

# Manhattan Beach Sun

The Weekly Newspaper of Manhattan Beach

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## Inside This Issue

Calendar.....2

Classifieds .....2

Food .....5

Pets.....7

Politically Speaking.....3

Sports .....6

## 4th Annual Networking Event Raises Funds for Local Charities



LA Networking Matters hosted its 4th annual networking for a cause event, "Network Your Heart Out... It Matters," at the Manhattan Country Club in Manhattan Beach, CA on Wednesday, February 20. Each year, a committee of South Bay businesses, chaired by Adia In-Home Care, produces an annual networking event that raises funds for two charities. This year the proceeds of the event will benefit the Toberman Neighborhood Center's after school program Toberman Academy and the Peninsula Seniors' Quality of Life Scholarship Fund. In addition, this year, LA Networking Matters will also be donating a portion of the proceeds to the Manhattan Beach Chamber of Commerce's High School Scholarship Fund. This year's event raised \$17,342.00 with 210 guests and over \$10,000 worth of raffle items. Seen here: Peninsula Seniors Board Members Accept Check from Networking Matters Committee Members who donated their time and support for this year's event. Photo by Julane Whalen. •

## A Championship Ring

By TerriAnn Ferren

Have you ever dreamed of winning a championship? When you were young, did you ever imagine hitting a baseball so far out of the ballpark you thought it would touch the sky? Or how about making the winning shot at the buzzer during a basketball game as you watch the ball dip through the net? I have. Whether it is volleyball, golf, tennis, swimming, track or any other sport, every child I have ever met dreams of participating in a championship game or event. But true champions are far and few between. The South Bay is home to one such champion. Two-time Hall of Fame player and coach Bill Sharman (still working for the Lakers organization) is currently raffling off his personal 2010 Lakers championship ring. Absolutely all of the funds raised will be donated to charity, including Providence Trinity Care Hospice in Torrance and Toberman Neighborhood Center, among others. Raffle tickets are available online only at [www.ringofhope.net](http://www.ringofhope.net) for \$2 each with a minimum of five tickets. Yes, you heard me right. For \$10, you could own Bill Sharman's 2010 championship ring! I met with the Sharmans at their home in Torrance to ask them about this remarkable event and why they decided to give away the ring.

"In one month, Bill will be 87 years old and we have been blessed for so many years--not with money, but with the best things in life that anyone could have and this is the way we thought that we could give back that could benefit anyone. Anyone could win this ring," said Joyce Sharman.

The campaign is called *Ring of Hope* because it will bring hope to many people. The kick-off press conference was Wednesday April 3 at *The Lakers Center* in El Segundo featuring Metta World Peace and James Worthy joining Bill Sharman to make three generations of "Lakers Royalty." The winning ticket will be drawn and announced the week of the 2013 NBA Finals. Got a ticket?

If that weren't enough, the Sharmans are again supporting their Sixth Gala Event benefiting the Toberman Neighborhood Center. Hosted

at the Manhattan Beach Marriott, this year's Gala *A Worthy Evening* will honor Hall of **See Championship Ring, page 8**

## Coordinating Council Honors Students

By Lynne Gross

At its March 21 luncheon at Verandas, the Manhattan Beach Coordinating Council honored three Students of the Month—Ryan Parks, Elisse Friedman, and Margaret Robak.

Ryan, a student at American Martyrs, is known for the respect he shows elders and younger children. He sets a good example for other students through his compassion for all people. As Student Body President, he is in charge of leading the morning pledges, which his teacher, Jeff Lee, reported that he does with gusto.

Elisse's Manhattan Beach Middle School teacher, Denise Haslop, enumerated Elisse's activities, which include belonging to the National Charity League, playing the flute, volunteering at a library, and writing letters to people serving in the armed forces. She also dances ballet, tap, jazz, and hip hop. She goes out of her way to help others,

including her teachers.

Margaret (Maggie) is the copy editor for the Mira Costa High School newspaper, La Vista. The newspaper advisor, Mike McAvin, mentioned how pleasant it has been to watch Maggie grow during the four years she has worked on the paper. She works tirelessly in an unsung position but one that is essential to keeping the paper on track. She has also been on the cross country track team.

The speaker for the luncheon was Ken Flood of the School Attendance Review Board (SARB) that serves the local school districts. It is the intermediary between the school systems and the justice system and was recently named the number one SARB in the state of California.

Students Will Campbell (American Martyrs), Talia Horrow (Middle School), and Ryan Patel (Mira Costa) gave updates of what is happening at each of their schools. •



March Students of the Month — Margaret Robak, Mira Costa High School; Ryan Parks, American Martyrs School; Elisse Friedman, Manhattan Beach Middle School. Photo courtesy of the Manhattan Beach Coordinating Council.

## Weekend Forecast

Friday

Partly Cloudy  
65°/57°



Saturday

Partly Cloudy  
66°/57°



Sunday

Partly Cloudy  
67°/58°





# Calendar

## THURSDAY, APRIL 11

• Landscape Planning Workshop for Veterans Parkway-Community Workshop #2, 6- 8 p.m., Police and Fire Community Room, 420 15th St. Next meetings will take place May 2nd. For more information call Sona Kalapura at (310) 802-5341.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 12

• Swing and Sway Dance (adults only), 8-11 p.m., Joslyn Community Center, 1601 Valley Drive. The Swing and Sway program provides a safe, non-smoking, non-alcoholic friendly environment for adults to dance. \$7 per person.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 13

• Free Pastel Demonstration by Richard McKinley, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Creative Arts Center, 1560 Manhattan Beach Boulevard.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 20

• The Manhattan Beach Police Department "Coffee with a Cop" event at the Coffee Bean and Tea Leaf, 3008 North Sepulveda Blvd. No reservations needed; this event is casual, "walk-in" format. For more information

contact Officer Hank Crossett at (310) 802-5140

• SNAG Golf Free Family Play Days, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Polliwog Park - Central Gazebo, 1601 Manhattan Beach Blvd. All equipment will be provided. For more information call (310) 802-5448.

