If everyone would toss their ice cubes into the ocean when they’re finished with their cocktail, we could bring down the temperature of the water to where a hurricane can’t even get started. What’s creating all these storms this year, is warmer than average sea temperatures. We’ve just been lucky so far that the storms have either dissipated as they came near us, or they have blown by us far out to sea so all we’re getting is the edge of them. Let’s not push our luck, everyone at the ready with your ice cubes!

Carlos Mendoza Davis was sworn in as governor of our Southern Baja state on September 10. He is a member of the right leaning PAN party, just like his predecessor Marcos Covarrubias. During the swearing in ceremony, Mendoza promised to generate, “wide, generous and deep” improvements for everyone. In this first day in office, Governor Mendoza sent a bill to the state congress to create a secretariat of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Agricultural and Cattle breeding. He has also announced that he will send a package of initiatives to attract investment to our state. He gave as examples to encourage investment, a new measure that will get the word out that we want and are hospitable to investors, a law to fix some overzealous regulations, and yet another measure welcoming public and private associations, which, he said, “will generate confidence in investing in our state.”

“Entrepreneurs will have a speedy path to investing here as long as they offer in return their maximum social commitment with our state.”

Meaning, they will have to pitch in money to build parks, schools and other infrastructure. This is Mexico’s version of development fees; instead of paying fees to pull permits, they promise to build, say, a soccer stadium in a needy barrio. This explains why large developments can up with no traffic mitigation and often no lights, roads, sewer, or fresh water hook ups except for the minimum needed to get the project rolling. The development fees have been spent on a new soccer stadium across town that the politicians can take credit for.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Our new governor, Carlos Mendoza Davis

Cabo Senior Center Gets Help

But they could always use more

BY DEE LIVER

Robbie Zolezzi likes to go by Robbie Z. This is so much his persona that he is having a heart attack over our insistence in printing his full name. Therefore, we’re never going to mention it again. There, it’s done.

Robbie Z is a good hearted man who seems to turn up all over Cabo wherever help is needed. We first became aware of Z’s work with the Humane Society where he pitches in at the shelter, helping with the dirty work in addition to using his skills to raise money for the critter chow and supplies.

But he also helps with the old folks at the Senior Center. He and his team raise money to buy supplies the seniors can’t afford. And now it’s time for a Costco food run again. Robbie Z plans to go shopping because the center is almost completely out of food. The

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Robbie Z, center, takes donations of clothing to distribute and to sell, in order to raise more money for the local senior population.
Change your clock Oct. 25. Yeah, we know it’s a long way off, but people who are tired of this long, really hot summer are asking when daylight savings time ends. They’re hoping that date will usher in cooler weather. Well, news flash, folks, moving the date of the clock change is not going to change the crappy weather. We just have to bear it.

But we don’t have to like all our friends who figured out a way to beat the heat.

Ironman Los Cabos style

This year the triathlon includes two competitions on October 25, when half of the 1,500 participating athletes will compete in Ironman 70.3 Los Cabos. This year the triathlon includes two competitions on October 25, when half of the 1,500 participating athletes will compete in Ironman 70.3 Los Cabos, following the same route, with athletes competing in half the distances. Runners in both races are competing for qualifying slots in the Ironman World Championship in September 2016 in Queensland, Australia. For details, visit www.ironman.com.

Trash talk. Like any city, one thing we generate is a lot of trash; about 400 metric tons or 8,818 pounds a day. However, with only five garbage trucks in operation, only one-forth of the nasty stuff is being collected in Cabo San Lucas. Gregorio Canales, head of public services in Cabo, said the problem is due to the current transition period where the current mayor leaves office in December, and there is no money left in the treasury to repair several broken down trucks. A few angry citizens tired of black garbage bags accumulating at street corners delivered this garbage into them. Some public services offices in protest. And tell the mayor to take our city funds out of his suitcase and stick some of this garbage into them.

Citizens try to stop mine

A letter signed by 17,000 people was delivered to the 13 members of the La Paz city council, asking them to vote against new zoning that would allow an open pit mining project to operate in the Sierra de la Laguna.

The letter, submitted by attorney Arturo Rubio representing The “Legality and Transparency” civil organization, is considered a citizen’s mandate by law, but was not replied to within the time frame that the law establishes, and Rubio filed a complaint in federal courts.

Article 39 of the Mexican Constitution, Chapter 1 refers to national sovereignty and form of government and reads: “The national sovereignty resides originally and essentially in the people. All public power originates in the people and is instituted for its benefit. The people have at all times the inalienable right to alter or modify its form of government.”

Based on that, a federal judge ordered the city council members to reply and gave them a short time to do so. No reply will be taken as contempt of court which could lead to expulsion, making them unable to work, and even serving jail time. Should the council approve the zoning change in favor of the mine, the organization will take the issue to the supreme court. Councilman Ricardo Fiol told us that the council has not defined a position in favor or against the mining project yet. Their term ends Sept. 27, when Mayor Elect Armando Martinez takes over, along with a new city council. They might sign in favor of the mine at the last minute, or council. They might sign in favor of the mine at the last minute, or simply pass the hot potato on to the current transition period where the current mayor leaves office in December, and there is no money left in the treasury to repair several broken down trucks. A few angry citizens tired of black garbage bags accumulating at street corners delivered this garbage into them. Some public services offices in protest. And tell the mayor to take our city funds out of his suitcase and stick some of this garbage into them.

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CONTINUED ON PAGE 22
Our Druggies Can't Do Anything Right. Aren’t our Mexican druggies supposed to be crackerjack at growing, manufacturing, and selling drugs? Aren’t our guys the most bad ass head choppers in the world? Then just what are we doing importing 436 lbs of cocaine from those stumble bums in Colombia? 

And, FYI, those same stumble bums down in that 4th world country did such a bad job of wrapping the drugs in toner cartridges that it was discovered before it even got out of Columbia.

And, our thieves are just going to have to start doing business with a better class of thieves. Or at least a smarter class of thieves.

And what's up with our petrol thieves? Two illegal taps into the gasoline pipeline in Oaxaca last weekend have resulted in environmental and economic damages for farmers and ranchers in the Isthmus of Tehuantepec. One tap was followed by a spill that spread over a five-kilometer stretch, reaching a river and affecting at least 18 farms and ranches, where cattle are drinking contaminated water.

The sickening smell of gasoline has been present for at least four days and extends down the river as the leak flows. Producers and farmers in both towns say they reported the smell and possible contamination of the creek, but they claim that Pemex representatives took their sweet time to respond.

Pemex personnel, however, allege that their slow response was due to the locals impeding their access to the compromised pipeline, demanding reparations before officials could even start mopping up. Says ranch owner Leticia Salas Bernal: “They [Pemex] are the ones who contaminated, they should be the ones to clean up. But the clean-up should not last a week because the creeks and rivers remain polluted months after the spill, affecting my pasture and farm lands. Whoa, Nellie, it was the gas thieves who are responsible, did you ever think of dropping a dime when you saw them cruise into your range? Of course not.

Just 20 minutes away from that spill, another illegal tap into the pipeline was detected, spilling 90,000 liters of gasoline into the Boca del Monte lagoon, After two days of work, Pemex personnel were able to retrieve 48,000 liters. The rest sank into the environment and was stolen by all the neighbors who piled on.

Mexicans are learning to fly. Travel by air continues to grow in Mexico at the expense of the bus lines, whose fares in many cases are higher than those of the airlines. 20 years ago, just 0.9% of Mexicans traveled by air, a figure that has risen to 1.8%, according to estimates by the Secretariat of Communications and Transportation. The number of people who have traveled by plane grew 68% in the past 10 years, a period during which bus passenger levels grew just 21%.

One reason why travelers are choosing air over ground travel is the fares. Bus tickets increased 21% in price between 2012 and 2015 but airline tickets rose by only 2.6% in the same period. More Mexicans are discovering the advantages of air travel, according to the airlines, which estimate that during the past year 27% of their passengers — 877,480 people — were traveling by plane for the first time.

Canada still closed to Mexicans. Bernard Trottier, a candidate in the October 19 federal election, has said that Mexico has not met socioeconomic requirements to qualify for the lifting of the visa rule, which was implemented in 2009.

At the time it was explained...
Carlos “El Picore” Mendoza Davis is 46 years old. A lawyer by profession, he has earned two master’s degrees and has held several positions in the federal government. From May 2007 to October 2010, he served as regional representative of the Mexican Social Security Institute (IMSS) in Baja California Sur. He earned a law degree with honors from the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) in 1992, for which he wrote his thesis on Human rights and their protection in Mexican constitutional law. In 1994 he attended summer school in France, studying at the Institute of International and Comparative Law sponsored by the Cornell Law School and the University of Paris. He enrolled in graduate studies at Cornell University in New York, and received a Master of Laws (LLM) in 1995 with a research paper entitled, “The violation of human rights in third world countries as a reason for the imposition of economic sanctions.” In 2002, he won a scholarship from the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office, provided by the British Council. In 2003, he graduated from the London School of Economics and Political Science with an MSc in Comparative Politics in Latin America, submitting a dissertation entitled, “The fight against money laundering in Mexico: a critical assessment.”

