the Pacific side and escalated from 89 to 90 from Cabo Falso to Los Frailes on the Sea of Cortez side.

San Jose

Bait supplies near the Marina consisted of sardina and caballito. Fishing offshore grounds there have been chihuil, bolito, skipjack and small-sized yellowfin tuna, all of which can be used for targeting larger gamefish. Strips of giant squid found in some of the local super markets also remained an option. Yellowfin tuna have been found in a wide range of sizes, from 5 pounds to over 300 pounds. Best chances for the largest yellowfin tuna have been mainly around the Gordo Banks — no big numbers, but this is the best it has been so far this summer, while Iman Bank has produced greater numbers of fish in the football- to 60-pound size. This is also where dorado action came alive recently — mostly small to 15 pounds.

Wahoo action has lit up with a hot spot just to the north of Punta Gorda. Several anglers reported having up to a half-dozen solid wahoo strikes while trolling Rapala and other favored lures — sizes were in the 20- to 40-pound class. The bite was not only early in the morning, but some days the best action was encountered late in the morning as well. Anglers found mixed success off the bottom where there were dogtooth up to 55 pounds landed, amberjack to 50 pounds, a few yellowtail to 35 pounds, grouper to 40 pounds, barred pargo to 15 pounds, along with quality yellow snapper, surface and rainbow runner as well … a nice option if the surface isn't producing.

Chances for an offshore grand slam are very big now with sailfish, striped, blue and black marlin all being hooked into on any given day.

East Cape

The wahoo are back with most being mixed in with the tuna and again they are south. Others were near Punta Colorada. The roosterfish continue to be elusive inshore. However, there are very big fish in deeper, cooler water slightly farther offshore. The bottom fishing is exceptional. Red huachinango, barred pargo, cabrilla, cabrilla, pompano and — believe it or not, striped marlin and waiting to prepare those thick steaks into a memorable meal.

Many anglers are satisfied with the smaller variety — those that don’t turn a “fun day” into a “workday.”

Now this is a serious fish killing machine. Photo courtesy of Jen Wren Sportfishing
Every Tuesday at 8 a.m. Rotary Club at the Sheraton Hacienda del Mar resort, In the Chapel. RSVP: 172-0009 y 172-0100
Every Wednesday, 8pm. Free movies from independent studios for teenagers and adults at the City Theater in San Jose.
Every Wednesday 9am-12pm. Farmers market at La Esquina in Todos Santos. Live guitar music and good, local, organic stuff to buy. holas@laesquinats.com, www.laesquinats.com, 612 145 0851.
Every Wednesday, 7:30 to 8:30 pm. Bike ride in San Jose. Free if you bring your own bike, or rent from Sportia bike store. Form up at Plaza del Pescador in San Jose, across from the Royal Solaris hotel at 7:15 pm. (624) 130-7159. info@sportia.mx
First Thursday. Yo Reciclo sets up tents to receive plastic, aluminum, cardboard, computers, printers, cell phones, green, clear glass but NO Batteries, please. printers, cell phones, green, clear aluminum, cardboard, computers, sets up tents to receive plastic, sportia.mx at 7:15 pm. (624) 130-7159. info@sportia.mx
Every Thursday, 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. Organic market. Historic downtown activities program. Postal Park, Constitucion and Madero streets. La Paz. Spanish, Free.
Every Thursday at 7:30 “Cine Club en el Pabellon Cultural”, a free movie, generally in English, at the Cultural Pavilion ground floor level. Program usually involves movies you can’t find in theaters in Los Cabos.
Every other Thursday. You guess which one. Los Cabos Tomatoes, ladies social group. All women who aspire to be a tomato are welcome. loscabostomatoes@gmail.com. Info: loscabostomatoes@yahoo.com
First Friday of every month. 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Mirio’s Services is taking all clean plastic for recycling. Corner of Rangel and Verduzco Sts, just behind the old Pemex station downtown.
Every Saturday, 10 am to 1 pm. Children’s library open. Story tellers at 10:30 and 12:30. Looking for gently used books. theranch-kids@yahoo.com, Todos Santos Every Saturday, 11 am. Movie Club. Lumiere, Children’s classic movies at the marine museum in San Jose.
February 8, 2016 Historic Home Tour Of Todos Santos. An opportunity to view a piece of Todos Santos history. These magnificent homes will be open for only one day to tell the story of a past era rich in cultural and social graces. These homes will draw you back to a time of pride and prosperity in a humble mission town and give you insight into the lifestyle people enjoyed in the past century. Supports the Palapa Society and its many charitable causes. Paul Bumann, paul@boominenterprises.com, Ph. 612-178-0062.
Dec. 3rd, 4th, 5th – Las Estrellas de Todos Santos presents Slice of Life, an evening of One-Act plays featuring their new Ensemble in the Galeria at Hotel Casa Tota at 7:00 pm. Ticket price $15usd or 200 pesos. Closing night includes a Wine & Nibble Mingle with the actors. More info closer to show dates. facebook.com/LasEstrellasDeTodosSantos for details.
March 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19 - Baja Shakespeare’s 16th Season at Buena Vista Beach Resort in Spa Buena Vista’s Convention Center. All shows at 7:00 pm except March 13, a matinee at 1:30pm. Tickets $20usd or 300 pesos. For show details go to www.facebook.com/pages/Baja-Shakespeare/2203977878011557. More info closer to show dates.
To get your event listed here, email the details to david@gringogazette.com. There is no charge.