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27

• Earth Day Celebration and Concert, presented by the City of MB and V.O.I.C.E (Volunteers and Organizations Improving the Community's Environment)

11 a.m.-4 p.m., Polliwog Park, 1601 Manhattan Beach Blvd. For more information call V.O.I.C.E message center at (310) 226-2927.

## TUESDAY, MAY 7

• City Council Meeting, 6-11 p.m., City Council Chambers, 1400 Highland Avenue.

## ONGOING

• Pastel Society of Southern California 4th Annual Exhibition, 3-7 p.m., Creative Arts Center, 1560 Manhattan Beach Blvd. April 6-26.

# Police Reports

## March 17

Theft: 1700 Block of N. Highland Ave. Unknown suspect(s) cut the lock and stole the bicycle that was locked to a pole on the sidewalk.

## March 12-14

Residential Burglary: 2400 Block of John St. Unknown suspect(s) entered the residence through an open window and rummaged through several drawers. No loss reported.

## March 12

Theft: 300 Block of 28<sup>th</sup> St. Unknown suspect(s) stole a stroller that was left outside and next to the side door of the residence.

Attempted Residential Burglary: 300 Block of N. Herrin St. Unknown suspect(s) pried off the window screen. No entry was made into the residence.

## March 11-12

Theft: 200 Block of Moonstone St. Unknown suspect(s) cut the lock and took a bike from the carport.

## March 8-12

Residential Burglary: 1100 Block of 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Unknown suspect(s) broke the window pane from the rear door, reached through the frame, and unlocked the deadbolt to enter the residence while it was being fumigated. Although the home was ransacked, no loss was reported. In addition, the suspect(s) attempted to gain entry into the guest house, but was unsuccessful.

## March 7

Grand Theft: 120 Block of 25<sup>th</sup> St. Unknown suspect(s) stole a bag containing a camera, camera lens (2), jewelry, and documents. The bag was placed next to the garbage cans while loading and unloading luggage from one vehicle to another.

Theft: 1500 Block of 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Unknown suspect(s) was observed by a resident rummaging through trash cans. After a few seconds, a female Hispanic was seen running with a bicycle toward a tan pickup truck. The driver was described as a male Hispanic.

## March 6

Attempted Robbery: 3700 Block The Strand--The victim placed luggage in his car, left it unlocked and went back inside the house. A few moments later, the victim returned to the car and saw a male Hispanic looking through the items inside his vehicle. When confronted, the suspect produced a knife and swung it toward the victim. The suspect then fled the area. Suspect described as: Male, Hispanic, 28-30 yrs., thin build, 5'7"-5'8".

## March 4-5

Theft: 300 Block of 9<sup>th</sup> Pl. Unknown suspect entered an unlocked vehicle that was parked in the carport and took a GPS unit, sunglasses, and cash.

## March 3

Residential Burglary: 1800 Block of Pacific Ave. Unknown suspect(s) pried open the back door and stole miscellaneous gift cards, cash, a MacBook and an Apple monitor, keyboard

and mouse.

## March 1-3

Vehicle Burglary: 1900 Block of N. Highland Ave. Unknown suspect(s) smashed the rear passenger side door window and took a backpack from inside the vehicle.

Residential Burglary: 1600 Block of 8<sup>th</sup> St. Unknown suspect(s) pried open the kitchen window to enter the residence. The rooms were ransacked and several items were taken, including jewelry, awards, and approximately \$8000.

## March 1

Residential Burglary: 1600 Block of 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Unknown suspect(s) pried open the window, breaking the lock. The suspect(s) entered the residence, rummaged through the drawers and stole jewelry.

## February 25-27

Theft: 1100 Block of Highview Ave. A Priority Mail package was stolen from the doorstep and the empty package was found by a resident.

## February 25

Theft: 1400 Block of Manhattan Beach Blvd. Unknown suspect(s) stole a motorized beach cruiser that was parked against the wall in an open carport.

## February 22

Theft: 700 Block of Manhattan Beach Blvd. A delivery package containing a pedometer was stolen from the doorstep. The empty package was found by a resident a few blocks away.

## February 15-16

Theft: 200 Block of Larsson St. Unknown suspect(s) entered the unlocked vehicle that was parked in the driveway and took a backpack containing an iPad and miscellaneous papers.

## February 13

Residential Burglary: 3500 Block of N. Poinsettia Ave. Unknown suspect(s) pried open the rear sliding glass door and entered the residence. The suspect(s) ransacked the residence and took miscellaneous jewelry.

## February 12-13

Theft: 1300 Block of 5<sup>th</sup> St. Unknown suspect(s) entered the unlocked vehicle that was parked in the driveway and took an iPod, three credit cards and cash.

## February 12

Vehicle Burglary: 1800 Block of 23<sup>rd</sup> St. Unknown suspect(s) entered the vehicle that was parked on the street and took an analog watch and miscellaneous change. No signs of forced entry.

## February 5

Theft: 1800 Manhattan Beach Blvd. The victim placed four bills in a mailbox (near MBB/Aviation). However, two of the checks were found in a parking lot in El Segundo. An unknown person dropped off the checks at the victim's residence and it was discovered the other two checks had been altered and cashed. •

# Classifieds

The deadline for Classified Ad submission and payment is Noon on Tuesday to appear in Thursday's paper. Advertisements must be submitted in writing by mail, fax or email. You may pay by cash, check, or credit card (Visa or M/C over the phone).