From 1994 to 1997 he served at the Embassy of Mexico in Washington, as a political attaché in charge of relations with the U.S. Congress.

Mendoza’s father, César Mendoza Arámburo Angel, is from La Paz and was the first elected governor of Southern Baja. Our new governor married Gabriela Velazquez in 1999 and they have two children, 12 year old Gabriela and 10 year old Carlos.
Mexico Deals With Their Seniors
And it’s a struggle

BY OPHILIA PAYNE

During the decade of the 1990s senior citizens represented just 6.35% of the population but now they are 10%, and according to projections by the National Population Council, their numbers will grow by 42.5% in the next 10 years, reaching 15%. By 2050 there could be as many as 20 million. Since 1960 life expectancy in Mexico has risen from 57 to 75 years. (In those same years the number of children born to each woman went from 7 to about 2.22)

But at the same time needs of the seniors have multiplied. There is widespread agreement that the government hasn’t done a very good job of seeing to it that seniors are well cared for, and that public policy hasn’t kept up with the pace of population growth. Sound familiar?

The difficulties for the growing number of people of the so-called third age — la tercera edad, as they are known in Mexico — are numerous and the demand for specialized services has far outstripped the ability to meet them. 70% of older adults do not receive the medical services they need in either public or private institutions. Nor do they have much money to pay for them: on average, the typical senior in Mexico has a monthly income of around U.S. $120, and only 25% have a retirement or pension plan. There is one trained professional specializing in geriatrics for every 22,000 seniors, but by international standards there should be a specialized doctor available for every 2,500.

Says a researcher at the National Institute of Geriatrics, “Technology has allowed us to have extended longevity but this has had grave consequences on the quality of life for older adults, which is often deplorable, and the government doesn’t seem interested.” Armando Luna Lizarraga, the head of the government incapable of providing employment opportunities for youth is even less likely to invest in the well-being of seniors.

The problem is made worse by the changing status of women, who are the traditional care givers. The quality of women’s education has increased in the last several generations, and more women have entered the workforce. Without women in the home to care for the elderly, and with no tradition of retirement homes or even elder day care, these elderly Mexicans are left to fend for themselves all day. This is not a good plan for healthy, happy, or very long senior years.

I don’t like making plans for the day because then the word premeditated gets thrown around in court.

cool thing is now that they have three new refrigerators, they can buy fresher and healthier food for the seniors. By the time you see this in print, it will be too late to tag along on this major shop, although he likes is when people do. But they always need funds for it. His last run he bought enough food for 150 seniors for almost 45 days and the cost was about $1800 U.S.

Recently the Center had do-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

Ask a Mexican

Jose Javier Sanchez
baltazar 20 years old, bartender

My favorite beach is medano, because it’s so much more fun than the others. There’s always beautiful women to look at and people are having fun. It could be a little bit cleaner though, because it is very sad to see plastic bottles and beer cans laying around. I think it’s us the locals who don’t take care of it because we bring our own coolers and don’t really make a good job of cleaning after ourselves. I also think Medano is the best one because the tide is pretty low and calm.

Federico Guzmán Arreola
23 years old, bartender

I love Santa Maria very much. It’s the most beautiful beach with its closed bay and light blue waters. It’s a shame they sold a huge chunk of it because it will never be as beautiful again. The ocean is good for swimming but you have to be very careful and respectful with it. A lot of people are scared of the tide there but it’s all about analyzing the tide and how the ocean is feeling. If the ocean is angry it won’t let you in easy. I rather go when I know the ocean is happy.

Victor Mendoza Rodriguez
21 years old, salsa making master

I think that is hard to say because they are all so amazing and beautiful, in their own way. The local’s beach, (on the other side of Cabo, by the old cannery), is one of the best ones, the clearest water and the lowest tide, but people don’t like it anymore because a lot of the guys get off work and go there and have some beers and make a mess. Also Medano is very beautiful but it’s always so crowded and there is so many jet skis and boats that the water is always dirty and smells of oil. I am not sure if I could just pick one, but those are some of the best ones and they’re really close to downtown so it’s easier to access them.

Irvin Gomez 24 years old, waiter.

Las viudas is my favorite beach. It’s far enough so it doesn’t get crowded but close enough to be easy to go. I like how tranquil it is and how it’s for families and everyone can have fun, if you take a soccer ball or something, and just enjoy the day. The sunsets are also very beautiful and the beach is perfect for viewing them. I really like the water too, the tide is a little bit higher at las viudas, but it’s not too bad. I also like many hotels. I think the best one is Cabo pulmo though, because of the sea life, but in Cabo there are so many beaches that have been privatized, and that’s not right. Or they say it’s not private but they make it so difficult to access we just give up. Also Medano is fun, but it’s loud and crowded.

Valeria Cardoso, 22 years old, timeshare rep.

I am deeply in love with Santa Maria, especially because I can still take my puppies and have lots of fun with them. The other beaches have started to ban dogs from going but I think it’s not...
WHAT’S GOING ON IN THIS... continued from page 4

processing costs, choosing not to go into how much in social benefit costs Canada has saved.

Mexico steps up to the plate. It was a big step for Mexico when President Enrique Peña Nieto announced in September last year that the Mexican military will participate in international peacekeeping operations conducted by the United Nations.

Yesterday, that big step materialized in a rather small way: turns out a total of two soldiers will join a UN peacekeeping force in Lebanon in November.

Mexico goes English. Mexico will be a bilingual country within 10 to 20 years, the new Secretary of Education has forecast. Aurelio Nuño Mayer said the federal government is working on the creation of a national English program in order to reach that goal. “English is the language through which we can all communicate; it is a tool and a fundamental part of professional development and modernization,” he said.

Kids are supposed to learn it now, but they don’t, largely because the teachers don’t know it. Estimates of the number of Mexicans who speak or understand English run between 2% and 5%, a situation that represents a great cost to the country’s competitiveness internationally, said Mayer.

This brings me to one of my favorite jokes. Question: what do you call a monolingual person? Answer: American

He expressed alarm earlier this year that teaching English was not a priority in a country whose major trading partners are English-speaking. He cited some figures to make his point: 80% of basic education graduates — those who complete primary and secondary levels — have no knowledge of English at all, and in only 48% of Mexico’s universities is English a mandatory course. Nor do businesses allocate any resources for training staff in English. “It is a subject that has been abandoned not only by the government, but by the private sector as well,” he observed that workers who can speak English can earn 28% to 50% more than those who do not.

Mother of all tamales. People in New Mexico are claiming they have cooked the world’s longest tamale. A team of more than 30 chefs did it to celebrate the state’s heritage. Well, it’s a fake heritage, we are the real deal and we should be the ones to build this tamale. These imposters claim they built a 116 foot, 7 inch long tamale at the fairgrounds in Belen New Mexico. It took 120 pounds of masa and 50 pounds of green chile. A local manufacturer of home improvement material designed a special steamer out of aluminum to cook the tamale in.

The team plans to submit all the required documentation to Guinness World Records to get official recognition for the achievement.

According to Guinness World Records, the longest tamale assembled was in Cancun, in 2011 and measured a little longer than 66 feet. Geeze, only 66 feet, we got our ass whipped.

We don’t gotta show you no stinkin papers. CURP, the national identity card, is now going to be required for any identification, announced the feds. The Secretary of Gobernación (Segob) is going to use the CURP card as the key to... CONTINUED ON PAGE 9
We're Famous!
We must be famous, we have people who've never been here singing our praises

By K.C. Casem

You haven't really arrived until you have a song about you, and Cabo actually has several, but a girl and a town can never have too many admirers.

Toby Keith had a big hit about us, and Kenny Chesney has sung about us. Mike Hill, a local musician, has written a very catchy tune about Cabo. Now a six piece country band from Springfield Missouri has written a Cabo song. This was a special challenge because none of the band mates have ever even been here! They became interested when family members who are Mexican told them about us.

SpringTown recorded the song and sent us an MP3 of it which we put on our facebook page (gringogazettecabo). “Down in Cabo San Lucas” is also available for digital download through Reverbnation.com and Itunes.com.

The band would like to come to Cabo, but all six of them have real jobs, (the lead singers are registered nurses), and the chance of them all getting time off at the same time is about nil.

But they're very excited because a videographer associated with the Los Cabo Tourism Board is interested in shooting a music video of the song. Strange they are promoting a band who has never set foot in Cabo when we have musicians right here who are struggling to be known and who do a wonderful job of promoting Cabo with their home grown songs, but we wish everyone the best.