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Los Cabos resort. An event for hospitality, restaurants, retail deli’s, country clubs and caterers. A taste of some of the best products imported by US Foods. For information contact U.S. Foods at phone 624-146-2221
October 9 to 11. Green Fest. Mexico’s first bicycle-powered festival. The electrical energy produced by participants will power music, concerts, and activities. Information: www.loscabinogreenfest.com
October 16-18. 1st Los Cabos Gran Fondo bicycle race. 65 and 100 miles routes, from Cabo San Lucas to Todos Santos and back. Information: http://www.volpigranfondoseries.com/#!loscabosmexico/cqoz Or Facebook: loscabinogranfondo
October 16 – 18. Bisbee’s Los Cabos Offshore. Information: bisbees.com
October 20 – 24. Bisbee’s Black & Blue fishing tournery. Information: bisbees.com
October 24, Saturday. 3rd Annual Van Wormer Resort Tuna Shoot Out. At Palmas de Cortes hotel in Los Barriles, East Cape. The largest tuna caught will win approximately $35,000 (based on 100 teams entering). Info: vanwormerresorts.com
October 24, Saturday. 17th Annual Pumphit Costume Ball. At Baja Junkie, Cabo San Lucas. Information and tickets: www.pimpnhomecixo.com
November 27 – 29. Todos Santos International Guitar Festival. At El Faro Beach Club, a community funded, musician-supported festival that puts on a world class show. All profits go to the local Hogar del Niño. 30+ Guitarists from all genres and from all corners of the globe come together for a 3 days of camaraderie and musical collaboration. Information: info@tsigf.com, http://www.tsigf.com

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

Every Sunday, 7 - 11 am. Movie, walk, skate or drag your pet around downtown Cabo. The main drag in Cabo San Lucas.
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Culture and Arts (CONACULTA) as well as the founding organizations of Culture and Arts (CICYDHS.C) and the Milton Erickson institute of higher education of La Paz.

This year’s La Paz festival will feature several artists and personalities such as Shanti Máya, a professional dancer who trained in Mexico and India specializing in Odissi dance; Jorge and Maria, considered Latin America’s Kir- tan; Princess Kathelen; Dada Ra-
gatmananda, of Japanese origins living in India for more than 30 years, creator of Ananda Marga; Dr. Carlos Cohen C. lecturer; and the Mexican version of One Direction, CD9.

The peace pow wow seeks to strengthen local artistic productions and generate an interna-
tional cultural trade with foreign guests, who will share five days of teamwork in the artistic and multicultural spheres. The events are planned for the whole family, with free access for everyone. The festival will be for the attendees and participants to enjoy a full multicultural celebration which will set La Paz ahead in terms of cultural tourism and promotion of peace through art and culture.

Here’s the schedule:

September 17

7:00 pm Odissi dance presentation by Shanti Máya (French al-

ci ance of La Paz/ Theater Angular Esterito at Gomez Farías #525)

9:30 pm Perla Negra photograph-

y exhibition by Fabiola Ocon (Beach next to “Stella” restaurant on Alvaro Obregon street and M. Marquez de Leon)

7:20 pm Music for the soul by the Ericksonian art and culture collective with “Qurir” (Beach next to “Stella” restaurant on Alvaro Obregon street and M. Marquez de Leon)

What's a Health Check-Up Can Do For You

And in Mexico it's a bargain

By Dr. Dick

Medical research has come a long way, and people are now living longer than ever before. The average life expectancy for an American is almost 80 years, and with simple lifestyle changes many people can live to 95 years and beyond!

Simple lifestyle factors such as a healthy weight, regulating blood pressure and cholesterol levels, a balanced diet and staying active can easily add an extra decade or more to your life span. And these extra years can be celebrated with the energy, strength and passion for life you enjoyed in your youth.

Preventive medicine is a branch of medicine dealing with the prevention of disease and the maintenance of good health practices. Every year millions of people die from preventable diseases, many diseases which can be avoided if detected early. One of the best methods for prevention of disease is to get a health check-up, even if you are healthy. With a health check-up we can detect many disease before they start, and find problems early, when chances for treatment and cure are better. By getting the right screenings, and treatments, you are on the path to living a longer, healthier life.

One World Hospital and Saint Luke’s Hospital know the importance of early detection and timely treatment, and combine world class medical care with preventative health check to endorse healthy living. They offer a full range of health check-up packages, which includes clinical evaluations with scans, medical tests and investigations, and advice on a healthy lifestyle and diet. The packages are designed for different age groups and disease profiles, and include:

• Basic Check-up
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• Hypertension Check-up
• Heart Check-up
• Master check-up
• Whole Body Check-up for Men & Women

The Whole Body Health Check-Up is a thorough preventative and diagnostic exam, each organ is screened to detect even the smallest symptom that could be an indication of a major disease. The health check targets and identifies numerous medical conditions using the latest treatment technology, medical imaging and screening tests. It is a customized health plan to help you stay healthy and live well.

