

# today's local news

carlsbad | oceanside

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Michael J. Kacmarcik | mkacmarcik@todayslocalnews.com

James Goodall looks over some of the guitars he has crafted at Carlsbad's Buffalo Brothers Guitars.

## Renowned luthier Goodall will host guitar workshop

By Craig TenBroeck  
ctenbroeck@todayslocalnews.com

CARLSBAD — James Goodall doesn't play the guitar; he prefers the flute. It's an unexpected admission from a man who has crafted more than 4,000 high-end guitars, an artist who has been called the Stradivarius of the six string.

"It's kind of embarrassing in one sense and humorous in another," Goodall said. Goodall's evolution as a guitar maker began in 1972. He was making a living as a seascape artist in Spring Valley when he was struck by "the desire to make and play a musical instrument."

After trading one of his oil paintings for wood, he borrowed tools from his father and started working on his first guitar. In three months, he had finished a jumbo maple acoustic with a mother of pearl inlay.

"It turned out really well," Goodall said. Goodall continued to refine

his craft, building guitars for his friends and acquaintances. As word spread, orders rolled in, and in 1978, he abandoned his painting to become a full-time luthier.

Today, Goodall lives and works in Kona, Hawaii. With the help of 13 employees, he makes 40 guitars per month.

His instruments appeal to a wide variety of players, from the aggressive strummer to the gentle finger-picker. He uses different exotic woods — cedar, walnut, rosewood, Hawaiian koa — and offers eight body styles. Simplicity and elegance are prized over flashy stains or color finishes.

"Everyone has a different idea of 'ultimate,'" Goodall said. "People ask me, 'what do you think is the best guitar?' But I honestly can't answer that... I like them all."

Like musical snowflakes, each guitar has a unique look. But Goodall ensures they all possess his signature tone.

"I think of our guitars as having a three-dimensional, lyrical sound," Goodall said.

"James Goodall, in my opinion, is the best modern luthier, period," said Kevin Kinnear, manager of Buffalo Brothers Guitars in Carlsbad.

Kinnear keeps at least 60 Goodall guitars in stock. "They're really phenomenal instruments," Kinnear said. "About half the people who buy them have never heard of him the day they buy them. But everybody hears the difference. It just kind of floors them."

Naturally, there's a price to be paid for quality. A Goodall masterwork can cost up to \$10,000.

Goodall will host a workshop from 7-9 p.m. Friday, at Buffalo Brothers, located at 4901 El Camino Real. Guitarists Bob Ryan and Adrian Demain will showcase the tone and versatility of the instruments.

Reach reporter Craig TenBroeck at 760.752.6754.

## Traffic enforcer wins Officer of the Year

By Jeremy Breningstall  
jbreningstall@todayslocalnews.com

CARLSBAD — Carlsbad Police Lt. Howard Carpenter noted Wednesday the many different types of drunk drivers who were reeled in by city officers in 2004.

Some were speeding. Some ran red lights. At least one stopped in the middle of an intersection and just sat there. One drunk driver was responsible for two hit-and-run accidents within a mile of each other. Several were driving with flat tires. One was driving with no tire — the driver's tire had been shredded to the rim. Their blood alcohol percentage ranged from .09, barely over the legal limit, to .30.

What they had in common, Carpenter said, was their willingness to allow irresponsibility to endanger the lives of others. One officer was responsible for putting more than 100 drunk drivers behind bars last year. Officer Donnie Seale had 118 DUI arrests last year and close to 250 in the last two years.

For his efforts, the traffic enforcement officer was recognized with Carlsbad Police Department's "Officer of the Year" award Wednesday during an award ceremony attended by about 200 people. Seale was one of five nominated for the honor.

Seale was also recognized, together with Darbie Schultz, for "DUI Enforcement."

The other "Officer of the Year" nominees were Malcolm Warfield, Torrey Cluett, Mark Reyes and Greg White.

Police Chief Tom Zoll told the audience the "true" version of a humorous story about Warfield.

One day, Warfield was speaking with a man in the third floor of an apartment building when a report went out over police radio of a jewelry heist at a local mall.

Warfield noticed the man he was talking to had a lot of jewelry, Zoll said.

The man jumped off a third floor balcony.

"Malcolm figured if [the suspect] could jump off the balcony, he could, too," Zoll said.

Warfield pursued the suspect for half a mile to a Von's store — where the chief happened to be shopping at the time.

Warfield, the chief and other officers tackled the suspect.

"Then I went back and bought my stuff," Zoll said. "They made me write my first police report in the city of Carlsbad."

Cluett, another nominee, was described by the chief as an "artist-in-residence" at the department.

Reyes was credited with

Officer A2 >



Christian Calabria | ccalabria@todayslocalnews.com

Carlsbad Lieutenant Jim Byler presents the award for Auto Theft Recovery Officer of the Year to Darbie Schultz Wednesday at the 2005 Police Awards Ceremony in Carlsbad.