Here are the lyrics for everyone who doesn't care enough to go to the internet to hear it, but cares enough to take a small look at the song.

Down in Cabo San Lucas.

Words and Music by Michael and Cindy Tucker, Copyright 2015.

Just checked the mailbox
And what did I see
A tax return check starin' back at me
Now what to do
With all this money to burn
There's a Baja destination
Waitin' our return
C'mon baby
You know it'd be nice
The peninsula is callin'

A Springfield Missouri band is hoping to spring to fame and fortune singing the praises of Cabo of the band mates have ever even been here! They became interested when family members who are Mexican told them about us.

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Waitin' our return
C'mon baby
You know it'd be nice
The peninsula is callin'
Do We Have A Hardware Or Software Problem?

Breaking and entering, and various crimes of property are rampant in this town. Everybody has either been effected or personally knows someone who has been robbed. Nobody can leave their house to go to the States without getting a house sitter, and even that is no guarantee, as the brazen thieves often break in while people are home. The police will do nothing, often refusing even to come out and take a report. They know this is going on and they often know who it is. This is proven by if you “tip” the police you have a good chance of seeing your stuff again. They will somehow find it for you.

24 police failed the last “confidence” test, most for drug abuse. 15 of them were fired but a judge ordered six of them reinstated. We were told the reason more are not fired with each confidence test, is it is so costly to give them their severance pay, which they get even if they’re caught stealing.

The tests entail personality profiling, a determination that personal assets are in accordance with income, and checking for alcohol and drug abuse and organized crime links. Officers undergo polygraph exams, background checks and physical aptitude tests.

We currently have 582 cops in the municipality, which is about the U.S. average for a town our size. (About 250,000). So where are they? If each one wrote just one ticket a day, at $20 a ticket, they could raise more than $10,000 a day for the city. When was the last time you saw one of these Keystone Kops write a ticket? Sadly, you don’t know, because you’re too busy pushing money into their hands from the moment one pulls you over.

Just think of the lives saved if they police slowed folks down with speeding tickets, enforced stops at stop signs, and if they enforced the seat belt rule. The sorry state of the city police is responsible for lives and revenue squandered, and the loss of civility in our neighborhoods and on our roads.

Let’s all hope for the best from our incoming administration.

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Spa Cielo a Laser Medical Spa

- 2009 Recipient “Best Medical Spa” by Mexican Association of Medical Tourism, Offers Rejuvenation Vacations here in Los Cabos

These days everybody wants to look beautiful. As 78 million “baby boomers” near retirement, age begins to show. But with the fast pace of today’s society, an aging society now wants that fresh look without spending weeks of painful recovery. A rejuvenation vacation is their solution.

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

“People want to look better, but they don’t want to give up any time from their daily lives or vacation,” said Cathy Dammann, Medical Aesthetics Practitioner and Owner, of Spa Cielo Laser, a Medical Spa that offers the newest in safe, non-surgical cosmetic skin treatments.

“The public is demanding, transformation without pain or downtime” states Dammann. Cielo, which specializes in light and laser treatments.

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

Cielo’s most popular procedure is the non-surgical face-lift. Its signature service incorporates the Cutera Titan. Titan has been the recipient of numerous awards including: 2008 Aesthetic Medicine Award for “Best Customer Experience and Satisfaction” and Aesthetic Trends and Technologies “Best non-laser for skin tightening and wrinkle reduction”. Titan rejuvenates the skin for the total body, allowing Cielo to follow changes in their patient’s skin from year to year.

When asked about prices, Dammann replies, “prices vary based on procedure, but my clients often say, “I am so surprised, this cost me no more than a round of golf or a day of sport fishing, and I have something to show for the money I’ve spent.” People can now enjoy their vacations and return home looking years younger! Call for your complimentary consultation 624-105-2209. www.spa-cielo.com

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Medical Tourism, Offers Rejuvenation Vacations here in Los Cabos

- Cosmetic skin treatments.
- Spa Cielo Laser Center takes it one step further offering skin rejuvenation.
- The VISIA gives us the information necessary to determine the best treatment options.
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- The scan, which is stored in the computer, allows Cielo to follow changes in their patient’s skin from year to year.

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City Hall keeps buying more hardware, here taking delivery of yet more cars...

...when they could spend the money on fixing the lazy, crooked, do nothing cops.
Access all the paperwork, transactions and formalities related to government. For this reason they are now working on the consolidation of the Personal Identification National System. Expect to see the CURP adopted as the ID document with biometric data, (fingerprinting and eyeball scanning), as was planned in the past administration and never implemented. Mexicans have concerns over this, but they are not rioting in the streets over it, as Americans would over a national identity card with so much personal information on it, so expect it to be implemented.

We’re sliding into debt. The government debt is now 42% of Mexico’s GDP, 3.4% higher than six months ago. The criticism of this debt is centered around the fact that many people don’t see where the spending was.

Mexico loves football. No, not soccer, real American football. The kind that beats young men’s brains to mush. Sales of NFL merchandise in Mexico grew 300% in seven years. Official merchandise is sold in stores in most of the country. Seven years ago there were 100 sales locations now there are more than 2,000 stores, including dealers.

continued from page 11
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- Underwritten by Qualitas the Largest Insurer of Vehicles in Mexico
- $500,000 USD CSL Liability
- USA Repair Rate with No Per Hour Limit for repairs made in the USA
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- $100,000 USD Legal Service for Criminal and Civil Defense
- Medical Payment $50,000 USD Per Accident
- GRUPO AUSA Vehicle Breakdown Coverage
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SHARE IN THE CONFIDENCE
Put Your Agent to the Test!
Tico Druggies Are Better Than Our Guys?

A drug smuggler has been caught sneaking 14 grams of cocaine and 14 grams of marijuana into the biggest, most secure jail in Costa Rica.

The accused was caught in the middle of the prison’s main courtyard guilty as hell and with no explanation. She was whisked away and serving life with no parole at a local zoo. Her handler can not be determined and she’s not talking despite the prospect of a lengthy sentence.

Tico police say they’ve seen dogs and cats used to mule in drugs, but this was the first time they had seen a pigeon used this way. In a prison drugs go for almost five times their street value, so somebody cashed in pretty good for who knows how long, and probably paid this hard working pigeon peanuts.

The pigeon had a custom black fanny pack to carry her load which she hid under her feathers.

The Narcopaloma (drug bird), as she was named by her internet fans, is no garden variety pigeon either, she is of the columba livia species of pigeons, non-native to Costa Rica, where she is considered exotic.

Well, maybe, but she looks to us like the ordinary pigeons who flock around every church square in Mexico, pooping on people and statues and being pretty much of no value at all.

WHAT'S GOING ON IN THIS...
continued from page 9

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Created with the vision and creativity of Miguel Angel Aragones, Mar Adentro features a five-star hotel and private residences and estates. Mar Adentro is the first contemporary luxury development of its kind in San Jose del Cabo. Every detail has been considered and priority given to the finest of services and amenities.

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Green Is The New Black
Here’s a good way to save on our outta control electricity costs

BY BRIDGET BURKE

Going green is here to stay. It is no longer just a fashionable trend to be mocked as yet another marketing fad generated by PR people cashing in on save the planet programs. It might be time to give up trying to fight or ignore the green movement; resistance is futile. You will be assimilated into going green by choice, co-

panels to start out?

Many green projects other than solar panels can offer significant energy saving opportunities. These may range from lighting renovations to underground irrigation and grey water recovery for landscape use. As an example, let’s explore different swimming pool pumps available in Cabo.

This shows up on your CFE (Mexican electric company) bill each month in a shocking manner.

Let’s look at one of the main reasons your swimming pool may be a bigger part of your energy costs than you think, and how you can save almost 80%. Your pool pump may be over sized for the job or it may be just a simple single speed pump, like they all were a few years ago. Take for example a 1.5 horsepower pump, typical of an average size pool, operating 5.5 hours per day. This style of pump typically consumes 9.5 kilowatts per day.

Energy savings can be found by using either a 2-speed or a multi-speed pump at low speed for 8 hours per day, reducing your electrical use to 2.8 kilowatts per day, while still filtering the same volume of water. After all, pool filtering over longer periods is actually better as water movement prevents algae formation and tile staining. Like most things in life, if you slow down and take it easy, but work at a task in a steady manner, the results are as good or better than if you hit it at high speed.

In this replacement example, savings on your kilowatt usage for your pool can be as much as 80%, and with local electrical

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23
What’s The Deal On The Mexican American War?

Scary, sad, and a big, huge sore point with our Mexican friends. Best not to bring it up.

BY LUPE HIDALGO

War broke out in 1846 between Mexico and the USA. There were many reasons why, but the most important were lingering Mexican resentment over the 1836 loss of Texas and the Americans’ desire for Mexico’s northwestern lands, including California and New Mexico.