Now is a good time to get your health check-up. Until October 31st all check-ups are at reduced prices, starting at $590 pesos. Contact us now about a check-up package that’s right for you.

CABO SAN LUCAS
Paseo de Marina 4116
Downtown San Lucas
info@ onesworldhospital.com
HOTLINE: 624 143 4911 (P/H)

Saint Luke’s
SAN JOSE DEL CABO
Calle Ignacio Zaragoza
Downtown San José
info@SaintLukesHospital.com
HOTLINE: 624 142 5911 (P/H)
traditional technique? Why don’t they just bring in a senora from the barrio? There’s no shortage of people there who want a job.

The Bars. The Cape Beverage Manager and Mixologist Osvaldo Vazquez joined the hotel from Capella Pedregal, where he was the head bartender. Yes, mixologist means bartender. While at Capella Vazquez experimented with translating flavors from the kitchen into imaginative cocktails.

Vazquez was recently named a winner of the G’Vine Global Bartender Challenge 2015, where he represented Mexico and The Cape. The international competition featured more than 120 bartenders in the final round, out of which ten were crowned regional winners; he was one of only two winners from North America.

At The Cape, there are many locations to enjoy Vazquez’s unique cocktails but only a few are open to the public; of these, two are worth a trip to the hotel. The roof top bar and the Glass Box bar. The most amazing outdoor view of Cabo is now from the roof top bar, on the top floor. It is open to the public on Friday and Saturday from 6:00pm to 11:00pm, but be sure to call and make a reservation or you will not get past the security guard.

The Glass Box bar is next to the lobby, with stunning floor to ceiling glass walls and a 360 degree view and has air conditioning. The view from that bar is lower down and not so stunning. No reservation is needed for The Glass Box. Just inform the security guard at the gate that you’re going there and you’ll be escorted to the lobby. Then, if you’re at all crafty, you can sneak up to the roof top bar.

Room rates start at $600 per night. The resort is on the fourlane, next to Misiones and the formerly best view in Cabo, Sunset de Mona Lisa. Yes, the top of the Cape beats out Sunset de Mona Lisa.

wouldn’t it be nice if whenever we messed up our life we could simply press “Ctrl Alt Delete” and start all over?

Que Pasa in Cabo?

those projects were and are way late and way over budget and way disliked by the merchants involved. Reachi would also like to take his bows for promoting our state, bringing in more international and domestic flights, and working real hard at rebuilding Los Cabos after hurricane Odile last year. Oh yes, well, with the help – and lots of money – from the federal government which came to our rescue.
Conference On Local Food Security

There would be no hunger in the world if we could stop losing 30% of our food to waste in the distribution chain

BY BOB APPLE

Last week we had two representatives from the San Diego Food Systems Alliance in Cabo to present a discussion on the success of their initiatives to feed local hungry people. It was hosted by the Inter-national Community Foundation, as this is a pilot project that ICF has been helping coordinate.

Attendees were mostly in the food system, such as restaurateurs, local producers, and NGOs involved in community gardening or providing food for the most vulnerable in the community, (hot food kitchens). Nearly two years ago, several Baja California Sur organizations formed a working group to research the state of food shortages here and to create a local alliance of social, government and business organizations to improve the situation for lower-income and at-risk families. They named this group the Southern Baja Food Security Alliance.

The SBFSA established a network of programs to bring together existing organizations and projects working toward long term food security. According to a comprehensive study on food security and nutrition in Mexico conducted by the USDA Foreign Agricultural Service, “Food poverty is highest in the poorest regions, notably southern Mexico, reaching as high as 47 percent in Chiapas and averaging over 18 percent nationally. Currently, Mexico is plagued by problems of malnutrition, anemia, overweight and obesity. Though acute malnutrition has dropped significantly, the prevalence of chronic malnutrition in children under five is almost 13 percent nationally.”

This study highlights the impact food insecurity has had on small children. For preschoolers, the prevalence of anemia was higher here, where the states with the highest prevalence were Baja California (36.6 percent) and Baja California Sur (31.8 percent).

The SBFSA has identified multiple strategies aimed at getting fresh and locally available food into the hands of the neediest communities. More specifically, their goals are to make use of second quality export produce through a cleaning or food rescue program that salvages the considerable percentage of locally produced food that is left to rot or disposed of because it fails to meet export standards. Secondly, the program aims to “unite the food-related connections between local food producers and consumers through the establishment of community food rescue and distribution teams that make fresh food available to hot meals kitchens and through fresh food basket programs.”

The governmental network

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

So Is Any Real Estate Selling Around Here?

