



# STRAIGHT TALK *REPORTER*

*The Newsletter for the Straight Talk Television Show*

[www.straighttalktv.com](http://www.straighttalktv.com)

Volume 2 Number 6

June 2007

## Sea Festival and Charter Cable Team Up



**Chris Pook is Executive Director of the Sea Festival Association of Long Beach.**

Charter Communications has signed a three-year agreement as the **Presenting Sponsor of The Long Beach Sea Festival**, a two and one half month series of family and recreational

athletic events designed to showcase the City of Long Beach as a premier Southern California beach destination for both residents and visitors alike.

“This is an all around excellent relationship,” said **Drew Satariano**, president of The Sea Festival Association of Long Beach, Inc. One of Long Beach’s largest corporate residents is investing in Sea Festival, a dynamic series of Long Beach events. This is a win-win for everyone – the City of Long Beach, the residential and beach community, visitors, and the

**Craig Watson is Vice President of Communications, Charter Communications.**

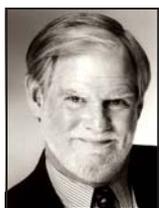
Sea Festival. Charter Communications is a great Long Beach corporate citizen leading the way in supporting Long Beach activities.” The three-year agreement, 2007-2009, provides benefits for both Charter Communications and the Sea Festival Association.



According to **Craig Watson**, Charter’s Vice President for Communications, “We see the Festival as an opportunity to celebrate all that is great about the City and at the same time build on our track record of community support. During the 2004 Olympic Swim Trials we sponsored the Charter All-Digital Aquatic Center, and now we want to be a key partner in the resurgence of Sea Festival as a Long Beach tradition.”

(Continued on Page 3)

## New Leadership at LB City College



**Doug Otto is President of the Board of Trustees, Long Beach City College.**

Doug Otto is the president of the Long Beach Community College District Board of Trustees. He has served as an elected member of the Board since 2004.

Otto, an attorney in private practice in Long Beach, earned a B.A. from Stanford University, an M.A. jointly from Columbia University and the Union Theological Seminary, and a J.D. from the University of Chicago. He is an adjunct professor of law at Southwestern University School of Law, where he has taught for the past 16 years.

Doug has been very active in his home town of Long Beach, including service as a member and chair of the Long Beach Planning Commission. He is also a founding board member of the Aquarium of the Pacific, and currently serves on its Executive Committee. He is a former president of the Long Beach Bar Association, which named him Lawyer of the Year in 2005.

**Eloy Oakley is Superintendent/President of Long Beach City College.**

Eloy Ortiz Oakley is a true community college success story. After graduating from high school and four years in the U.S. Army, the Southern California native found focus at a community college. President Oakley went on to receive his B.A. in Environmental Analysis and Design and his MBA in Business Administration from the University of California, Irvine after transferring from Golden West College.



Before joining LBCC in 2002, he was the Vice President of College Services at Oxnard College, Assistant Vice President, Property & Casualty Division of Keenan & Associates, and the Manager of Risk Services at Coast Community College District. He was appointed Superintendent/President of Long Beach Community College District after four years as LBCC’s Assistant Superintendent/Executive Vice President of Administrative Services, where he undertook supervision

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## Sponsor Spotlight — Papalucci's: A Belmont Shore Tradition

Papalucci's is a family owned Italian Restaurant in Belmont Shore. It is run by the Tarantine family, who also own a restaurant in Pasadena, Tarantino's.

Papalucci's has been part of the Shore for 17 years. It serves home-style Italian food all freshly prepared in its open exhibition kitchen. It is well known for its pizzas and pastas. It offers 30 different pasta dishes and 10 different pizzas. The restaurant also features calzone, stromboli, Supremo Bread and a stuffed pizza (Carmine Special).

The food is originated from recipes from the Tarantine family's grandmother, who was born and raised in Naples, Italy. A real treat and a favorite of many customers is the Chicken Marsala.



Papalucci's offers great food at reasonable prices in a warm and friendly family atmosphere. Open daily for lunch and dinner from 11am till 10pm. Credit cards are not accepted but you can use the ATM machine on premises. Free parking is available in the lot behind the restaurant.