When the peace treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo was signed in 1847, Mexico lost about one-third of its entire territory, including nearly all of present-day California, Utah, Nevada, Arizona and New Mexico, and parts of Oklahoma, Kansas and Wyoming. It was a bad licking that Mexico took, and would change its destiny. It is interesting to note, the same 10 states represent 136 electoral votes, more than half the votes necessary to win a U.S. presidential election.

This is a recent ad for Vodka that opened old wounds and shows what a shrivelled up little country the USA would be without the Mexican American war of 1846. The green is what Mexico would be today and the yellow is what the U.S. would be today.

Under the resulting treaty Mexico agreed to recognize the U.S. annexation of Texas, which sorely saddened them, as many Mexicans lived there. In addition, Mexico agreed to sell California and the rest of its territory north of the Rio Grande for the bargain basement price of U.S. $15 million, plus a small payment for certain war damage claims.

It was not an easy war for either side, as conditions were terrible. Everyone suffered greatly from disease, which killed seven times more soldiers than combat. Soldiers suffered and died from a variety of diseases, including yellow fever, malaria, dysentery, measles, diarrhea, cholera and smallpox. These illnesses were treated with remedies such as leeches, brandy, mustard, opium and lead. As for those wounded in combat, primitive medical techniques often turned minor wounds into life-threatening ones.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25
The Mexican Will – Is it Necessary?
Protecting your assets through proper planning

BY LINDA JONES NEIL AND RAOUl RODRIGUEZ-WALTERS

US and Canadian citizens living in Mexico frequently ask: “Do I need a Mexican Will?” While there is no legal requirement to have a Testament or Will, executed in Mexico, it often makes sense for people whose only Mexican asset is a home or condominium, to be proactive and draft a Mexican Will.

The main reason is that the laws governing transfer of properties to heirs are not always favorable to surviving spouses and property is not always distributed in a manner that the deceased would have wanted.

Laws of succession in Mexico are governed by the Civil Code of the state in which the property is located. While many state laws are based upon the Civil Code of the Federal District, (Mexico City) it is important to investigate the law in the state where property is held to determine precisely how property will be distributed when the owner, or one of the owners, dies without a will (intestate).

WILLS FOR PROPERTIES HELD IN A FEE SIMPLE DEED:

If the property is located in the interior of the country, outside of the “restricted zone”, the strip of land 50 miles wide along the coastlines and 100 miles wide along the borders, then more than likely the property is held outright in a fee simple deed.

In Mexico, there is no such thing as right of survivorship permitting the property to automatically transfer to the surviving spouse. At the first death, assuming the husband and wife own the property 50/50, an undivided half will be transferred pursuant to the deceased’s will or pursuant to the state’s civil code.

In the event the deceased does not have a will and there are surviving children, it is possible that, even in states with revised Civil Codes such as Guanajuato and Baja California Sur, the surviving spouse will have no more than an equal share with the children. In other words, if Mr. Jones has a wife and four children who survive him, Mrs. Jones will receive only a one-fifth undivided interest in Mr. Jones’s 50% interest in the property.

Mrs. Jones will then have to obtain the permission of her four children in order to mortgage or sell the property her 50% interest and the portion she inherited from her husband.

However, in the Federal District (Mexico City) if the surviving spouse has an estate that is equal to or greater than the shares of the children, then the spouse gets nothing.

This can be avoided on fee simple properties by a carefully prepared Will made by each party on title. The Will, in Mexico, is made before a Notary Public and may be handwritten with an official translation made, or the Notary may insist upon having an official translator present if the party making the will does not speak fluent Spanish.

In the last few years many more Mexican states have added provisions to their Civil Code introducing what is known generally as a simplified will, or “Testamento Simplificado”. Basically, the person(s) purchasing a home for personal use are allowed to set up a bequest in the deed to the real property acquired, which functions for all intents and purposes, as a beneficiary designation. As such there will be no need to initiate a probate process as regards that property. However, please note that a clause such as this a deed to a home in Mexico will only apply to that specific property. Depending on your particular situation, a separate will might still be advisable for other property that you may own.

WILLS AND DESIGNATIONS IN FIDEICOMISO PROPERTIES:

Per Article 27 of the Mexican constitution, any property located within the “restricted zone” (see above), acquired by a foreign person, must be held in a Mexican bank trust (fideicomiso). Essentially, the fideicomiso is a contract with a Mexican bank for it to hold title on behalf of the foreign person. Thus, with bank as the titleholder, beneficiaries and substitute beneficiaries can be designated within the trust (fideicomiso) contract and no will is required, nor is probate required for disposition of this property.

Upon the death of a trust beneficiary, the substitute beneficiary, the beneficiary must contact the trustee bank, provide it with a certified copy of the death certificate and request that the substitute be acknowledged as full beneficiary. Certain costs are involved but no probate is necessary.

Great care must be taken, however, in the designation of the beneficiary (ies) to insure that husband will succeed to wife’s interest in the event of wife’s death and vice versa.

If the fideicomiso, trust contract, shows the beneficiaries as Jonathan Smith and Geraldine Smith, without specifically stating that the surviving spouse inherits the entire property upon the death of the other, the law will assume that each party owns a 50% interest in the party and the deceased’s 50% will transfer to his heirs upon his death which may, or may not be to his wife and children depending upon the terms of the civil law in the state where the property is located.

While the property held in fideicomiso, the Mexican bank trust, can properly designate successors upon the death of the original beneficiary, personal property such as automobiles, furniture, art work, and so forth are left unprotected if no Mexican Will is made.

This is a very important reason for those living in the “restricted zone” to have a will, even if real properties are held in a Mexican bank trust.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16
One of the things we think about when placing a property on the market is what the seller is going to end up putting in their pockets when the deal is concluded. This is not my favorite part of my job because quite often I’m the first person to tell them they are going to owe a ton in capital gains tax. But, it’s necessary and better than having a nasty surprise at the closing table.

In reality there are at least four factors that could cause a big capital gains tax bill:

1. The seller actually did make a ton of bucks, in which case I’m not going to worry about any griping.
2. The [registered] price they bought it for, or what was spent to build it, is lower than reality.
3. The sale involves a corporation or business, and
4. The peso has shifted versus the dollar significantly since they bought.

It’s that last one that we tend to forget about; especially here in Cabo where we deal in dollars so often in our daily lives. Our real estate community speaks dollars almost 100%. Our prices are quoted in dollars, we negotiate prices in dollars, and we write contracts in dollars. Every piece of paper the buyer and seller see reference the price in dollars. Yet the truth is the actual transaction occurs in pesos. On the day of the closing the Notario Publico will make the conversion from dollars to pesos and that is the amount that is registered as the sale price. Which is fine… as long as the peso is stable.

This morning I was working on the paperwork for a property we’re going to put up for sale. One of the reasons we ask for the trust is to check the values and make a rough (very) calculation of what their net proceeds will be in event of the sale. Taking the date of the trust, and the value recorded in pesos I can go onto the SAT website (SAT is the Mexican equivalent of the IRS) and consult their tables to see what the official exchange rate was on that day. The exercise caused me to draft the following email which I think is a good enough explanation to warrant blogging it.

My major concern right now is capital gains tax. I’ve just taken a spin through the documents pertaining to the house. One of the big problems I see here is out of our control… the exchange rate. We know that this is probably going to take a while to sell the house, average time on market right now is over one year, and we don’t know what the exchange rate will be in the future. But, if we were to sell today we have an artificial gain in addition to the real gain. The day your purchase was recorded the exchange rate was 9.71 according to the tax agency. Today’s is about 16.5. Since the sale is registered in pesos, and the gain in pesos is what is taxed, you can see that it’s going to have a big impact. Looking at a hypothetical $100 house, if you paid 100 US in 2001 and sold for 100 US today you would think there is no gain and therefore no tax due. But to the tax agency it would look as if you bought for 100 and sold for 165. The tax on that gain’ would be $65. So there is a built in artificial gain of about 39 percent just on the exchange rate. If the rate is higher on the day we sell the effect will be greater, if we inch back down close to 10/1 it will go away.

Seller need to be aware of this phenomenon and take it into consideration. There are several legal strategies to reduce the amount of capital gains tax due to some other factors, unfortunately there’s no cure I know for this effect.

Carol Billups is Broker/Owner of Cabo Realty Pros. She has enjoyed working with both buyers and sellers for over eleven years and still thinks hers is the best job on earth. She is also the real estate columnist for Los Cabos Magazine. You can read more of her articles on the website blog www.caborеaltypros.com. You can reach her from the U.S. or Canada at 1-760-481-7694, or in Cabo at 044-624-17-7541. You can listen to our 24/7 broadcast on http://www.livecastabo.net for a mix of happy music, weather reports and local information. © 2015 Carol S. Billups.
Why Home Staging Is Important

BY NICK FONG, LOS CABOS AGENT

Although staging is optional, it really shouldn’t be when you are selling your house in Cabo. When you’re dealing with such a significant financial transaction, you don’t want to be lazy and settle for a lower selling price or a longer marketing period than you have to. This is true back home and here in Cabo, it is even more the case.