A little. Here’s one development that is selling and even offering sustainable homes

BY BILL DING

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

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

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

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

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QUALITY TIMESHARES ARE AT RIDICULOUSLY LOW PRICES

HERE ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF THE UNITS CURRENTLY OFFERED FOR SALE IN CABO

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1) Luxury Suites $1,000
2) Master Suites $1,500
3) Presidential Suites $2,000

VILLA DEL ARCO

FIXED AND/OR FLOATING

1) 2 Bedroom HOLIDAY $10,000
2) 3 Bedroom HOLIDAY $15,000
3) 2 Bedroom LUXURY $7,500
4) 3 Bedroom LUXURY $10,000

PUEBLO BONITO SUNSET BEACH

FIXED AND/OR FLOATING

1) Junior Suites $1,000
2) Executive Suites $1,500

VILLA DEL PALMAR

FIXED AND/OR FLOATING

1) 2 Bedroom HOLIDAY $8,500
2) 3 Bedroom HOLIDAY $11,000
3) 3 Bedroom LUXURY $15,000

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

If you need more information about these great projects in Cabo, go to www.puertomexico.com or book your private real estate tour today by calling 624 104 3775.
LA PAZ PEACE FESTIVAL
The 9th annual Pax, (Peace), festival is presenting the following events:

Festival for the Pax
September 19 until 21. Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday. International Festival for Peace 9th edition, India as a theme. All events free. See article this issue for schedule of performances.

ALIANZA FRANCESA
October 16. Tuesday. 7:30 pm. The Night of the Dance (La noche de la danza). Flamenco dance and Spanish music by Primo dancer El Faro Beach club.

BEACH NEXT TO STELLA RESTAURANT

PERLA NEGRA
September 21. Monday. 7:00 pm. Music concert by DG9 for the peace with Guillermo Flores. As part of The Festival for The Pax Spanish. Free.

THE CONCHALITO BEACH

YANDI MONARDO ART GALLERY
July 22 until September. Opening Wednesday: From 7pm to 9pm. Art exhibition by the muralist Leonardo Diaz. Paint and other arts expressions created by the local artist. Yandi Monardo Art Gallery featuring different artists who live in or are inspired by Baja. New artist exhibit every 45 days. YM Art Gallery is inside the Luxury Avenue marina at the marina. Spanish and English. Free.

LA PAZ
ALIANZA FRANCESA
Every Tuesday. 6:00 pm. French films movie club. Different French film each week. Alianza Francesa cultural center at 525 Gomez Farias St. between Republica St and Guerrero St. Estento town. La Paz. For info and program: www.facebook.com/alianzafrancesalapaz. Spanish, French, and other languages. Free.

YANDI MONARDO ART GALLERY
From Monday to Friday. 8:00 am to 8:00 pm. On permanent display. Man, nature and culture (Hombre, Naturaleza y Cultura). Photography collective exhibition. A permanent photography show that highlights the special characteristics that make up the cultural identity of Baja California Sur. The exhibit evolves as the photographs in the Codex Peninsula of the Centro Cultural La Paz, located on 16 de Septiembre at the corner of Belisario Dominguez. Text is in English and Spanish. Free.

MARINA FRONT
Every Saturday. From 12:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Cultural circuit. Art exhibition by local artists, workshops, paint, sculpture, photography, food tasting, theater, live music and dance. Spanish. Free. Various parts of the malecon. Except not Saturday April 4 because It's Good Saturday or something like that.

CAS A CARACOL UNA RANA
Every Saturday. 7:00pm to 11:30pm. Cultural niungs (market). Live music, poetry, painting, books, arts & crafts, sculpture, movies, vegan and vegetarian food. Hidalgo and Revolution Sts. downtown Cabo. Caracol La Paz. Free.

CABO SAN LUCAS
CARACOL UNA RANA
Every Thursday. 7:00pm to 11:00pm. Food and music by local and international artists. Spanish. Free.

SAN JOSE
CIRCOTEKA Angela Ceselia St. between the fourlane and Barvento St.
Every Thursday. 7:00 pm. Libroteca at the Circoteka. Reading club for kids. Actors disguised read and act a short story for the kids. Libroteca is part of a Reading lounges organized by The Yasabela's little sister. More info about reading lounges Email: todosmosos
troll@gmail.com. Circoteka is located at Angela Ceselia St. between Furlane Street and Barvento St., San Jose. Spanish. Free.

BUENA VISTA
March 11, 12, 13, 18, 19 - Baja Shakespeare’s 16th Season at Buena Vista Beach Resort in Spa Buena Vista’s Convention Center. All shows at 7:00 pm except March 13, a matinee at 1:30pm. Tickets $20 or 300 pesos. Facebook.com/pages/1/BajaShakespeare/220397878011557.

To list your event at no cost, email details to david@gringogazette.com. All events subject to change without warning, and we're not kidding around about this. It happens frequently, so go, with great expectations of a wonderful evening, but have a backup plan.
at the beach. Removing the foul-smelling, fly-infested mounds of seaweed washed up on the beaches of Quintana Roo continues, and with no end in sight. The much larger than normal volume of sargassum seaweed, which has turned beaches all over the Caribbean from pristine white to coffee brown, keeps on coming.

Authorities in the state say they have gathered up more than 22,000 cubic meters of sargassum in Cancún alone. Every day, laborers and machinery head out to the beaches to collect seaweed, and every day more of the crap arrives. One official predicts it will continue for some months to come. One positive offshoot is that a temporary employment program has been created to recruit the labor required to deal with it. The 4,000 jobs created have been 80% filled.