Come see why Papalucci's has become the Belmont Shore tradition for both residents and visitors.

**Papalucci's**  
4611 East 2nd Street  
(562) 434-4454



# Pirates of Penzance Coming to Musical Theatre West



**Rex Smith**

Broadway and film star **Rex Smith** will take the stage as the Pirate King when Musical Theatre West presents Gilbert and Sullivan's most beloved operetta, *The Pirates of Penzance*. The show opens **Saturday, June 30** at the **Carpenter Performing Arts Center** and runs through Sunday, July 15.

*The Pirates of Penzance* tells the story of young pirate Frederic, the lovely maiden Mabel and the daring Pirate King. It features a well known score with memorable songs like "Poor Wand'ring One" and "I am the Very Model of a Modern Major General".

Wacky, irreverent and as entertaining today as it was when it first opened in 1879, *The Pirates of Penzance* spins a hilarious farce of sentimental pirates, bumbling policemen, dim-witted young lovers, dewy-eyed daughters and an eccentric

Major General, all morally bound to the often ridiculous dictates of honor and duty.

Rex Smith made his Broadway debut as **Danny Zuko** in the original production of *Grease!* He received the Theater World Award for his portrayal of Frederic in the Joseph Papp version of *The Pirates of Penzance* on Broadway, and also starred in the Universal Pictures film adaptation with Kevin Kline and Linda Rondstadt.

*The Pirates of Penzance* is directed by MTW's Associate Producer/Artistic Director **Steven Glaudini**, who directed the critically acclaimed MTW production of *The Full Monty*.

For tickets or further information, call **(562) 856-1999** or visit **[www.musical.org](http://www.musical.org)**.

*Rex Smith will be our guest on the Straight Talk Show airing the weeks of June 11 & June 18.*

## Sea Festival (continued from page 1)

"We couldn't be happier", said **Phil Hester**, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine. "Sea Festival has long been a part of the Long Beach tradition and last year's event received the Community Services Award by the California Parks and Recreation Society."

Some of the major Sea Festival events this summer include **The Transpac Yacht Race**, one of the world's most prestigious sailing races from California to Hawaii and **The Mayor's Cup**, an all-women international sailing competition.

Other Sea Festival events include **The Crocs AVP Pro Beach Volleyball Tour** with three hours of national NBC television coverage, the **Long Beach Offshore PowerBoat Challenge** which includes the grueling 56 mile water ski race to Catalina Island and back, and the hugely popular **Sand**

**Castle Building Competition**. The Festival also includes an extreme land and sea sports camp for people with disabilities.

Charter Communications will videotape and air many of the Sea Festival events and use its television network relationships to assist with getting more events aired on national television. Additionally, it will help to promote Sea Festival and Sea Festival events to the Long Beach community as well as to other cities within Charter's Southern California footprint.

For more information and sponsorship opportunities, contact the Sea Festival at **(562) 426-7670** or visit **[www.seafestivallongbeach.com](http://www.seafestivallongbeach.com)**.

*Chris Pook and Craig Watson will be our guests on the Straight Talk Show airing the weeks of June 11 & June 18.*

## LB City College (continued from page 1)

of the Measure E Bond construction project on both campuses. A doctoral candidate at Walden University, President Oakley and wife Bernadette are the proud parents of one Long Beach City College graduate and three future Vikings.

President Otto and Superintendent Oakley will discuss how they plan to implement the three goals set by the LBCC

Board of Trustees: (1) measuring and improving students success, (2) measuring and improving infrastructure stability and (3) improving organization function and creating a greater sense of community.

