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S.D. ON THE Q.T.

Almost Factual News



What about a little peace and quiet?

By Elaine Stenz-Hullerbach

It is generally recognized as bad form to have one's name appear in the newspaper outside of announcements regarding birth, matrimony, and death. Exceptions may be made, however, in the case

of citizens such as Ellen Browning Scripps, whose largesse and vision gave rise to such fine institutions as the Scripps Institute of Oceanography, Scripps Hospital, and the La Jolla Women's Club. And it is in on behalf of Ms. Scripps that I myself am condescending to air my views in such a public forum. History will be my judge.

In the debate surrounding the presence of seals at the La Jolla Children's Pool, which owes its very existence to Ms. Scripps's extraordinary generosity and dedication, much has been made of Scripps's clear statement that she wanted "the children of La Jolla to have primary claim" to the rather uterine space inside the pool's seawall.

Ms. Scripps was a gentle, generous soul whose

heart went out to the less fortunate — among whose numbers we must certainly count those gawky, half-formed creatures known as children. And for this, she is to be commended. But the Children's Pool opened in 1931, and the sad fact is that La Jolla now is not La Jolla then. Times have changed. Today, Jews are permitted to buy real estate. The idiotic sketches of local eccentric Theodor Geisel are sold as fine art in the galleries along Prospect Street. I could go on.

The plain fact is that today, nobody in La Jolla has any children, and for good reason. They're clumsy, and tacky, and they make loud, inappropriate noises at garment fittings. And even those few children who do by unhappy accident find themselves living here have almost certainly not attended any public beach since the days of Tom Wolfe's ridiculous bit of reportage in *The Pump House Gang* — let alone a public beach that offers neither an opportunity to surf nor a suitable line-of-sight barrier to protect them from

leering commoners on the cliffs above.

It is clear that there is simply no one to make the "primary claim" that Ms. Scripps sought to honor. In light of this, mightn't we do better to let the seals have the run of the place? Perhaps, then, those awful activists would stop turning

our coastline into some kind of tawdry political staging ground. And at least the seals won't try to buy in La Jolla Shores.

Elaine Stenz-Hullerbach is a member of the La Jolla Women's Club.

GUEST EDITORIAL



Better seals than "clumsy, tacky" children, says La Jolla doyenne.

CHUB SCRUB

I Love a Clean and Trim San Diego to Spearhead First Annual Beach Beautification Effort; Weekend-Long Drive Seeks to Remove "Unightly Fatties" from Tourist-Friendly Stretches of San Diego Coastline

MISS MISSION BEACH BIKINI RACK, MISSION BEACH, SAN DIEGO (AP) — Citing the successful beach cleanup program currently being run through the coordinated efforts of the Surfrider Foundation San Diego County Chapter and San Diego Coastkeepers, the environmentally conscious group I Love A Clean and Trim San Diego today inaugurated a program to make San Diego beaches an even more attractive option to landlocked tourists seeking a view of the ocean — and of a little well-toned (and well-tanned) skin to boot.

"Being environmentally conscious isn't just about decreasing toxins in our landfills and protecting San Diego's complex and fragile ecological web," said ILA-CATSD president Eileen Brennan. "It's also about creating welcoming environments for the migratory — and profligate — species that

"People can see cellulite at home."



Local enviros want to see more of this at the beach (left); okay in Oceanside — not in La Jolla (right)

visit our shores, whether they're Bald Ohioans, Red-Necked Nebraskaans, or even just Common Zonies. And a beach that's covered with pasty lumps of rippling belly fat isn't anybody's idea of a



Okay in Oceanside, NOT in La Jolla

welcoming environment. That's why we're bringing the Bring Back Bathing Beauties and Boffo Beefcake (BBBBBB) pogrom, er, program to San Diego's increasingly thigh-heavy beaches."

After presenting reporters with a disturbing iPad slideshow

of overweight-to-obese sunbathers littering beaches from Del Mar to Imperial Beach, Brennan outlined the plan's three stages. Stage one involved the relocation of overweight locals to less-frequented parts of the San Diego coastline, "places like Oceanside

and that one really nasty part of Mission Bay." Stage two: "There, the fatties will be given the opportunity to participate in exercise regimens and diet-modification plans with an eye toward stage three: the eventual release of these rehabilitated beachgoers into the wonderful world of San Diego fun in the sun!"

The BBBBBB program is being funded in part by the California Board of Tourism, which is encouraging residents of Flyover Country "to help make California the [fiscally] Golden State once again," according to board PR man Greg Early. "We want to make California's beaches a national destination, a place where fantasies come to life, like Disneyland," he continued. "We want to offer visitors a kind of living *Baywatch*. Barring that, the least we can do is not put them off their feed."

But the Animal Protection and Rescue League, already embroiled in the battle to "preserve La Jolla's Children's Pool Harbor Seal Community," expressed concern over the program even before it began. "The Marine Mammal Protection Act was put in place to prevent exactly this kind of forced relocation in the name of convenience," said APRL spokeswoman Clarice Rosenblum. "Just because these magnificent beasts don't fit some out-of-state hick's vision of 'Southern California Beach Beautiful' is no reason to drive them out of their chosen habitats. They were here first, after all. They have rights."

However, when notified that the roly-poly beach denizens in question were, in fact, not marine mammals but humans, Rosenblum replied, "Oh. My bad. Go ahead and move 'em, then. Friggin' tubbos."

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