Errors: Please check your advertisements immediately. Any corrections and/or changes in an ad must be requested prior to the following Tuesday deadline in order to receive a credit. A credit will be issued for only the first time the error appears. Multiple runs will only be credited for the first time the error appears. No credit will be issued for an amount greater than the cost of the advertisement.

Beware: Employment offers that suggest guaranteed out-of-state or overseas positions may be deceptive or unethical in nature. If you have any doubts about the nature of a company, contact the local office of the Better Business Bureau, (213) 251-9696. Herald Publications does not guarantee that the advertiser's claims are true nor does it take responsibility for those claims.

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### EMPLOYMENT

Display Ad Sales Position. We need an experienced Display Ad Salesperson for Herald Publications. Territories include Torrance, El Segundo and Hawthorne. Full or part-time positions are available. 20% commission on all sales. If interested please email your resume to management@heraldpublications.com. No phone calls please.

### GARAGE SALE

711 W. Acacia Ave. ES. Sat., 4/06, 8 am - 3 pm. Office supplies, household items, clothing, etc.

800 Block of Lomita St. ES. Thurs.

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### HOUSE FOR RENT

2BD/1BA. Den with fireplace, Front house. newly refurbished, garage, N/S, no pets, W/D hook ups. \$2,200/mo. (310) 322-4848.

2BD/1BA House, 400 block of Whiting St. ES. Large yard, fireplace. \$2400/mo. Avail. Now. (310)322-1494.

3BD/2BA. ES. Stove, W/D hooks up, Fireplace, 2 car garage, No pets. \$3000/mo. & \$3000 dep. 215 W. Walnut Ave. Call (530) 577-4308 or (530) 318-2406.

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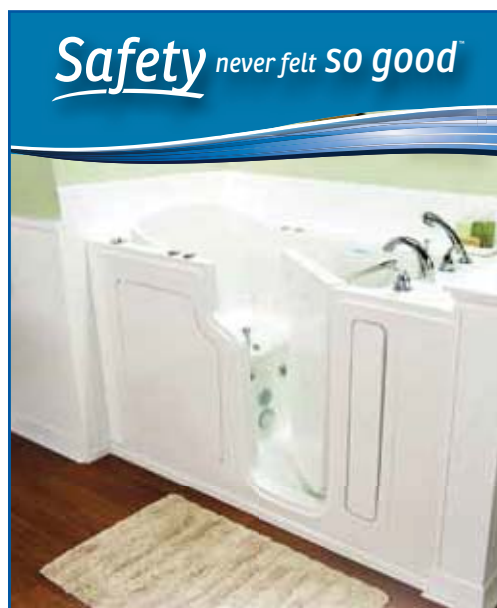


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# Politically Speaking

## One Man's Opinion

By Gerry Chong

Recently I was privileged to have been invited to visit China by one of that nation's major manufacturing companies. It was a jaw-dropping experience I wish every American could have shared, because it highlighted for me the challenge our country faces. Fundamentally, as we flounder, the world is moving on and our relevance is shrinking.

Laws are strict and justice is swift, so there is no street crime. People respect this model city, so there is no graffiti and streets and gutters are immaculate.

China's economic growth has "slowed" from eight percent per year to 7.9 percent, and it has a plan to continue expanding at that rate for the next 10 years. Three legs will supercharge that growth: First, only half of its 1.3 billion live

*"Laws are strict and justice is swift, so there is no street crime. People respect this model city, so there is no graffiti and streets and gutters are immaculate."*

There is an old saying that love and hate are two sides of the same coin, since they display a passion. But the most wounding emotion of all is indifference. That is the emotion China expresses toward us--indifference and increasing irrelevance.

Before 1986, China was a closed, poor, agricultural country. Since then, in an economic explosion unmatched in the annals of history over a mere 27 years, the country has risen to the number two economy in the world. Importantly, it is poised to displace us in only three years...by 2016!

They have given the world a model city of the future in Shanghai. With 20 million people, high-rise buildings blanket its skyline. Twenty-story buildings are considered low-rise, 40-50 stories are the norm and their tallest reaches 100 stories. They have a new, brightly-lit subway system, two international airports, two high-speed Maglev train terminals, multiple freeways, and three elevated ring roads surrounding the civic center. Taxi service is as prevalent as in Manhattan. Fixed rail and traditional buses serve the local commuter. All street signs are in English and Chinese, and public announcements on airlines and public facilities are also bilingual.

Retailers range from Wal-Mart to Prada, and hotels range from motels to The Four Seasons. MacDonald's and KFC compete against local fast food establishments for market share.

in cities and generate most of its wealth. They plan on raising that to 70 percent in 20 years, thereby accelerating the nation's productivity. Second, while we in the U.S. spend 70 percent of our income, the Chinese spend only 35 percent. The government wants to encourage greater spending to increase domestic sales and improve the citizens' standard of living. Finally, with its enormous manufacturing base, the country is entering trade agreements all around the globe with the Chinese Yuan as the medium of payment--not the U.S. dollar.

Even the government's mission is changing. Its press has been clamoring for "change," declaring that change is not just about moving boxes around on an organization chart. The cost of government must be reduced and its influence reduced. Government should provide direction, but not micromanage the economy. Accordingly, in his first week in office, President Xi directed his cabinet to write a statement of purpose for each department and streamline each department in accordance with its purpose. He has given them a timeframe within which to accomplish that purpose.