*Doug Otto and Eloy Oakley will be our guests on the Straight Talk Show airing the weeks of June 25 & July 2.*

## Thought of the Month

*If you think education is expensive, try ignorance.*

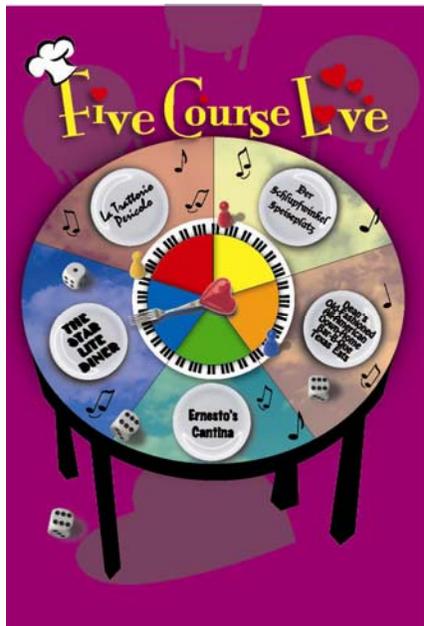
# International City Theatre Brings Five Course Love to LB

Three actors, five restaurants, and fifteen zany characters. Mix 'em up and you have the ingredients for *Five Course Love*, a deliciously over-the-top musical comedy about five calamitous dates. *Five Course Love*, which has book, music and lyrics by **Gregg Coffin** and is directed by ICT's own **caryn desai**, gets its Southern California premiere at International City Theatre on **Friday, June 15**.

*Five Course Love* imagines five dates in five different restaurants, each with its own distinctive cuisine and musical style to match. Three actors metamorphose into fifteen outrageous characters whose hearts are hungry for love. The cast includes **Christopher Carothers** (national tours: *Les Miserables*, *Grease*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*), **Perry Lambert** (co-composer/lyricist, *Is This Any Way to Start a Marriage?*) and **Jennifer Shelton** (ICT credits: *The Story*, *Honk*, *Swinging On A Star*).

The evening begins at Dean's Old-Fashioned All-American Down-Home Bar-B-Que Texas Eats, where a blind date goes charbroiled wrong. Next, at the Trattoria Pericolo, a mob wife has a secret rendezvous with her lover. At Der Schlupfwinkel Speiseplatz... well, you get the idea. Will

Rosalinda ever be able to choose between Ernesto and Guillermo at the local cantina? Will any of our lovers find the recipe for romance?



"I wanted to look at all the different ways that love can elude us, and at the same time, I wanted the show to be a comedy," lyricist Gregg Coffin said in an interview with *Broadway World*. "There's nothing like country & western music for a good ol' fashioned 'you done me wrong' song. As I continued to think of the different ways that love could unravel, different cuisines started to make their presence known."

*Five Course Love* had its world premiere at the Geva Theatre Center in Rochester, New York in the summer of 2004, and opened at Off-Broadway's Minetta Lane Theatre in October, 2005.

*Five Course Love* opens Friday, June 15 and runs through Sunday, July 15. For tickets or further information call the ICT Box Office at (562) 436-4610 or go to [www.ictlongbeach.org](http://www.ictlongbeach.org).

*Jennifer Shelton will be our guest on the Straight Talk Show airing the weeks of June 11 & June 18.*



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# The Immigration Debate: The Saga of Officers Ramos and Compean

Guest Column by  
**Congressman Dana Rohrabacher**

There is a major power struggle going on in Washington, D.C between those who are pro-amnesty for 12-20 million illegal aliens presently in this country and those of us who actually believe in the rule of law and recognize the importance of truly securing our borders. Even though this Administration claims border security is its number one priority, many Americans are just not buying it for a myriad of reasons.

If border enforcement were truly the goal, then our National Guard troops would not be receiving commendations for running away from armed Mexican troops rather than engaging them. Nor would President Bush support the multiple, unjust prosecutions of law enforcement officers who are trying to do their jobs by protecting our borders from illegal drug smugglers and human traffickers.

The latest example of such madness is the recent jailing of Border Patrol Agents Ignacio "Nacho" Ramos and Jose "Joe" Compean for 11 and 12 years, respectively. Their "offense" was shooting an illegal drug smuggler in the buttocks after he resisted arrest and pointed what the officers believed was a gun at them as he fled back to Mexico, leaving behind one million dollars worth of narcotics in his vehicle.