Relative to the amount of time and money involved, staging may be one of the most lucrative projects you ever undertake. Potential buyers aren’t just looking for a structure to inhabit – they’re looking to fulfill their dreams and improve their lifestyles. Staging helps sell those dreams and creates a more emotional purchase that can generate more money for the seller.

Home staging is also beneficial because potential buyers don’t want to see work that needs to be done upon moving into the home. For every problem they see, they’ll deduct its cost from their offering price. If they see too many problems, they’ll pass altogether. While there are plenty of room-specific staging tips, if you’re on a limited budget, it’s best to focus on big-picture improvements and on the areas that will make the biggest difference in your home’s selling price. These include the exterior and entryway (both heavily impact a buyers’ first impressions), the living room, kitchens and bathrooms, the master bedroom and outdoor living space, such as a back patio.

The following techniques can and should be employed in as many rooms of the house as you can afford and have time for:

Clean.

In the kitchen, potential buyers love to see new appliances that come with the home, but if you can’t do that, make the ones you have spotless. No one wants to see splattered spaghetti sauce, films of grease or piles of crumbs in their potential new home. Likewise, make sure your bathroom sparkles, from the corners of the tub to the sink drain to that spot behind the toilet you don’t think anyone can see. Your goal should be to make everything look new.

Declutter.

There are two major problems with clutter. One is that it distracts buyers from your home’s features. The other is that it makes it seem like the home doesn’t have enough storage space. Put away knick-knacks. Keep in mind that buyers will be interested in your closet space, so tossing everything into the closet to hide it away may not be the best strategy.

Depersonalize

Buyers need to be able to envision themselves in your home, so remove all the family photos, items with family members’ names on them and refrigerator art. Also make sure to put away all the toys and anything else that is highly indicative of the home’s current inhabitants.

Define Rooms

Make sure each room has a single, defined purpose. Also make sure that every space within every room has a purpose so that buyers will see how to maximize the home’s square footage. Even if the buyer won’t want to use the room for the same purpose, the important thing is for them to see that every inch of the home is usable space. This includes alcoves, window seats, corners, breakfast nooks and so on.

Lighting

Take advantage of your home’s natural light. Open all curtains and blinds when showing your home. Add supplemental lighting where necessary. Outdated or broken light fixtures can be cheaply and easily replaced. If you think your existing fixtures are fine, make sure to dust them, clean off any grime and empty out the dead bugs.

Last Touches

Just before any open house or showing, make sure that your staging efforts go the full mile with a few last-minute touches.

Paul Kessler

Before coming to Los Cabos Sotheby’s International Realty, Paul lived the stressful corporate life running hospitals in New York City. Seeking a change of life, he began an acting career and worked for 8 years in national tours, regional theatre, off-Broadway shows, film, and television.

For Paul, it was a great and creative life, but all it took was a vacation to Los Cabos for him to realize that life could better. The love of real estate led him to Los Cabos Sotheby’s International Realty.

Here he found he could be successful in his profession and enjoy a life very few people get to experience. The love of food and Mexican wine brought many new friends. He is actively involved in fund raising for the Los Cabos Humane Society and is happy to volunteer when needed.

He believes his love of people and the ensuing communication with them are responsible for his success in real estate in Los Cabos. Helping people find their dream vacation home or new residence is the true reward.

Contact Paul at Sotheby’s International, Cell: (624) - 191-0512, email: pkessler@sirloscabs."
Mexican Will revokes all prior Wills by operation of law. Often this is not the testator’s intention. It is essential that revocation, or non-revocation, be specified in the Will.

3. Coordination of the estate plan so that all Wills, on both sides of the border, work directly otherwise.

6. Other clauses to consider in your Mexican testament:
   a. Simultaneous Death Clause. Used in the event both spouses die together.
   b. Testamentary Trust Clause. Used to direct the executor to create Mexican, US or Canadian trusts.
   c. No Contest Clause. Used to discourage heirs from contesting a Will.
   d. Letter of intent. Because the codicil in Mexico does not exist, provision for a Letter of Intent can be included in the Will making it simpler to change your bequests at a later date.

The cost for making a Mexican Will is generally less than $500. Also, the month of September is known as the “month of the wills” and most Notarios provide their services for drafting wills at a deep discount, often 50%. In most cases, it is probably money well spent for the peace of mind gained from knowing your wishes will be carried out upon your death.

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Co-Author Linda Neil is the founder of The Settlement Company. It is the first escrow company in Mexico, and is dedicated to processing the trust and title transfers of Mexican real estate for foreign buyers and sellers for properties located ANYWHERE in Mexico. Ms. Neil is also licensed as a Real Estate Broker in California, is an Accredited Buyer Representative through NAR, and has over thirty-five years of hands-on experience in all aspects of Mexican real estate. She holds membership in AMIP, NAR and FIAHCL and PROFECO Certificate 0006396.


Co-Author Raoul Rodriguez-Walters CFP, EA, in business over 16 years is the founding partner of Mexico Advisor, the only company on either side of the US-Mexico border offering international wealth management, legal and tax services under one roof, to English-speaking foreigners wanting to live, retire or set up businesses in Mexico. E-mail: RaoulRW@mexadv.com. Web Site: http://www.mexadv.com.

WHY HOME STAGING IS...

continued from page 17

that will make the home seem warm and inviting. These include fresh flowers, letting fresh air into the house for at least ten minutes beforehand so it isn’t stuffy, adding a pleasant scent as discussed earlier, and putting new, plush, nicely folded towels in the bathrooms.

La Residencia features two and three bedroom residences and two penthouses. A large gourmet kitchen and private beachfront terrace offer a true beachfront living experience. Quality and craftsmanship exude throughout with Cumaru wood finishes, Rocky Mountain Hardware and energy efficient, Tri-D Panel construction. Just 15 minutes from Los Cabos International Airport.

Contact Janet Jensen with Snell Real Estate for more information at (624) 142-4873 or janetj@snellrealestate.com.
So far this season, all of the storms have passed well to the west or north of the tip of Baja with the outer bands delivering more rain than wind, which is a good thing. Surfers are savoring the high surf from these passing storms that have pounded the West Coast of Baja recently. This is the time of year that the rugged Baja terrain is going to be as green as it ever gets, so enjoy.

Gary Graham, gary@garygraham.com

Cabo San Lucas

After Hurricane Linda whizzed by out west, the outer bands and the swell was enough to close the port for two days which caused concerns that the after-storm conditions would have an unsettling effect on the fishing.

Not to worry. The billfishing snapped right back and has been as hot as the weather has been humid. Blue marlin as well as a few black marlin, striped marlin and sailfish have kept the off-shore anglers occupied; the blue billfish flags and red release flags are on occasionally — lots of small storms around. Good bait is freely available … caballito, balbuceo, and dead sardina.

You can expect to get rained on occasionally — lots of small storms around. Good bait is freely available … caballito, baby hoo and dead sardina.

Billfish continue to provide good sport for those targeting them — mostly sailfish action at the moment. Blue marlin and striped marlin are also available, mostly close to La Ribera.

While tuna action continues to offer mostly football-size fish mixed in with a lot of skipjack. The best bet for dorado was the bottom structure, though a handful of snapper and pargo species were landed, both on baits and yo-yo jigs; as currents slack, these fish should become more active. Dorado were once again few and far between, after a flurry of action the past couple of weeks; as water cleans back up, we should see more of these dorado in the fish counts.

East Cape

Normal summer conditions, with days in the low 90s, water temps in the high 80s and stable. You can expect to get rained on occasionally — lots of small storms around. Good bait is freely available … caballito, baby hoo and dead sardina.

Billfish continue to provide good sport for those targeting them — mostly sailfish action at the moment. Blue marlin and striped marlin are also available, mostly close to La Ribera.

While tuna action continues to offer mostly football-size fish mixed in with a lot of skipjack. The best bet for dorado was trolling.

Wahoo were around with practically all fish taken on Rapala. Rigged with Fluorocarbon — there were no fish hitting baits rigged with wire.

Inshore and bottom fishing has been good again. Still picking up yellowtail! The trick here is to jig mackerel down deep. Also amberjacks, pargo, cabrilla, etc., are on the rampage; fishing for roosters has been slow again.

La Paz

Las Arenas had one day when everyone caught limits or near...
Calendar of Events

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Every Thursday, 7:30 pm.** Movie night. Free. At the Cultural Pavilion in the Cabo San Lucas marina.

**Every Thursday, 7:30 pm.** English worship and bilingual message. Turn at Office Depot and stay straight almost to the crest of the hill. Turn left on Zapotecas on the left side of the street.

**Every Thursday. From 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. Miro’s Services is taking all clean plastic for recycling. Corner of Rangel and Verduzco Sts just behind the old Pemex downtown station.