While we devote our nation's wealth to entitlements, supporting individuals in a flagging economy, China is using its wealth to build a modern infrastructure, enabling individuals to use their own initiative to join this race to the top.

Who will win? •

## Another Man's Opinion

### Trust from International Community

By Cristian Vasquez

America's image at home and abroad has varied depending on several conditions such as the global economy or our military activities abroad. However, it's hard to argue that the person who sits in the White House has significant influence over how the world perceives us as a nation, as well as how we define ourselves as Americans. While public opinion will never unanimously favor Americans, there is a lot defined by the actions of our Commander-in-Chief.

The years that the Bush Administration was in power were a time of dwindling American popularity abroad. President Obama's first term in office gave the international community a sense of ease as did his campaign-promised "change and hope" during his time in office. Unfortunately, people feel--and have legitimate reason to do so--that the President has failed to deliver on the change and hope. With the ongoing use of drones, it is difficult to justify that things are any different now than they were six years ago. However, Obama's recent trip to Israel and Palestine was a significant step in improving the perception the international community has about Americans.

It is without a doubt that the President's visit to these two rivaling nations will in the immediate future do little to end tensions and hostilities. It is unrealistic to think that a 50-hour visit to the region will put an end to the conflict that has defined the relationship between both countries for such a long time. However, the crucial benefit to the President sitting down with leaders from both nations

on the same trip is that it slimly reignites the prospect of peace talks between the two nations while proving to the world that American leaders can do more for peace than invading and bombing countries.

Was the visit anything more than a public relations stunt? Maybe it was. Was the President visiting the area for no more than reasons tied to American interests? It is very likely. Still, from 2000-2008, we became a nation that acted with complete disregard toward the interest, safety and opinion of other states in the international community. We ignored the UN's advice to hold off on invading Iraq in our never-ending search for weapons of mass destruction and as a result we became engaged in a war that has yet to fully end and that delivered a huge blow to our international image.

It is sad to think that there are people who believe that we should not be concerned with the way the international community views Americans. The truth is that when America is viewed in a positive light, we as a country are able to achieve more abroad. International leaders are more responsive to our ideas and more likely to accommodate us in a time of need. The idea of doing what we want and using force to obtain our goals will only keep us from achieving the levels of respect that America once joined. President Obama's visit to Israel and Palestine will not end their conflict nor completely restore the world's trust in us. However, in order to earn trust and respect, one must take a series of small steps and this recent visit is just one step in that series. •



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# Herald Publications Designer Makes a Name in Art World

By Brian Simon

It's not too often you hear that the reason someone became an artist was because their dad was a plumber. Yet such was the original inspiration for Herald Publications freelance graphic designer Patty Grau, who has crafted a burgeoning side career as an accomplished painter, printer and sculptor with ongoing exhibits in the Southland including a monthly show at the Lazy Dog Studio in San Pedro. As a creative kid growing up in Pasadena, Patty spent countless hours in her father's shop and learned about the simple joys of making things. "Mom was the secretary and would take me with her to the shop. Left to my own devices, I played with tools, ceramic tiles and metals," she said. "I learned from the men who worked there that if there was something you need, you just make it yourself. That stayed with me."

After graduating from Pasadena City College with a degree in commercial design, Patty embarked on a career in retail advertising—starting as a layout artist for newspaper ads and eventually becoming the art director for full-color catalogs of major department stores such as Neiman-Marcus, Bullock's and Robinson's May, while working all over the country. Although she dabbled in painting and did illustrations as part of her job, Patty wasn't interested in fine art at this point. "I always

in abstract, elongated pieces. Her new passion is wood, though she also works with clay, cement, bronze and stone. "Since I don't have access to kilns and other equipment, I can still work on larger pieces with wood. It was a natural leap for me," she said. "I love the tree, I love the wood and I love the grain. It's become my style to leave some of the outer edges, to the bark, to remind us of its origins."

Another advantage of working with wood is a relatively low price point. "People see what I'm doing and they offer me some tree they've cut out of their yard," Patty said. Since the wood needs to cure before it can be used, Patty essentially lives with the tree for awhile. During the curing process, Patty's mother passed away in November. In December, Patty began to sculpt the four-foot cedar trunk into a squid that she completed in early March for a gallery showing. "It's one of the magical aspects of art when you have a vision you work to achieve and the obsession takes care of the grief and the pain and helps you focus on something other than just yourself," she said. "It's a great blessing to have this ability and I think most artists feel the same way."

Recently, a forester friend from Santa Cruz brought Patty a huge piece of walnut now curing in her driveway. She plans to make a whale sculpture and hopes to display it at Lazy

expos for the Redondo Beach Art Group and is part of the five-woman Studio 1613 in Torrance—a tight group of artist friends who get together weekly to chat, sip some wine and make monoprints together.

-calling it "the best job" she has had in many years—which allows her the time to come up with more ideas to further her art. Patty has sold paintings, monoprints and sculptures through the art galleries and exhibitions she



Capturing the personalities of loved companions in a commissioned pet portrait.

Perhaps Patty's most memorable exhibition was during the 2011 Power of Art show in Redondo Beach when she stepped outside of her comfort zone and created a mixed-media installation piece in a three-sided room inspired by the tsunami that had recently struck Japan. "I was so moved by the heroism of the Japanese people and found the theme of 'Gaman', which is interpreted as taking the worst that could happen to you and coming out of it with grace and dignity," Patty said.

participates in. She also takes commissions for pet portraits and makes cement planters she calls "instant artifacts." The secret recipe deteriorates a bit in the molding process and though sturdy, they appear to have been around for centuries. "It's difficult to sell art in this economy—that's why I have a few other more commercial ventures," she admitted. Embracing technology didn't hurt either. Once limited to using only chisels and other old school hand tools due to a "fear of power tools" that made

*"It's one of the magical aspects of art when you have a vision you work to achieve and the obsession takes care of the grief and the pain and helps you focus on something other than just yourself."*



Patty has an artistic eye for finding the hidden beauty. Squid sculpture in beginning stages. Photos courtesy of Patty Grau.

loved art, but I was focused on a career in advertising," she said.