### Here's their story.

This sad episode started back on February 17, 2005, just another routine day for officers Ramos and Compean. Both served in the Navy and were Border Patrol veterans with unblemished service records. Agent Ramos, in fact, had been nominated for Border Patrol Agent of the Year.

As they made their rounds that day two years ago, they checked on a tripped sensor near the border. Agent Compean discovered footprints and drag marks, the usual indication of a drug load being smuggled across the river. He spotted a vehicle, then radioed in the description and followed the suspect. The suspect realized that he had been spotted and turned around to rush back towards Mexico. Agent Ramos then observed the van driving at a very high rate of speed and, after the driver ignored commands to pull over, Ramos gave chase.

However current Border Patrol policy requires a supervisor's permission to pursue **within the United States** someone who has crossed the border in a vehicle. Without such permission, an officer can be brought up on charges, as Ramos and Compean were to learn. Who made up that rule? What is it's purpose? I wonder if drug smugglers and terrorists know about that rule? Yet the President continues to claim that he wants border agents to "chase down drug smugglers, human traffickers and terrorists."

After the illegal smuggler was intercepted by Compean, he resisted arrest and fled toward the border on foot. Compean thought he saw a gun being pointed at him, so he opened fire. Agent Ramos heard shots and came to the aid of his fellow officer. He, too, thought the smuggler had a weapon and fired one round.

After disappearing into the banks of the Rio Grande, the smuggler reappeared on the Mexican side where he jumped into a waiting van. Unbeknownst to Officers Ramos and Compean, a bullet hit the illegal drug smuggler in the left buttocks. When the abandoned van was examined, 743 pounds

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## Straight Talk Reporter

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# Grape Expectations to Benefit Long Beach Libraries

The Long Beach Public Library Foundation will be hosting its annual popular fundraising celebration of gourmet food and fine wine - Grape Expectations - on **Sunday, June 24 at 4pm.**

This annual celebration of wine and food supports the Foundation's literacy program. This year, the stunning new Sculpture Garden of the Museum of Latin American Art (MOLAA) will be the scene of **fine wines paired with gourmet food and an exciting auction.** Noted wine expert **Dan Berger** will provide commentary for the meal.

The proceeds will support the programs of the Library Foundation and Long Beach's libraries, including the Family Learning Centers at each of the city's 12 libraries and Raising A Reader, which has graduated more than 5,700 parents and pre-schoolers from its reading readiness program.

Surrounded by the 15,000 square-foot Sculpture Garden's tranquil desert landscaping, fountains and monumental Latin American art pieces, the party will begin with aperitifs, hors d'oeuvres and silent auction items. Then, a **multi-course meal** will be served with each course accompanied by wine specially selected by Mr. Berger. Featured wines will come from Italy, Spain, as well as California's Central Coast.



The meal, created by **Sofia M. Riley** of TGIS Catering Services, will feature recipes especially designed for this event. The evening concludes with a live auction featuring travel, wining and dining adventures and other great items.

One auction highlight will be a chance to make a "**Guest Appearance**" on *Straight Talk*. The winner will get a "behind the scenes" look at the production of a television show, and will be able to view the taping from the control room. The auction winner will then be interviewed by host Art Levine for a seven-minute segment on a subject of his or her choice. The segment will not actually air, but the winner will be given a DVD of the "Guest Appearance" and a framed on set photo to share with family and friends.

"This evening is really about Long Beach's children," said **Ludmila Montoya**, event chair and Library Foundation Board member. "The event's proceeds will fund our efforts in ensuring literacy and academic success for every child in our city."

Auction items are available for bidding before the event at the Online Auction Site, [www.lbplf.cmarket.com](http://www.lbplf.cmarket.com).

For tickets or further information, call the Long Beach Public Library Foundation at **(562) 628-2441**.

## Smithsonian Exhibit to Open at the El Dorado Library

Long Beach has been selected to host an exhibit created by the **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration** (NOAA) and the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service. *From Sea to Shining Sea: 200 Years of Charting America's Coasts* will be hosted at the El Dorado Branch Library beginning **Thursday, June 21**. Long Beach was chosen when **Councilwoman Gerrie Schipske** contacted the Smithsonian Institution after reading about the exhibit online.