**Every Saturday, 10 am to 1 pm.** Children’s library open. Story tellers at 10:30 and 12:30. Looking for gently used books. theranchkidz@yahoo.com, Todos Santos

**Every Sunday. 11. am. Movie Club. “Lumiere,” Children’s classic movies at the marine museum in San Jose.**

**Every Sunday, 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

**September 30 to October 4.** The Cabo Comedy Festival. At the Desperados restaurant (English) with some of the best comedians from the U.S., and the La Divina bar with the Spanish shows. Also panel discussions with the participation of comedy writers, producers and cast members. For information and tickets: www.cabocomedyfestival.com

**October 9, Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.** US Foods 3rd annual Food Expo. At the Hilton Los Cabos resort. An event for hospitality, restaurants, retail delis, 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.loscabos-greenfest.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.volpigranfondosesries.com/#!los-cabos-mexico/cqoz Or Facebook: loscabsogradonfondo

**October 16 - 18.** Bisbee’s Los Cabos Offshore. Information: bisbees.com

**October 20 – 24.** Bisbee’s Black & Blue fishing tourney. 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

**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

**December 10.** The Los Cabos Humane Society 10th annual Dressed to the K9s party with Branden James www.branden-james.com $135 or pre-sale $110. More info later

**February 28, Sunday, 2016** Historic Home Tour Of Todos Santos. An opportunity to view a piece of Todos Santos history. These magnificent homes will be continued on page 30
Nick, who is in a coma after a horrendous beating and multiple injuries, (though one of the perpetrators can easily be identified, because during the scuffle, Nick bit his ear off). In his coma, Nick hears the conversations of everyone around him, but can only communicate with the ghost of his twin brother who had died years before. A complete change of topic, but again, woven into what comes before and after. I found this chapter interesting because I’ve often theorized that coma and stroke victims are often fully aware but cannot communicate.

The last chapter brings in political conspiracies, and is a page turner for sure. The language is rough, characters even rougher, and I think some of the book’s charm is that Mike is not trying to be politically correct. The characters and plots have jagged edges and are not for the timid reader. Mike, the author also happens to be one of the main characters, and can best be compared to a cross between John Wayne and Agent 007. I wish I’d asked him more about the stories and the characters; were they real, and are some of the plots true? I didn’t ask that, and perhaps it is best not to know.

Quotes by Mike are some examples of the old Cabo wisdom; “promises and bones were made to be broken”...like a mother-in-law’s kiss; damp and cold... and the one quoted most often throughout his book, “nothing fails like a great plan!”

I’ll end this review with my favorite quote by Mike Grzanich, “...I remember my father’s advice...to try and get smarter as I get older- but ‘really, I am only running out of stupid things to do.’

Copies of Jake, Nick, and Double Deuces are available in Cabo at the Latitude 22 Roadhouse and he’s promised to bring me some copies for my book store in Loreto on his next trip north.

Our bookstore, El Balcón Blanco is finally re-opened in Loreto, and with a room full of bargain books, and also some new Baja coffee table books. The last several years have been a wild journey, and it’s wonderful to be back here. Thank you for your patronage! Jeannine Perez, Loreto. Please note the new phone number 613 125 2611.

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What’s On This Week In Sports
SEPT 21 NFL MON: Jets @ Colts
SEPT 24 NFL: Redkins @ Giants WORLD RUGBY: NZ vs Namibia
SEPT 26 NCAA: College Football TRAILHUN: ITU Cross
SEPT 27 NFL SUN: Broncos @ Lions; Bears @ Seahawks; NASCAR: New Hampshire PGA GOLF; Tour Champ;
SEPT 28 NFL SUN: Chiefs @ Packers

TOURISM CALENDAR
Now is a good time to get your health check-up. Until October 31st
"Sorting out shit, " , "Whoops" , "looking for a change or want to get started in sales?"
"What’s your home’s weakest point in a Hurricane?"
"Looking for a change or want to get started in sales?"
"Book Report..."
"Now Hiring Closers & Liners"
"Top Pay, Up to 14% Commissions on Sales!"
"What’s On This Week In Sports"
"What’s your home’s weakest point in a Hurricane?"
"Looking for a change or want to get started in sales?"
"Top Pay, Up to 14% Commissions on Sales!"
"Now Hiring Closers & Liners"
"What’s On This Week In Sports"
"What’s your home’s weakest point in a Hurricane?"
"Looking for a change or want to get started in sales?"
"Top Pay, Up to 14% Commissions on Sales!"
The new administration.

Reef and mangrove clean-ups

Four friends were fed up and decided to clean up the underwater and mangrove (trees that grow in coastal habitats) area of San Rafaelito in La Paz near Pichilingue, around the small island that is crowned by a lighthouse. When their plan became public, more than 30 national and foreign divers joined the group. The city provided a dump truck and a Red Cross ambulance. Lots of metal, plastic, glass, and tires filled up the 8 cubic meter dump truck.

The initial four then decided to create a civil organization, “Rescuing our reefs and mangroves,” or RNAM for its name in Spanish.

The second call to action took place at the mangroves of El Mogote, Centenario located north of La Paz. Kayakers and stand-up paddlers were invited. The group grew large and additional people even walked the beaches near downtown La Paz picking up more trash.

The third event attracted nearly 200 people along the La Paz malecon and a fourth one took care of trash on Cerralvo Island and Punta Arenas, with children from the elementary school of La Ventana pitching in. The group welcomes volunteers who can sign up on Facebook: Rescatando-Nuestros-Arrecifes-y-Manglares. It’s amazing how people are willing to pitch in, they just need a leader.

Architects’ perspective of Odile

Local architect Nora Alvarado is seeking financial support for a book outlining the architectural damages done by Hurricane Odile last September. It will also present professional opinions on ways to minimize structural damage in the future. Titled “Arquitectura de Los Cabos, El Viento Motivo de Diseño” (Los Cabos Architecture, the Wind as a Motive of Design) is expected to be in print by November, in both Spanish and English. Proceeds from the sale of the book will benefit the Cabo San Lucas Fire Department, whose mostly volunteer members worked hard cleaning up Cabo after the hurricane hit.

Content includes an analysis of architecture severely damaged; the urban and social impact of the hurricane; and tips for architectural design. Alvarado was aided in the production of the book by architect Horacio Gonzalez, director of the city’s urban planning institute (Iplan), Comandante Juan Carabajal of the CSL fire department, and friends who helped with promotion, style correction and translation to English, including Astrid Castañeda, Hector Narro, Daniela Flores (this writer’s daughter), and yours truly.

You can buy a copy at the Cabo San Lucas Fire Department for about 17 bucks. Alvarado, who is also the founder of the Cabo San Lucas downtown merchants association, is seeking tax-deductible donations to print as many books as possible. If you’re willing to donate, please contact her via email at: callistosadecv@yahoo.com.

Esperanza recognized

Our very own Esperanza resort was honored among the world’s best in the 2015 Readers’ Choice Awards from Andrew Harper’s Hideaway Report, “a digital magazine for sophisticated trav... continued on page 28
advantage of homeowners in a way that Americans would never stand for. But these new laws, if enforced, might change the landscape of homeownership. And does President Pena Nieto’s state of the republic address. In his recent third annual state of the republic address, President Pena Nieto admitted that the narco running loose and in particular the escape of El Chapo are big problems. However, he also pointed out that during his administration, there has been the arrest or death of 92 of the 122 most wanted criminals in the country, and that his government has accepted and implemented all the recommendations of the National Human Rights Commission (CNDH).

He admitted that between 2012 and 2014, 2 million people slipped into poverty, and that this will make the government “redouble efforts” in that department. Peña Nieto recognizes that Mexico is not moving as it should, which he attributed to the instability of the international economy and corruption that persists in this country.

Peña Nieto came to power in December 2012 with 38% of the vote. Nearly three years later, the papers are screaming that his popularity is at the lowest levels of his term. Just how low is it? 38% according to most polls.

The Portus Group began the highly successful Ventanas Residential Project in Cabo San Lucas nine years ago. It consists of three master-plan neighborhoods of single family homes and condominiums, Phase I and II — already delivered — and Phase III, each centered around a very upscale clubhouse. A key reason for the success of Portus Group is their philosophy of building entire communities rather than just some houses. According to Jose Acosta, “When we deliver the key to your house, it is not the end, but the beginning of our relationship with you, as we are here to help the homeowners preserve the beauty, tranquility, and property values of their new investment.”