A self-professed workaholic, Patty fell in love with the on-set stylist, Bruce Watson. "In the late '70s, Bruce convinced me to take a vacation, though I didn't really know how," she said. "He said, 'You'll know how—we're going to Hawaii.' So I took a portfolio of my retail advertising work along with my bathing suit and set up appointments on different islands." That vacation landed her a job with Liberty House in Honolulu, during which time Patty also gave birth to their son William. But after having a child her priorities changed and being away from family and friends made the California girl homesick, so she returned to open her own graphic design business that she has maintained ever since. She joined the Herald in 2010 on a part-time basis, giving her ample opportunity to concentrate on her art.

That art began to truly take flight in the late '80s. Though not really serious about it at the time, Patty had taken a few art classes and began producing paintings that were increasingly more "sculptural" in feel. "I was adding a lot of thickness and texture to large acrylic paintings and my best artist friend, Paul Sherman, asked if I had ever looked into sculpture," she said. "I was astounded because I had never considered 3-D at all. Then I began taking beginning sculpture with Andy Fagan at El Camino College and it changed my life."

Next, Patty went into bronze casting, auditing a class every semester for the next decade taught by renowned sculptor Terrell O'Donnell. This allowed her to create increasingly larger works, but it also pigeonholed her own growth to an extent. When budget cuts prohibited students from repeating classes without graduating, it freed Patty to venture on her own and explore new materials as well as her growing interest

Dog Studio, where Patty is part of a stable of artists whose pieces are shown the first Thursday of every month at the gallery. She began entering art shows during the time she was taking classes at El Camino and persevered despite steady rejections early on. Once she was finally selected for a show, it got her on a roll with eventual exhibits in Downtown Los Angeles, Echo Park, Long Beach and at the Zask Gallery in Rolling Hills Estates, among other venues. She also curated and arranged

Using pizza box tiles with foam to replicate the waves, Patty glued them to one side of the wooden structure and then affixed plastic toys, fake Monopoly money and other debris. "Seven is a sacred number—so I had seven soft mannequins hanging from the ceiling all dressed in Japanese clothing. A projector shot into the darkened interior images of Japan from *Godzilla* to classic art to Hello Kitty all showing in a loop. The intent was to come around to the front, step inside and be engulfed by floating bodies and the changing light. It was fantastic—people were very moved."

Now more motivated than ever, Patty is happy to continue her work for Herald Publications—

her art process painfully slow, Patty can now be seen wielding a chainsaw in her driveway, thanks to a friend's urging. "That set me free," she said. "Since then, I got an air compressor and am using all different kinds of power tools to help finish the work. In the end, there is still handwork with the details and the sanding. It's taking something that is one thing and changing it to something else. That's what I love the most about art..."

*Patty Grau's work can be seen the first Thursday of each month at Lazy Dog Studio, 361 W. 7th Street in San Pedro. To inquire about her services, call 310-540-3315 or follow her on Facebook.* •



Patty Grau with her finished wood Squid sculpture and ocean paintings now showing at the Lazy Dog Studio in San Pedro. All are part of her ongoing underwater life series.



After 21 years at the Depot, as both chef and owner, I have seen lots of trends in food and dining. But no matter what the trend is, I always come back to the basics of comfort foods.

These are the kinds of foods that bring you back to your childhood or to a time when life was not so complicated and hurried.

Some of these foods are sweet, some are savory. But for me it always comes back to BBQ! That sweet sticky smell of burning sugar and meat just sets my soul on fire. With Spring in our grasp, we need to fire up the old BBQ and get the neighborhood smoking.

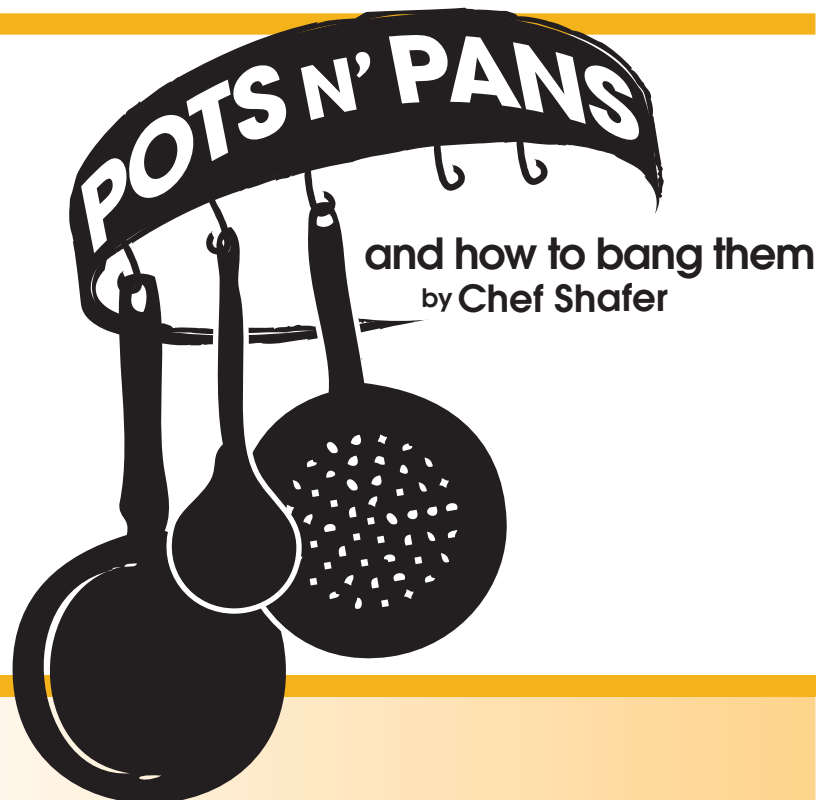
Here is a fun way to get the family involved in the BBQ Sunday dinner:

These ingredients will be incorporated into the potato salad recipe.