## Kindergarten registration to begin for new schools

### Elementary schools on track to open in August

By Victor A. Patton  
vpatt@todayslocalnews.com

ESCONDIDO — Kindergarten registration will begin Tuesday, Feb. 1 for the city's two new elementary schools, Escondido Union School District officials said Wednesday.

Parents with children who will be attending kindergarten at the new Reidy Creek School on North Broadway and Bernardo School on Mountain Heights Drive can pick up registration information at various locations.

"The parents that live in our attendance area can go to either Rock Springs School or North Broadway School to register their students," said Leila Sackfield, principal of Reidy Creek School.

"For Bernardo School, they can go Miller School, LR Green School or Rock Springs School," added Sackfield.

Sackfield said district officials informed parents in 2004 which schools their children will be attending.

Although neither of the schools are due to open until August, administrators have already begun the process of hiring teachers, purchasing materials and preparing the framework for how the schools will operate.

"We've been given a really

great opportunity to work for a full year to prepare and plan (ahead) for that opening," Sackfield said.

"All of the teachers that we are hiring are existing, high quality, expert teachers in our district. They are all transferring in from other schools," said Ron Smith, principal of Bernardo School.

District officials are also planning on having several orientations with parents prior to the opening of the schools.

"We'll have parent information meetings and organization meetings when we get into the Spring because when we hit the ground running in August its my intention to have a established and fully functioning parent organization, school-site council, school safety

committees, parent volunteer corps, fundraising groups and all of those things — before we get to the first day of school," Smith said.

The total cost to build Bernardo School is estimated at \$12.1 million, while the cost of Reidy Creek Elementary is estimated at \$14.6 million, according to the district's Web site.

A large portion of the funds for the schools were made possible by Proposition 47, a 2002 California voter-approved measure allocating \$11.4 billion to new K-12 education facilities.

The new schools are being built due to the level of overcrowding that has occurred at Escondido schools resulting from the city's growing population, according to Smith.

In 2004, the district opened

two new elementary schools — Bear Valley Middle School and Farr Avenue Elementary. "All of [the] schools will have some relief, in terms of the numbers of students they are trying to serve," Sackfield said.

Sackfield expects to open Reidy Creek School with about 560 students, while Smith expects to have about 450 students when Bernardo School opens its doors. The maximum capacity for both school is 750 students.

For more information about registering kindergarten students at the new schools, call (760) 432-2164 (Reidy Creek School) or (760) 432-2100 (Bernardo School).

Reach reporter Victor A. Patton at 760.752.6757.

## Escondido Canal damage affects water distribution

### Damage won't affect water bill, officials say

By Victor A. Patton  
vpatt@todayslocalnews.com

VISTA — Recent storms have caused serious damage to the Escondido Canal, the 13-mile long canal that is used to bring water from Lake Henshaw to Vista and Escondido, Vista Improvement District and Escondido Canal officials said Wednesday.

The damage was caused by the recent heavy rains coupled with the damage done to vegetation

due to the Paradise Fire in 2003. Mud and rock slides have completely filled various sections of the canal to the point where some places are inaccessible to heavy machinery.

In some areas the rain runoff has eroded the soil on the downhill side of the canal, causing structural damage and washing out access roads.

"I've been here 20 years and I've never seen this much damage," said Carl Burgess, Escondido Canal superintendent.

"The good news is that the recent rain storms and the resulting runoff have significantly raised the water level at Lake

Henshaw," said John Amodeo, Vista Irrigation District general manager, in a statement.

"The bad news is that we will probably not be able to receive any water from the lake in 2005 because of the damage to the Escondido Canal, which is the only way to get water down to our service area," he added.

The cost to repair the canal, according to Burgess, is estimated at \$250,000 to \$500,000. Burgess said it will take at least the remainder of 2005 to repair all of the damage.

Because some of the areas are inaccessible to machinery, Burgess said teams of workers will

literally have to clean up the heavy buildup of rocks and mud by using their hands.

In the meantime, Escondido and the Vista Improvement District will receive imported water delivered by the Metropolitan Water District via the San Diego County Water Authority, according to Brett Hodgkiss, administrative manager of the Vista Irrigation District.

Hodgkiss said the damage to the canal should not affect the water bills of local customers.

"Since the volume [of imported water] is going to be the same, the rates won't increase," Hodgkiss said.

The canal is owned and maintained by the City of Escondido and shared with the Vista Improvement District to distribute local water.

It links Lake Henshaw and the San Luis Rey River with the Vista Irrigation District-Escondido water treatment plant, which supplies residents in both areas with some of their drinking water.

The costs of maintaining the canal are shared equally between the City of Escondido and Vista Irrigation District.

Reach reporter Victor A. Patton at 760.752.6757.