The experience of community begins upon purchase of the property when the new homeowners are assigned a personal customer service agent who will answer 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 complete, the Portus staff welcomes you with a key ceremony and a tour of all 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 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.

continued from page 11

September 21st, 2015

WHAT’S GOING ON IN THIS...
Pueblo Bonito Blanco

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

Pueblo Bonito Rose

1) Junior Suites.................$1,000
2) Executive Suites.............$2,000
3) Presidential Suites.........$3,000

Villa del Arco

1) 2 Bedroom HOLIDAY........$10,000

Villa del Palmar

1) 2 Bedroom HOLIDAY........$7,500
2) Penthouse Suites..........$10,000

Pueblo Bonito SunSet Beach

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

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La Portus Group also has a direct financing program in Soledad Beach & Spa Resort, requiring only $10,000 initial deposit, then 50% when the property is ready. The balance of the mortgage is paid over 5-10 years at 0% interest. For those who are not full time residents and would like to rent out their property, this plan, together with the Rental Program, offers the opportunity to earn a stable income that will cover your mortgage.

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

If you need more information about these great projects in Cabo, call 624 104 3775. www.pueblobonitomexico.com or book your private real estate tour today by calling 624 104 3775.
Calendar of Performing Arts

LA PAZ PEACE FESTIVAL
The 9th annual Pax, (Peace), festival is presenting the following events:
- Festival for The Pax
- Every Friday. 6:00 pm. International films movie club.
- Every Saturday. From 12:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Cultural tianguis.
- Every Saturday. 7:00pm to 11:30pm. Cultural PAVILION
- Every Thursday. 7:00 pm. Libroteca at the Circoteka.

TODOS SANTOS
- Dec. 3rd, 4th, 5th – Las Estrellas de Todos Santos presents Slice of Life, featuring their new Ensemble in the Galeria at Hotel Casa Tota at 7:00 pm. $15 USD or 200 pesos. CLOSING NIGHT includes a Wine & Nibble Mingle with the actors. Facebook.com/LasEstrellasDeTodosSantos for details.
- November 27. 28 and 29. Todos Santos International Guitar Festival. A community-funded, musician-supported festival that produces a world class show with a tiny budget with all profits going to the local children’s charity. 30+ guitarists from all genres and from all corners of the globe come together for 3 days of camaraderie and musical collaboration. www.tsigf.com. Email: info@tsigf.com

CABO SAN LUCAS
- September 9 until October 24. 12:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Made in Mejico, three colors for one flag. Paint exhibition by the Spanish artist Enrique Bascón. Yandi Monardo Art Gallery and Tendencia Avenue featuring different artists who live in or are inspired by Baja. New artist exhibit every 45 days. Inside the Luxury Avenue mall at the marina. Spanish and English. Free
- 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.
- Every Thursday. 7:00 pm. Photography exhibition by Mariano Lemus. Yandi Monardo Art Gallery and Tendencia Avenue featuring different artists who live in or are inspired by Baja. New artist exhibit every 45 days. Inside the Luxury Avenue mall at the marina. Spanish and English. Free
- October 2. Friday. 10:00 pm. The impostors. Musical comedy show by Mascaras Theater Company. The plot links different sketches from movies and soap operas in a hilarious way with dance and songs. On Mijares Blvd. Historic downtown San Jose. Spanish. Ticket $150 pesos one national drink included. Info and reservations 624 168 5777.
- October 16. 8:00 pm. The Night of the Dance (La noche de la danza). Flamenco dance and Spanish music by Primo dancer Gamaliel Burgos and different guests artists every time. Spanish and some help in English. Free.
- December 3rd. 4th. 5th – Las Estrellas de Todos Santos
- Every Friday. 8:00 pm. The Night of the Dance (La noche de la danza). Flamenco dance and Spanish music by Primo dancer Gamaliel Burgos and different guests artists every time. Spanish and some help in English. Free.
- 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 Friday or something like that.
- Every Saturday. 7:00pm to 11:30pm. Cultural tianguis
- Every Thursday. 7:00 pm. Libroteca at the Circoteka. 16 de Septiembre at the corner of Barlovento St.
- November 11-15, 2015 4th Los Cabos International Film Festival.
- Every Saturday. From 12:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Cultural circuit.
- Every Saturday. 7:00pm to 11:30pm. Cultural tianguis
- Every Saturday. 7:00pm to 11:30pm. Cultural tianguis
To this day, it’s not a good idea to bring up this war in mixed company, as Mexicans are still resentful. Their biggest resentment is against their own leaders for giving up and selling out for such a small sum of money, even though they didn’t win a single battle, nor were they liable to if they had hung in there.

During this war which lasted less than two years, six different men were president of Mexico, (and the presidency changed hands nine times among them). None of them lasted longer than nine months, and some of their terms in office were measured in days. Each of these men had a political agenda, which often was directly at odds with that of their predecessors and successors. With such poor leadership on a national level, it was impossible to co-ordinate a war effort among various state militias and independent armies run by inept generals.

limits of dorado, but had to rush back to the beach a tad early when one of our tropical rainstorms came rushing in. It didn’t affect the fishing, however. The next day, because the waters were turned over and the road to the beach was a mud track, everyone elected to fish La Paz where they all caught dorado anyway. But other than that, the dorado have been fairly cooperative—a steady bite as the area gets more active than it has been the past summer.

Commercial guys caught an occasional tuna, but none of the sport boats seemed to locate them. However, we did find the roosterfish willing to bite. Some plus there were jack crevalle and bonito close to shore as well.

If you want action and you want to catch a fish, you can spend almost all day around La Paz catching dink 5- to 10-pound dorado. The larger ones are scarcer, but they’re out there. Anglers lost a number of larger fish when the larger variety would show up and they were fishing with lighter tackle and would be under-gunned.

There has also been a few sailfish, jack crevalle, big bonito and some smaller roosterfish. Interestingly, they’ve also hooked a few sierra as well which is strange since they are cooler water fish that we normally catch in the winter. Maybe it means the waters are cooling.

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Thursday, Sept. 24th, 4pm to 5pm
Friday, Sept. 25th, 2pm to 3pm
Sunday, Sept. 27th, 4pm to 5pm
Monday, Sept. 28th, 4pm to 5pm

Ask for Richard Dunn at Hilton reception or contact him at 949-307-8173. richardDFTR@debtfree-timerich.com, www.debtfreetimerich.com

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Walk It In

You can bring them into our office which is on the marina in Cabo San Lucas, second floor in front of the Cultural Center over Captain Tony’s,  

Mail It In

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

Email It In

You can email it to carry@gringogazette.com along with your cc # and expire date. 

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Jot This Down

The federal Chamber of Deputies has approved legislation that will make 066 the official, nation-wide emergency number for civil protection and emergency police response. Now the National Center for Crime Prevention and Citizen Participation has the responsibility to dispatch the police to the site of your emergency. It was thought for a while that 911 would be a good number, following the U.S. lead, but national pride took hold, and the fact that 066 has been promoted in most parts of the country, so you are to use that one. 

Good luck with that. First, you’re going to have to do this in Spanish, and second, the people at 066 don’t have a great track record of sending the cops out in a hurry.  

In Tampico, a woman stepped outside her home to make a phone call, (bad cell reception?) When a bad guy grabbed her, punched her in the stomach and threatened rape. (Like that’s going to put her in the mood?) Upon hearing her cries, two neighbors pursued the assailant, who took off on foot, while one called 066. The operator calmly asked a series of questions for five minutes, and a full hour later, state police meandered by. 

When asked why they took so long, police said the emergency responder had only just passed along the call, and they recommended calling the police station instead. “You called 066? They always call us too late. What you need to do is call us directly, at the moment that you need us. We will come instantly and leave the questions for after.” Which would be miracle here in Los Cabos, given our stumblebum Keystone Kops. 

Better tip: Try to not need help. 

INSURANCE SERVICES

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Cerritos, Pescadero & Todos Santos: A good way to spend a day

For those ready to escape the non-stop excitement of Cabo, consider a more relaxing pace, less than an hour’s drive north of downtown Cabo San Lucas. You’ll find an artist’s colony, an authentic Mexican town, laid back residential areas, and the 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 Eagles’ song, despite their best efforts to promote that connection to the Eagle’s song, despite their best efforts to promote that)

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.

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

The cultural museum on Juarez Ave. also has interesting historic displays.

Todos Santos is home to the annual Music Festival every January, an artist’s open studio tour in February, and the ever-popular GastroVino in April.

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

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

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

Turn off the dirt road just before the Pemex in Pescadero, left toward the ocean, to discover Hierbabuena, a huge vegetable garden with an open-air restaurant smack in the middle of it. They serve fresh organics from the garden, and a nice selection of wines. Stop by the little bakery on the main road and buy a pandulce, a Mexican version of a doughnut. Duck into some of the little local shops, but be aware, there is no English spoken here. Off the main street in Pescadero is a tiny backyard restaurant called La Pasidita that has, I kid you not, 360 degree views not matched anywhere else in Baja.

The best burgers on the planet. Drive around the baseball stadium, and turn at the first dirt road on the left past the first sleeping policeman, (speed bump), La Pasidita is a locals place, though, and is only open after 6 p.m. Maybe 7 p.m., sometimes a little later.