- The kids can peel 6 carrots and then grate them on the large hole of the grater.
- Let them peel the 1 dozen eggs after you have hard-boiled them.

Have the kids peel 12 ears of corn and then wipe them down, set aside for grilling.

*The Chef*



## Creamy Roasted Potato Salad

25 to 30 red skin potatoes, washed

- 1/2 cup olive oil
- 2 tablespoons kosher salt
- 1 tablespoon black pepper

Mix together and roast in 350 degree oven for 30 to 40 minutes or until tender. Let them cool, then place in a larger mixing bowl.

- Add 2 cups mayo
- 1/4 cup Dijon mustard
- the grated carrots
- and the hard-boiled eggs, chopped
- 1 cup seasoned rice vinegar

Mix together (give the kids rubber gloves and let them mix it with their hands) If it's too dry, add light water or chicken bullion

## The BBQ Sauce

4 cups BBQ sauce

I like to start with a generic, bland BBQ sauce then spice it up with the following:

- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 6 cloves of garlic, chopped
- 1 teaspoon ground coriander
- 1 tablespoon black pepper
- 1/2 cup soy sauce

Mix together and use as paint for what ever you're grilling.

While you are out at the grill, take the ears of corn and coat them lightly with olive oil, salt, and pepper and grill them for about five minutes turning constantly. Now you have your potato salad, corn on the cob, and the BBQ meats of your choice- and the Sunday meal is ready! Have fun burning up the place!



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# Sports

## Howland Out, Alford In for UCLA

By Adam Serrao

The long-lasting tradition of winning seems to be over in Westwood, at least for the time being. With their 86-63 loss to Minnesota in the first round of this year's NCAA tournament, the UCLA Bruins finished a year in which they not only failed to win the Pac-12 tournament against Oregon, but also failed to advance in March Madness, where for all teams it truly means the most. For that reason, Ben Howland not only completed his 10th season with UCLA, but also completed his tenure as the head coach of the Bruins. Howland finished at UCLA with a career record of 233-107 with four conference titles in the past eight years and three consecutive Final Four appearances from 2006-2008.

Since then, however, it has been nothing but disappointment for Howland and Bruin fans everywhere and for that reason, UCLA has chosen to go another route in the hiring of former New Mexico coach Steve Alford.

There is no doubt that a change needed to take place for the UCLA basketball team. Since the glory days of Howland's tenure with the Bruins, UCLA has missed the NCAA tournament completely in two of the three seasons before this year. The Bruins also had a losing record in the 2009-2010 season and have won only two NCAA tournament games since 2008. "As I looked at the entire program and where we were—especially headed into the next year, which is obviously where we need to look at this point in time—I felt that now was the appropriate time to make the decision to make a change and to get a fresh start," explained UCLA athletic director Dan Guerrero. That fresh start will be at the expense of Howland and to the benefit of Alford. After landing the nation's second-ranked recruiting class, it was thought by many that this would be the year that Howland would get the program turned around. When all was said and done, however, UCLA failed once again to make its mark amongst the elite programs in the nation.

Losses to Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, USC and Washington State all complicated the situation for Howland, who was left with only an eight-man rotation after two players left the program midseason. A key injury to second-leading scorer Jordan Adams further complicated things for Howland and his team's success, as they lost in back-to-back games to end the season entirely. The days of players like Kevin Love, Russell Westbrook, Darren Collison and Arron Afflalo seem to have passed Howland by. His reputation for

landing top recruits, despite this year's highly ranked class, had all but diminished. UCLA has had at least 11 players transfer out of the program in the last five seasons while several others have chosen to leave school early for the

Alford recruited Kendall Williams away from UCLA and to New Mexico. Williams later went on to be the MWC player of the year.

Steve Alford will bring something to UCLA that it hasn't had in years. As the head coach,

*"Connecting with players like Shabazz Muhammad should be no issue for Alford and the pressure of winning is something that he can live up to."*

NBA. This year's top-ranked recruit, Shabazz Muhammad, failed to live up to expectations seemingly all season long, which illustrated yet another example of how Howland has seemingly lost touch with his players over the last four to five years.

Enter Steve Alford. Alford led New Mexico to a 29-6 record this past season while acquiring the Mountain West conference regular season and postseason tournament title. Alford's Lobos wound up losing to Harvard in the first round of the NCAA tournament, but as a head coach, he has either won or shared the Mountain West conference title four times in his six seasons at the school. Alford's coaching career began at Southwest Missouri State before he moved to Iowa and then to New Mexico and now UCLA. "Steve is the perfect fit for UCLA," Guerrero said. "He is part of the storied history of the game of college basketball and understands the tradition and uniqueness of UCLA. Yet he also connects with a new generation of players and brings an up-tempo and team-oriented brand of basketball to Westwood." Perhaps one of the biggest pluses about Alford to Bruin fans everywhere is his ability to recruit in the city of Los Angeles and connect with those recruits.

he will develop a brand for the program that catches people's eyes. Connecting with players like Shabazz Muhammad should be no issue for Alford and the pressure of winning is something that he can live up to as he did in the small basketball town in New Mexico. In addition to that, there is no denying that Alford wants to be in L.A. "You're talking about the premier basketball program in the country," Alford said in his introductory press conference. "This is an opportunity that doesn't come around every day. We've been able to put in place a program, with a high academic grad rate, APR and championships." Now all that's left is for the coach to assemble his team.