Another negative outcome, other than the stink and the ding to tourism, is the collateral damage. Environmental authorities are investigating the deaths of sea turtles on the beach in Playa del Carmen after heavy equipment tracks were found at the scene. However, it’s not just the backhoes that can kill the turtles. There have been reports of newly hatched turtles being tangled and trapped in the seaweed itself. Across the Caribbean tourists have been canceling their summer holidays, persuaded by hordes of biting sand fleas and the pungent smell of decaying seaweed, likened to rotten eggs, to stay away.

No one has been able to pinpoint the precise reason for the phenomenon, which has been worsening in recent years. Climate change and nutrients and pollutants that fertilize the weed have both been identified. Back in Quintana Roo, with the big winter tourist season just around the corner, authorities are planning a meeting next week to review the situation and consider other strategies for addressing it. One strategy being studied by the Cancún and Puerto Morelos Hotels Association is to have boats out at sea gather the sargassum before it arrives. The group is anxiously awaiting the results of a study because the region’s most important tourism fair is coming up in early October.

Meanwhile, some visitors are taking it in their stride. “The smell of seaweed is terrible,” a German tourist told The Guardian, “but I’m enjoying the sun.” Good attitude.

The federal government, has launched an educational program aimed at Gringos. Sports fishermen, often from San Diego, have never needed to undergo inspections, passport checks or obtain tourist permits, fishing permits or other documents just to fish in Mexican waters.

Now, however, the Mexican government is warning foreign fishermen they could face a lengthy process if they ignore the new requirements. They’re threatening to tow boats not in compliance to Ensenada for processing and deporting crew and passengers. Authorities do not currently plan to charge violators with a crime, which is a break.

“It will be an inconvenience,” promised María de los Remedios Gómez Arnaú, head of the Mexican Consulate in San Diego. Mexican consulates throughout California, as well as in western Canada and parts of Arizona, are working to inform people of the new regime. According to the consulates, “Mexican Navy and immigration authorities are strengthening their presence in Mexican waters.”

Some 40,000 to 50,000 tourist vessels cross into Mexico each year, says the federal government, generally for fishing but also for racing and cruising. Having long required fishing permits, the Mexican government is only now threatening to step up enforcement of the regulations. While in Mexican waters — within 12 miles of the coast — boaters will now need to carry a passport and the FMM tourist permit. The permit costs about 21 Gringo bucks.

Mexican officials have teamed up with the San Diego boating community to clarify the requirements and launched an English and Spanish language website and app last March to explain fishing and visitor permits. The Mexican government is really doing outreach to the American public to CONTINUE ON PAGE 26
CHRISTIAN WORSHIP  In English (La Paz) Crossroads Christian Fellowship. Sharing the living water of Jesus with thirsty people. 3124 Absoblo between Sonora and Sinaloa. (Up the alley under the Crossroads sign) Call Milton Sanders at 6121375767 or 612491832. www.crossroadslapaz.org (tr)


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W H A T ’ S G O I N G O N I N T H I S ... continued from page 25 make them feel comfortable to visit their country,” Franke said. Which is why they sent us this press release and why we’re printing it here for you. Can’t say you weren’t warned. Hot fuel! Could be. Federal authorities estimate that 30% of all gasoline and diesel sold in Mexico’s Pemex stations is stolen, a figure they hope will be reduced to half of Mexico’s 15,000 stations' parry come January 1. Want to bet how many stations will be buttoned up come next January? Another piece of the system, which will become operational in 2018, is a website where consumers can access maps showing the locations of all the country’s gas stations, and their current prices. Yes, stations will be able to set their own prices, within a narrow range. Mexico’s 15,000 stations sell 200 million liters of gasoline and diesel per day, of which 30% is estimated to be stolen. More Mexen news. We are all frustrated by some of the local Pemex stations’ short pour. Sometimes the gas stations get so greedy that it’s obvious our tank can’t hold as much fuel as the pump shows we just bought. But by the end of the year a smart phone app that is in beta test right now will keep track of those thieving stations. It’s community based, meaning if you think you have been cheated, you post the location of the gas station. Others will check the app before buying fuel to see if the station they’re headed for has been accused of ripping off their customers. This really help to put a stop to the practice. Your favorite newspaper, (that would be us, Bunky), will post those scores every issue, in case you are not smart enough to operate a smart phone.

The Federal Electricity Commission’s (CFE) boss said yesterday that 16% of the energy it produces is stolen or lost every year, a per...

C L A S S I F I E D A D S E A S Y S I G N U P

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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 most popular swimming and surfing beach on the south Pacific side of the peninsula.

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

Speaking of food, Todos Santos has a full range of temptations. Try Alma & Manny’s or the Todos Santos Inn for breakfast; Bob Marlin or Hotel Casa Tota for lunch; Los Adobes, or the Santa Fe for dinner. If you are looking for a sports bar, seek out the Chill & Grill on the road next to the gas station. The gourmet French restaurant Chez Laura is a bit difficult to find, but wow is it amazing. You step off a dusty dirt road into another world. For fabulous chili rellenos try Miguel’s across from the Pemex. Next to the Pemex is the very sophisticated La Casita.

If you are looking for 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.