In 1807, President Thomas Jefferson recognized the need to chart the coastal waters of this country as vital to the independence and prosperity of the economy and to the security of this fledgling Nation. The traveling exhibition was created in recognition of the **200th anniversary** of the decision of the

United States Congress to pass an act establishing the Survey of the Coast, a predecessor agency of today's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the nation's first scientific agency.

Councilwoman Schipske worked with the Port of Long Beach, the Aquarium of the Pacific, and the Long Beach Public Library to bring this exhibit to Long Beach. The exhibit, which opens June 21 in **200 venues nationwide**, can be seen locally at the El Dorado Branch Library, 2900 N. Studebaker Rd.

For further information, call Councilwoman Schipske at **(562) 570-6932**.



## Straight Talk Now Viewable 24/7 on Video on Demand

*Straight Talk* is now viewable at any time on Charter Cable's Video On Demand (VOD), Channel 999.

Simply go to **Channel 999**, click on **Community Interest**, then click on **Talk Shows**. You can see the current *Straight*

*Talk* show and the immediate past two shows whenever you want. What could be easier?

To subscribe to Charter Cable, call **1-800-GET-CHARTER** or visit [www.charter.com](http://www.charter.com).

## Guest Column (continued from page 5)

of marijuana were found. The payload was seized, and one would have thought that congratulations were in order.

### **Unfortunately, that is not where the story ends.**

Several weeks later, the smuggler contacted a childhood friend who is a Border Agent in Arizona to complain about being shot by border agents in Texas. An investigation began and our government tracked the drug smuggler down in Mexico, provided free health care for his wounds in the U.S., and granted him immunity to testify against Ramos and Compean. To add insult to injury, the smuggler, while under immunity and **before** the trial of Ramos and Compean had started, was identified in a second major drug smuggling incident.

But the U.S. Attorney, Johnny Sutton, a longtime friend of President Bush, had the evidence sealed from the jury and allowed the prosecution to proceed. Agents Ramos and Compean were ultimately convicted of the unlawful discharge of a firearm, carrying a mandatory minimum 10-year sentence, and of federal civil rights violations, all thanks to the dishonest testi-

mony of an illegal drug smuggler who claimed he was unarmored. The smuggler has also filed a \$5 million civil lawsuit against the Border Patrol.

### **This is the worst miscarriage of justice I have seen in my 25 years of public service.**

It is a nightmare for the two Border Patrol agents, both fathers of three children. Their families risk losing everything as the officers are now confined to solitary confinement in federal prisons hundreds of miles away from home. I am particularly sensitive to the plight of these families because I come from a military family and fully understand the hardships they must now face.

The American people should rise up in righteous anger and demand that President Bush pardon these brave heroes. For more information go to <http://rohrabacher.house.gov>.

*U.S. Congressman Dana Rohrabacher represents the 46th Congressional District.*

## In Fond Memory



## Clark Heggeness

November 3, 1920 - May 29, 2007

**Devoted Family Man  
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# Straight Talk Around Town



Color Guard units stand at attention for ceremonies during the annual Memorial Day Observance at Green Hills Memorial Park at Rancho Palos Verdes.



Brigadier General Robert Hipwell, Keynote Speaker at the Memorial Day Observance, pictured with Master of Ceremonies and Green Hills President Ray Frew.



Brienna Harvey, Miss Beach Cities-America, and Sienne Fleming, Miss Teen Long Beach-USA, greet guests at the Fashion Show & Garden Party held at the Marketplace to benefit cancer programs.



Ronnie & The Classics entertain guests at the press preview for the *Catch a Wave* summer attraction at the Aquarium of the Pacific.



Long Beach State Head Women's Volleyball Coach Brian Gimmillaro and CSULB President King Alexander surround *Jewels of the Night* superstar Dede Rossi.



Renaissance Pleasure Faire's "Sir Francis Drake" and wife Robin join Art Levine for a trip back in time.