What Alford must do is recruit like all of the elite programs in the nation in order to bring a winning brand of basketball back to UCLA. Before he does that, however, he must re-recruit his own team. Getting players like Muhammad and Adams to not only return to the team but to buy in with his coaching style should be of primary concern. Should Alford do that, UCLA fans everywhere will have no problem forgetting the name of Ben Howland while easily embracing a winning style of basketball that has eluded them for so long now. •



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## Pets Without Partners

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Georgia

**Georgia** and **Mindy** are two adorable Terrier mix puppies and precious does not begin to describe their personalities. They are four months old and currently weigh 10-12 pounds. These spunky, playful, loving pups are as cute as can possibly be. They are very well-adjusted and will be a great addition into any family. As a companion dog, these little girls won't last long. Georgia is all fun and games and Mindy is an adorable snuggler. Georgia and Mindy will be spayed soon, are current

on vaccinations, de-wormed, microchipped, good with other dogs, good with kids, and love everyone!

**Mia** was pulled out of a shelter where her owner discarded her. She is sweet, jovial,



Mia

spry and spunky. What a happy little Pug she is, just full of personality! Her tail is always wagging and she just snorts away when you talk to her. Mia is approximately seven years old and is missing her left eye, which has been surgically closed. She appears to be completely blind in her right eye, however. Shhhh!! Don't tell Mia this, as she appears to have no idea. She gets around wonderfully and finds her place easily in her surroundings. Since she has had sight in

her life, Mia does know her way around. Sadly, she looks to have been the victim of some sort of chemical burns on her back and shoulder area and her prior owner has



Georgia

been investigated for animal cruelty. How anyone could be the least bit mean to this dog is beyond reason. She is great on leash, loves to snuggle in your lap, and is vocal and silly when you dry her off in a towel. This an amazing little Pug who will make a great addition into any home situation. Mia is spayed, current on vaccinations, de-wormed, microchipped, good with other dogs, good with kids, and loves everyone!

To learn more about these and other wonderful dogs, visit our website at [www.animalsrule.org](http://www.animalsrule.org). If a dog is on our website, it's available. Or come to our Saturday adoption events from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 305 North Harbor Boulevard in San Pedro (just off the 110 near the cruise port). We are always in need of donations for veterinarian bills and our senior dogs. Donations can be made through our website or by sending a check payable to: Animals Rule Placement Foundation at 305 North Harbor Blvd., San Pedro, CA 90731. All donations are tax-deductible. We are a registered 501©3 non-profit organization.

Saving one animal won't change the world, but the world will surely change for that animal.

## Purrrfect Companions

Add a little love with a new best friend when you adopt your purr-fect partner.

**Sydney** is a stunning solid white kitty with the most gorgeous set of eyes one will ever see. One eye is a stunning crystal blue while the other is a soft hue of green. This precious girl is a huge lover who loves to be held and petted when not sleeping on the bed, or curled up on your lap. She gets along well with other cats, but is not especially attached to any of them nor does she necessarily have to have other cats in her life. Sydney would be just as happy as a single kitty as she would having a buddy or two. All Sydney really wants is to be loved and give love in return. A sweet, angelic girl, Sydney will be the perfect addition to any family.

**Jackson** is a handsome boy with super-silken jet black fur and fantastic light green eyes. This boy is quite the character and loves people! He adores being snuggled and can't get enough of being on your lap. He will purr and purr, chatting to you so you know what's going on with him. Jackson is a sensitive soul, knowing just what to do and how to approach you from day to day. He is very sweet and seems to have a natural instinct in connecting to his humans. Jackson is very laidback and calm, so a quiet household would make him very happy. While he does live with dogs, Jackson isn't crazy about them being around. He prefers to play with his human and kitty buddies. Jackson loves to play with other cats and would be very lonely without a feline companion.

These kittens/cats are available for adoption through Kitten Rescue, one of the largest cat rescue groups in Southern California. All of our kitties are spayed/neutered, micro-chipped, tested for FeLV and FIV, de-wormed and current on their vaccinations. For additional information and



Sydney

to see our other kitties, please check our website at [www.kittenrescue.org](http://www.kittenrescue.org), or email us at [mail@kittenrescue.org](mailto:mail@kittenrescue.org). Your tax-deductible donations for the rescue and care of our cats and kittens can be made through our website or by sending a check payable to Kitten Rescue, 914 Westwood Boulevard, #583, Los Angeles, CA 90024.

On Saturdays, we have adoptions from noon to 3:30 p.m. in Westchester at 8655 Lincoln Boulevard, just south of Manchester Avenue, and also in Mar Vista at 3860 Centinela Avenue, just south of Venice Boulevard. Our website lists additional adoption sites and directions to each location.

**Be kind. Save a life. Support animal rescue.**



Jackson

## Happy Tails

### Wynni Finds Loving Family

April is Animal Cruelty Prevention month. So many beautiful, trusting animals are mistreated or abandoned. When you adopt a "pet without a partner," you will forever make a difference in their life and they are sure to make a difference in yours. Wynni is a sweet soul who now has a wonderful, loving mom and new "sisters" to share in the joys of life...