For a truly unique experience book a room at the Arriba de la Roca, (which means “top of the rock”) a high-end boutique hotel that specializes in personalized service and is perched on top of a cliff. For adults only (it’s on a cliff, after all), you’ll experience 360 degree views not matched anywhere else in Baja.

Visitors interested in hik- ing, horseback riding, surfing, charter fishing on a traditional panga, a Mexican fishing boat, adventure tours, or just experiencing Mexican village life, should head to Pescadero, Cerritos and Todos Santos. They are less than an hour’s drive north along the Pacific.

Cerritos, Pescadero & Todos Santos: A good way to spend a day

For those ready to escape the non-stop excitement of Cabo, consider a more relaxing pace, less than an hour’s drive north of downtown Cabo San Lucas. You’ll find an artist’s colony, an authentic Mexican town, laid back residential areas, and the 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 Eagles’ song, despite their best efforts to promote that connection to the Eagle’s song, despite their best efforts to promote that)

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.

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

The cultural museum on Juarez Ave. also has interesting historic displays.

Todos Santos is home to the annual Music Festival every January, an artist’s open studio tour in February, and the ever-popular GastroVino in April.

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

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

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

Turn off the dirt road just before the Pemex in Pescadero, left toward the ocean, to discover Hierbabuena, a huge vegetable garden with an open-air restaurant smack in the middle of it. They serve fresh organics from the garden, and a nice selection of wines. Stop by the little bakery on the main road and buy a pandulce, a Mexican version of a doughnut. Duck into some of the little local shops, but be aware, there is no English spoken here. Off the main street in Pescadero is a tiny backyard restaurant called La Pasidita that has, I kid you not, 360 degree views not matched anywhere else in Baja.

The best burgers on the planet. Drive around the baseball stadium, and turn at the first dirt road on the left past the first sleeping policeman, (speed bump), La Pasidita is a locals place, though, and is only open after 6 p.m. Maybe 7 p.m., sometimes a little later.

For a truly unique experience book a room at the Arriba de la Roca, (which means “top of the rock”) a high-end boutique hotel that specializes in personalized service and is perched on top of a cliff. For adults only (it’s on a cliff, after all), you’ll experience 360 degree views not matched anywhere else in Baja.

Visitors interested in hiking, horseback riding, surfing, charter fishing on a traditional panga, a Mexican fishing boat, adventure tours, or just experiencing Mexican village life, should head to Pescadero, Cerritos and Todos Santos. They are less than an hour’s drive north along the Pacific.
Que Pasa in Cabo?...

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Ceresa del Tule and her not-ready-for-prime-time photographer went to Jolly Old England and took their Gringo Gazette with them. Ronsai, the rookie photog, snapped this of Ceresa in Trafalgar Square. The two live in San Jose.

GG Goes Traveling

Ceresa del Tule and her not-ready-for-prime-time photographer went to Jolly Old England and took their Gringo Gazette with them. Ronsai, the rookie photog, snapped this of Ceresa in Trafalgar Square. The two live in San Jose.
In the more traditional parts of Mexico you see these bicycle taco vendors more frequently. There are a few here, but they mainly stay in the barrios, and don’t usually come down to the Gringo part of town.

There are a chinga of different tacos, they are not as simple as they seem.

Have you ever wondered when, where and how the idea of creating the delicious taco came from? Actually, there is no exact date, but it is believed that the dish originated in pre-Hispanic Mexico. It’s thought that because the men worked all day in the fields, women came up with a food system for easy transportation and consumption.

The first “taquiza” was documented by Hernán Cortés in Coyoačán in Mexico City for his captains. The word was arranged by Hernán Diaz del Castillo and eventually it adopted the name of taco. But because the Spanish could not pronounce the word the Indians used to name this dish, they just said taqualli, which is believed that the word was taken from the city of Puebla and is one of the most popular basket, (canasta) tacos characteristic of Mexico City. They are made with small corn tortillas, filled, folded and piled inside the bike’s basket that is also covered with a piece of fabric. This way, they remain warm. The most popular basket, (canasta) tacos are made with either shredded beef, stewed beef, potatoes with chorizo, chicken with mole, pork in red sauce or refried beans. 

Flautas, also called tacos originated in Baja California. For more than 50 years Ensenada locals have prepared this dish, which is made with corn tortillas, salsa, and of course grilled or fried fish. Usually, lettuce or cabbage and pico de gallo is added.

Tacos gobernador (governor) are originally from Mazatlán, Sinaloa. They were created in a restaurant called Los Arcos, at the request of the wife of the state governor, Francisco Labastida. The tortillas are handmade, then shrimp and crushed cheese are added, and put on a griddle until the cheese is melted ... a delight!

Tacos de canasta are characteristic of Mexico City. They are sold by bicycle vendors, and made of small corn tortillas, filled, folded and piled inside the bike’s basket that is also covered with a piece of fabric. This way, they remain warm. The most popular basket, (canasta) tacos are made with either shredded beef, stewed beef, potatoes with chorizo, chicken with mole, pork in red sauce or refried beans. Flautas, also called tacos

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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 play 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/220397878011557. 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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Love On The Cheap

PULGA
Seeking that Zen lifestyle?
Look for further than the nearest Tibetan Terrier - that would be me. I'm young, patient, gentle and newly tick-free. Embrace your spirit, and me!

SALLY
Love to laugh? My kittenish antics and crazy bat ears will keep you in stitches!

We need volunteers
No one can do everything, but everyone can do something!

Nearby Chileno Bay Club, a 1,200 acre development with two miles of beachfront where building has started and stopped for years, has already sold $50 million worth of dirt since launching a year ago, announced Chris Snell, former brokerage owner who is now director of development for Chileno Bay Club.

Like Maravilla, Chileno Bay Club is taking on a traditional Mexican look with modern lines and finishes. It also will have a kids’ club with a burger restaurant and video game room, two movie theaters, an 18-hole, Tom Fazio-designed, members-only golf course, and a network of bike paths. Chileno Bay Club’s beachfront lots have sold for $7 to $9 million, while elevated lots are $7 to $15 million. Developers and real-estate agents tell us the typical buyers 10 to 20 years ago were retirement-age couples looking to get

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Burritos are also from the family of the tacos and are traditional in the north. They are made with flour tortillas stuffed with machaca, which is shredded beef scrambled with egg, but they can also be filled with other dishes.

Whatever your preference is, you can never go wrong with tacos. All kinds are so delicious and almost a complete meal. The recipe for today is tacos gobernador because they are not commonly found in taco stands, and I am sure you will love them.

Ingredients:
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 3 small chives, minced
- 2 tomatoes, seeded, chopped
- 1 red bell pepper, stemmed, seeded, and diced
- 1 pound shrimp, peeled, deveined, chopped
- 1 cup canned tomato puree
- 1 teaspoon Mexican oregano
- 1 bay leaf
- 1/2 teaspoon smoked paprika
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 8 corn tortillas
- 1/2 cup shredded Oaxaca or mozzarella cheese
- Lime wedges and hot sauce for serving

Procedure:
1. In a large thick saucepan, heat the olive oil over medium-high heat. Add the minced chives and cook until translucent, about three minutes. Add the tomatoes and bell pepper and cook for three minutes. Add the tomatoes and bell pepper and cook for three minutes. Add the shrimp mixture and cook for another couple of minutes. Stir in the tomato puree, oregano, bay leaf, and smoked paprika. Cook for another couple of minutes, then remove the pan from the heat and reserve. Adjust seasoning with salt and pepper.
2. Remove and discard the bay leaf.
3. On a really hot pan, the thicker the better, lay two tortillas, flat on the bottom of the pan. Put a small mound of cheese on one side of each tortilla. Wait until the cheese melts slightly then add about two tablespoons of the shrimp mixture to each tortilla.
4. Fold the tortillas over into half-moon shapes and cook to melt the cheese completely, another one to two minutes. Transfer to a platter and keep warm. Repeat with the remaining tortillas, cheese, and shrimp mixture. Arrange the tacos on a serving platter and serve with lime wedges and hot sauce on the side.

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away from it all, but today there are more young families and more retirees who are catering to the needs of their children and grandchildren. “In the olden days it was two guys with a fishing cabin raising hell,” said Snell. “The profile of today’s buyer has become more family oriented.”

Boat goes up in flames And then dives for Davey Jones’ locker. The locally owned 35 foot boat Big Kahuna caught on fire with four American tourists and three crew on board 12 miles south of Cabo San Lucas.

The harbor station received an emergency call on their VHF and alerted the Navy, who dispatched a Defender type vessel and a boat with a rescue team, including medics and a nurse. By the time they arrived on the scene, the boat was taking its final dive and the people had been taken onboard the Bandito, another fishing boat that was nearby.

Everyone was in good condition and nobody needed medical attention. At press time no names had been released, nor was the cause of the fire announced.
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