This is your wake-up call for mindful living. Two villages are being crafted next to the historic town of Todos Santos—one on the beach, one around a small farm and international research center. Both offer shops, restaurants, recreation, sophisticated design, daily conveniences and a variety of distinct neighborhoods. All in a region known for arts festivals, farm-to-table dining, world-class surf breaks, palm forests, mountain bike trails and more. Discover an immersive way of life at Tres Santos.

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any weighing under 30 pounds and most are 40- to 60-pounders. All are routinely released.

Good to see a few more dorado and other species popping up as well. Bonito, jack crevalle and snapper rounded out the fishing.

La Paz

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La Paz

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**CITY OF PEACE...**

continued from page 21

Antonio Hernandez (Beach next to “Stella” restaurant on Alvaro Obregon street and M. Marquez de Leon)

Saturday Sept. 19

9:00 am Freedom from loneliness and suffering with philosophy from India by Dr. Carlos Cohen C. (“La Caja” on Navarro st. #655)

11:00 am Hindu dance stellar presentation by Fabiola Ocón and Salma Yamel (“La Caja” on Navarro st. #655)

4:30 pm Thought and wellness in Yoga Psychology and Vedanta Conference by Dr. Carlos Cohen C. (Milton H. Erickson institute of higher education for more info call: 122000)

7:00 pm Several artistic presentations (Velasco Garden on 5 de Mayo, Downtown La Paz)

9:00 pm La Morante Monologue by Princess Kathleen (Revelution #365, Downtown La Paz)

Sunday Sept. 20

Starting at 2:00 pm all day until midnight Indian and Bangladeshi Gastronomic sampling by Taj Mahal Restaurant

7:00 pm Music concert by DG9 and Guillermo Flores (El Conchalito Beach beside “La posada” hotel, access on the Guaycuras Alley)

7:40 pm India in our hearts Concert and collective meditation by Dada Ragatanmanda (El Conchalito Beach beside “La posada” hotel, access on the Guaycuras Alley)

8:00 pm Shaktala Multidisciplinary show (El Conchalito Beach beside “La posada” hotel, access on the Guaycuras Alley)

8:30 pm Escritos para el alma

8:30 pm Artistic tribute to Nelson Mandela, Mahatma Gandhi, Youssafi Malala, peace manifesto and closure by CD9 (Exterior esplanade of Jesus Castro Agüinde cultural unit on Navarro street corner of Altamirano and Gomez Farias)
When Grandma had not being far from home, we used to Tres Leches that even though it zondo’s that sold such delicious there was a bakery called Eli- 
necessity, which I seriously consider a topping of fresh whipped cream, 

The cake will sometimes have a regular milk with heavy cream. 

lar milk. Some versions substitute milk, evaporated milk, and regu-

ditionally made with three kinds of milk: sweetened condensed milk 

of milk: sweetened condensed milk, evaporated milk, milk, and vanil-

pastry so that all the flour is well mixed. 

Pour the batter into the prepared cake pan and place into the oven for 22 to 25 minutes, or until a toothpick comes out clean. It can be a bit moist, but not wet. The top of the cake should be tanned and feel fluffy if you touch it. Remove it from the oven and let it cool. 

Once it cools down, turn it onto a platter. Remove the parch-

ent paper and cover the top with an upside down platter and invert again. The platter should be large enough to hold the cake and the vanilla sauce you are about to prepare. Using a fork, or t two, poke holes all over the cake so that it will better absorb the vanilla sauce. 

In a mixing bowl, combine the sweetened condensed milk, evaporated milk, milk, and vanil-

la extract. Pour the vanilla sauce over the cake. In the bowl of your mixer, whip up the heavy cream with the confectioners sugar on medium-high speed until the mixture holds up stiff peaks, about 1 to 2 minutes. Spread the whipped cream all over the already wet cake. To make the sponge cake as fluffy as can be, start by beating the egg whites until they hold soft peaks. Add the sugar and keep on beating until they hold stiff peaks. 

Separately beat the egg yolks until thick, creamy and very pale in color and add some vanilla. Then pour the egg yolks (look at how thick and pale the egg yolks are after beating them for 4 to 5 minutes, that’s what you want) with that hint of vanilla, onto the egg white mixture. 

Pour it all on top… Gently, with a spatula, com-

bine the yellow with the white, being careful not to lose much of the volume and fluffiness already achieved. Once well combined, add the flour and incorporate it in evolving motions. 

Pour that batter onto the prepared pan, buttered and lined with parchment paper. 

It is a simple cake batter: just egg whites, sugar, egg yolks, va-

nilla and flour. But it turns out

Continued on page 31

Pastel de Tres Leches 

This issue the Gringo Gazette marks our 21st anniversary, so maybe we all are going to start behaving as adults. To celebrate our birthday, we will bake the famous three-milk cake. 

But wait, what is so Mexican about this one? Is milk Mexican originated? Well, of course not, but its first appearance in the American Continent was through Mexican territory. The first cattle to arrive in the New World landed in Veracruz, Mexico in 1525. Some made their way across the Rio Grande to proliferate in the wild. They became known as “Texas Cattle.” Spanish settlers transported cattle to South America from the Canary Islands and Europe. More followed, and cattle multiplied rapidly throughout New Spain, numbering in the thousands within a few years. 