"Hi! I haven't checked in with you in a while regarding Wynni. I've attached two pics of her...the first pic is her in her Easter bunny outfit. You can't see the ears or the fuzzy tail, but she looked adorable. The second pic is of her and her sisters at

bedtime. They all have their own spots, as you can see, and Wynni has her favorite soft pink blanket that she can't live without. Wynni is doing perfect. It's weird to think of a time when she wasn't mine. She and her sisters are the three musketeers and do everything together. If they could talk, they would finish each other's sentences. I'm so grateful for Wynni. Thank you to everyone at Animals Rule for the time and energy it takes to give these four-legged angels loving forever homes. A heartfelt thank you..."

— *Melanie, Wynni, Sasha and Sophia Rose.* •





## Championship Ring

from front page

Famer "Big Game" James Worthy on Saturday, April 6, at 6 p.m. with entertainment by the incomparable Jeffrey Osborne with Master of Ceremonies Chris McGee of Time Warner Cable SportsNet. Special tributes to Worthy by other Showtime Lakers including Gary Vitti, Michael Cooper, Kurt Rambis, Norm Nixon, Mitch Kupchak and Claire Rothman, President and General Manager of The Great Western Forum for 20 years, are scheduled.

Later that day, I headed to El Segundo to the Lakers practice center to speak with Gary Vitti, the team's athletic trainer who will be sharing at the *Worthy Evening*. It was the first time I had ever been to the center and frankly, the building is most impressive. I parked in the large lot on the side of the building and walked toward the black gate beside an intercom. I heard a voice even before I pressed the button asking me if I needed help. After saying I had an appointment with Mr. Vitti, I was buzzed in through the black iron gate. As I walked along the side of the building, I saw a huge team bus idling. Walking through the front door, I saw Jose Solano sitting behind the front desk. He happened to be the voice I spoke with behind the gate and he turned out to be a very pleasant man who loves his job. Jose told me he has worked at the Lakers office for five years and he lives in Torrance right near City Hall. Gary Vitti was finishing up with one of the players, so I waited a few minutes as very, very tall basketball players went in and out of the office.

Soon, Vitti came out to meet me wearing a Lakers t-shirt and escorted me into the Players Lounge where we had a chance to talk. I first asked him when he met James Worthy and he shared, "The first time he was on the map in my life, it was in the '82 NCAA Finals. I was working for the Jazz at the time and we were in the locker room getting ready for our game and we were watching the North Carolina game--I think

they played Georgetown--in the NCAA Finals and Worthy lit 'em up...and it was like that guy can really play and there was a big play. This guy Freddy Brown threw James Worthy the ball at the end of the game and he sealed the victory for North Carolina and everybody

that watched that game remembers that play and remembers James Worthy. Two years later, I was working with him. Was like when



Bill Sharman wearing his 2010 ring he will raffle off.

I saw him, 'I know who you are.'"

Vitti went on to tell me that at that point, Worthy had only been in the league a couple of years and he had left the league and came back. He went on to say, "I left the Jazz and the University of Utah and I went up to the University of Portland and I was there for two years and then I came here in 1984. I knew who he [James Worthy] was obviously 'cuz of his college game and then in the two years that he had played here. Right around the time I got here in '84, he transitioned into the starting lineup and from there his career just took off--perennial all-star, bunch of rings. I

think he has three championship rings, MVP of the finals in '88, I think."

Vitti has been the athletic trainer for the *Lakers* for 29 seasons and he told me that he has been around the league and great teams a long time--going to the finals eight times.

*"Yes, you heard me right. For \$10, you could own Bill Sharman's 2010 championship ring!"*

Wow. He said, "Since I've been here, we've won 12 times." When I asked him about being the top athletic trainer in the league,



Lakers Athletic Trainer Gary Vitti. Photos by TerriAnn Ferren.

he humbly told me, "I don't know where I stand in terms of quality of an athletic trainer as compared with the other athletic trainers around the league. I think they're all very talented guys...but I am probably the luckiest one. I'm with *this* team." No kidding. Then I asked Vitti the obvious question: "Do you like your job?" He replied, "Most of the time. It's not really a job. It's more of a lifestyle. I love what I do. I absolutely love the *Los Angeles Lakers*. It is part of who I am. It is part of my identity."

Vitti shared a story with me about traveling. "The travel is difficult, especially if you are

married and have a family," he said. "It is hard on you physically and hard on your family emotionally. We travel first class. We do the best job we can do for our players and our staff, but it's still taxing. There are times when I've gotten to my hotel room in another city. We play in one city, we leave right after the game and go to the next city for the next night and when I get to my room, in front of the door is a *USA Today* newspaper with the article with the game we just played in another city! So someone wrote the article, they printed the article and they delivered it to the hotel room before I could get there."

Traveling did sound like a lot, but then Vitti smiled and told me what keeps him going. Winning. He told me winning makes him want to go to work and winning makes him want to come back. Losing is tough--so if you can win more than you lose, then you have more "better days."

"My happiness really truly relies in the fact that I have the health of all my loved ones," said Vitti. "My mom and dad are 92 years old and in great health mentally and physically. Good genes. I don't think they've abused their bodies as much as I have [with the travel], so I don't know if I'll live that long. I give thanks every day for that and my kids, my wife, my sisters, my friends. Knock on wood, everybody that is close to me is in good health."

Vitti realizes he is with a world-class team and this is evident in the fact that everywhere the team goes, he can find someone wearing a *Los Angeles Lakers* t-shirt. He has been a supporter of the galas put on to benefit *Toberman* and supports the cause and then added, "[Joyce and Bill Sharman] Good people."

Note to self: get online and take a chance on winning the two-time Hall of Fame Bill Sharman's 2010 Lakers championship ring, the *Ring of Hope*. How often does one have the opportunity to purchase a bit of history? •



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