The Jesuit Priest, Eusebio Kino, introduced cattle to Baja California, Mexico in 1679 as part of the missionary effort to estab-

lish mission settlements where milk became a staple food item. 

Pastel de Tres Leches, or three milk’s cake, has a European ori-
gin, and is one, if not the most popular cake sold throughout Mexico. Tres Leches is a sweet, practically wet, honey cake. Its base is a vanilla sponge cake, completely soaked in a sauce traditionally made with three kinds of milk: sweetened condensed milk, evaporated milk, and regular milk. Some versions substitute regular milk with heavy cream. The cake will sometimes have a topping of fresh whipped cream, which I seriously consider a necessity. 

Growing up in Mexico City, there was a bakery called Eli-

zondo’s that sold such delicious Tres Leches that even though it was far from home, we used to drive many Sundays to get one when Grandma had not being 

in the mood to bake one for us. This recipe is as close as I get to my nostalgic memories, because Granny was not the kind of woman who wrote down her recipes. She kept them all in her memory, so once she passed there goes all those delicious secrets that we were not wise enough to learn from her while she was alive because we were much more interested in parties and boys. 

What a waste. 

So I will give you the recipe and at the end I will give you those invaluable grandma’s tips as best I remember. 

INGREDIENTS For the cake: 

9 eggs, separated 

1 cup sugar 

1 tablespoon vanilla extract 

2 cups all purpose flour 

9 eggs, separated 

1/4 cup confectioners’ sugar 

1 12oz can evaporated milk 

1 14oz can sweetened condensed milk 

For the sauce: 

2 cups all purpose flour 

1 tablespoon vanilla extract 

1 cup sugar 

For the topping: 

2 cups heavy whipping cream 

1/4 cup confections’ sugar 

TO PREPARE 

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. 

Butter a 9 x 13 inch pan, lin-

ing the bottom with a piece of parchment paper cut to fit the pan. Pour the egg whites into the bowl of your mixer and beat on medium-high speed for 4 to 5 minutes, or until they hold soft peaks. Slowly stir in the sugar and continue beating until they hold hard or stiffer peaks. Turn off the mixer and with a spatula, move the egg white mixture onto a large mixing bowl. 

Rinse the bowl of the mixer and its whisk. Now pour the egg yolks into the bowl of the mixer and beat on medium-high speed for about 5 to 6 minutes, or until the egg yolks become creamy, puffy and their color has toned down to an almost cream color rather than a loud yellow. Stir in 

Three milks cake


Todosolar mix

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Pueblo Campestre

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WHAT’S GOING ON IN THIS...
continued from page 26

centage that represents a financial cost of about U.S. $3 billion. But Enrique Ochoa also said the elec
tric utility is mad as hell and isn’t going to stand for this anymore. He
says CFE plans to reduce lost elec-
tricity by 1% per year, dropping the
percentage to 11% by the end of
2018. The long term goal is to get it
down to below 6%, a figure that the
Organization for Economic Co-
operation and Development says
should be the maximum for com-
petitive countries. The CFE says
most of its losses are incurred in
the Mexico City metropolitan area
in the Valley of México and stem
from the now-defunct Central
Light and Power (LFC), which was
liquidated by then-president Felipe
Calderón in 2009. Its annual losses,
largely due to electricity theft, ran
to 30% per year or more. Losses in
the Valley of México were down
to 25% last year, of which 17% was
due to theft. The remainder was
lost through a poorly maintained
transmission and distribution
system, said a report published by
El Financiero last June.

One of CFE’s strategies to
reduce theft is the installation of
new meters. Over the next 12 to
18 months it will install more than
1 million in the State of México,
Tabasco and the Federal District.

CFE strikes back. CFE has been
accused of setting its standard line
voltage to 128 volts instead of the
115 volts in the U.S. and Canada.

This allows them to save money
because they can push the power
farther with fewer substations. But
the result is burned out light bulbs,
fried electric motors, and other
damage to equipment. This is a
hidden tax we as consumers pay;
Take on The Donald.

Mexico’s new ambassador designate to the
United States said presidential can-
didate Donald Trump is just play-
ing politics. “He knows that what
he says is bullshit” said Miguel
Basanez at a senate meeting in
Mexico City. Well, we paraphrase.

That’s what he wanted to say but
he was too weenie. (We at the
GG have never been accused of
being to weenie to tell it like it is.)

“Trump knows that he will have
to apologize to Mexicans,” he con-
tinued. Trump claimed Mexico is
intentionally sending its criminals
across the border, and that he will
make Mexico pay for a wall along
America’s southern border if he’s
elected president.

The Mexican government,
however, publicly set the record
straight. Spokesman Eduardo
Sanchez said Trump’s comments
were false. “It reflects an enormous
ignorance for what Mexico repre-
sents, and also the irresponsibility
of the candidate who’s saying it,”
He also insisted that the majority
of Mexicans in the U.S. follow the
laws and make up an important
part of the economy. Can we use
the word bullshit one more time?

New regs for border foot
traffic. You can walk, but you
can’t hide. Brand new regulations
for pedestrian border crossings
from San Diego into Tijuana require
presentation of a valid passport,
filling out paperwork, and a fee
of $330 pesos if you stay longer
than a week. Officials say they are
just enforcing Mexican law in a
more organized fashion. Now, for
the first time, foreigners will be
processed in separate lines from
Mexican nationals.

American criminals who want
to escape into Mexico will have a
much tougher time, as you have to
to check into the country, not just
check out. Border inspectors claim
more than 120 Americans expelled
from Mexico this year while living
in the Mexican State of Baja Cali-
ifornia had arrest warrants in the
U.S. Now, inspectors will tap into
international criminal databases.

Some people are concerned
about clogged lines for the esti-
mated 25,000 pedestrians and
50,000 motorists crossing the
border daily from San Diego into
Tijuana and that sounds like a
legitimate concern.

Polls damaging for Nieto.
President Nieto’s approval rating is
down, according to Pew Research
(a nonpartisan American think
tank in D.C. if there is such a thing,
and there isn’t). Despite an ambi-
tious reform program, Enrique
Peña Nieto’s administration has
suffered a small scandal, contro-
CONTINUED ON PAGE 31
fluffy, homely and spongy because of the way these ingredients are used.

Into the oven for about 25 minutes, until the cake has a nice tanned crust, it is spongy to the touch and a toothpick comes out clean.

After you get the cake out of the oven, invert it onto a plate and poke all over with a fork, or two forks. You want to help the cake find ways to absorb the sauce you are about to make.

There goes the condensed milk and the evaporated milk into the regular milk, and a bit more vanilla.

Some modern versions of the cake add other kinds of flavors into the sauce, like chocolate, or Rompope (Mexican eggnog). If you like a hint of alcohol in your desserts, go ahead and pour in some Rum or Kahlúa. Pour all the sauce on top...

Granny’s tips: The cake tastes much better when it has had a chance to soak in all of that sauce and when it is cold. So it is a good idea to cover it and refrigerate it for at least an hour.

It is simple to eat, simple to make. It is an unfussy and tasty dessert that is somewhat neutral, so it can take many variations. Of course you can add some fruit on top or in between, fresh strawberries work really nice here, it’s your choice.

The fluffy yet completely wet cake holds its shape as it gives in to the flavor of the sauce. The whipped cream, as you can see, just needs to go on top. It makes such a nice contrast with the wetness and sweetness of the cake. 

WHAT’S GOING ON IN THIS... continued from page 30

verses, and corruption that have disappointed Mexicans. Fewer people think the government is making progress against the drug cartels and education reform, and Nieto now has only a 44 percent favorable opinion rating, well below the 51 percent he had in 2014, but still ahead of the 38 percent plurality he was elected with.

The Pew people reported that while Peña Nieto has sought to advance new measures against corruption in recent months, his government has also been rocked by scandals over the past year, including allegations of irregularities surrounding his home being built by a Chinese company that won a contract for a rail line.

Increase in prices is the main concern of Mexicans as well as crime, unemployment, corrupt political leaders, violence related to drug cartels, and corrupt police. The research was based on interviews with 1,000 adults aged 18 and over, conducted in April.

President Nieto is using YouTube to air a series of 18 videos to address issues such as education, economy, security, government actions, and jobs.

On the subject of education reform, Nieto said that it is the most important topic. "Education reform has also been kicked out of the country to provide a better future for the children of Mexico," said the president. Speaking about the issue of security, the video says that homicides dropped 24 percent, to the lowest rate in six years.

In the video about the economy, the president noted that thanks to energy and telecommunications reform there is more competition and investment, which has resulted in lower prices of telephone, electricity and more jobs. "But not enough, I admit," he said. "Mexico still is not moving at the speed we all want." He added, "There are three brakes that are holding the country from that: corruption, inequality, and a global downturn reflected in a fall in oil prices." Mostly the latter.

Mexico finally unchained their oil industry just as the world wide oil industry has hit the dumpsters. Mexico’s timing could not have been worse. The last two presidents tried to free the industry just as the world wide oil industry has hit the dumpsters. Mexico’s timing could not have been worse. The last two presidents tried to free the industry just as the world wide oil industry has hit the dumpsters.

Farmers get pep talk. President Nieto has said farmers in Mexico have the government as an ally to support them. "We want a prosperous country and a fair field, where productivity and wealth creation help reduce poverty and inequality," he said.

Since 2013, the Mexican government’s main objective has been to help increase the production and productivity of small farms through an incentive program. So far, 267,000 hectares have been modernized to increase crop productivity. Our publisher recently returned from a trip to the mainland of Mexico where she took pictures of three different farmers plowing with donkeys. She was blown away. She’s saying what is needed in Mexico is capital to buy machinery to small farmers or Mexico will never catch up to what she calls the real world.

Another area of support for farmers is marketing assistance both domestically and internationally. For example, tequila, strawberries, lime, and grapefruit can be profitably sent to countries like China, Japan, USA and Korea. Like the Gringa says, "How’s a guy driving a donkey going to sell his carrots in Korea? C’mon, Mexico, let’s get it together," she will say. It makes her crazy while we Mexicans in the GG office just accept it. Then our acceptance makes her even crazier. What are we supposed to do? I will look on my friends’ facebook pages for the answers, which will drive her around the bend.
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