



Region 7 Review

A monthly publication for the members of IPSSA, Inc. – Region 7

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IPSSA, INC. REGION 7 Board Officers

Javier Payan, Director ph (619) 449-1392
cell (619) 843-9460
fax (619) 449-1396
payanpoolservice@aol.com

Loyal Johnson, Treasurer (858) 679-9006
Sherry Larson, Secretary (760) 758-1812

Water Safety - Lots going on with water safety. Our PR firm is working on getting us some print and TV time soon in the LA market.

While the recent story of the toddler drowning (see story below) is very, very tragic, it inspires me to keep on doing what I do to get the word out about water safety. Let's continue to promote water safety to your customers and throughout the community. As IPSSA members, we are in a unique position. We know who has kids, and we can give safety tips to our customers.

Experts offer pool safety tips

Toddler's death heightens awareness of dangers

By SARAH WILKINS, Staff Writer

CARLSBAD -- A 4-year-old boy died of his injuries Sunday evening nearly a week after being found at the bottom of a hotel pool, authorities said.

The death of Brennan Bostani, who lived in Los Angeles, also prompted authorities to offer tips on safeguarding pools, tubs and other bodies of water where children can drown or get hurt.

Brennan died at about 6:30 p.m. Sunday at Rady Children's Hospital in San Diego, investigators for the county medical examiner's office reported. He is survived by his parents, Arman and Aileen Bostani, they said.

Brennan was found at the bottom of the pool at the La Costa Resort and Spa on the afternoon of Aug. 13 and taken to Children's Hospital after extensive

efforts to revive him failed, fire officials said.

Brennan's relatives and numerous other hotel guests were in the pool area when he was discovered. However, it was not known how long he was under the water, authorities said.

Drownings claim the lives of about 300 children under the age of 4 every year, according to the National Safety Council.

Fatal drowning is also the second-leading cause of unintentional, injury-related death for children between the ages of 1 and 14, the National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported. Last year, 26 percent of deaths to children 4 and under were attributed to drowning, the agency said.

Escondido fire spokeswoman Carol Rea advised parents to keep an eye on children at all times, and keep barriers up around water sources to keep kids out.

"Children need to be watched," Rea said, adding that an adult should be designated to watch children whenever they are in the water, no matter how many people are around.

Rea also reminded residents that pools are not the only culprit -- children can also drown in tubs, toilets, ice chests and buckets.

"Toddlers can be top-heavy," she said. "They (end up) head down and they can't get out."

Likewise, the San Marcos Fire Department warns on its Web site to keep a telephone and rescue equipment such as shepherd's hooks or life preservers near pools. The Web site also warns that doors leading to pools should have locks and alarms, and any adults left to care for children should know CPR and rescue techniques. In Carlsbad, the fire department provides information on a program called Water Watchers, which provides lanyards that are given to adults who accept responsibility for watching children in the water.

-- Contact staff writer Sarah Wilkins at (760) 740-3524 or

swilkins@nctimes.com.

www.nctimes.com/articles/2007/08/21/news/coastal/carlsbad/202007103360.txt

North County Times; Tues., Aug. 21, 2007, p. B-1.

Drowning is Preventable

The drowning of the toddler this week is a sad reminder to us all to watch children carefully around the water. As a lifetime swimmer, former lifeguard, and swimming pool owner, I take water safety seriously. Please, please *always* supervise children in and around water. In addition, assign a responsible adult to wear a *Water Watcher* tag. To learn more about water safety, request a Water Watcher tag via U.S. mail, or link to water safety organizations, go to the following Web site sponsored by Independent Pool & Spa Service Association (IPSSA), San Diego chapter: www.waterwatcher.org.

NANCY GILLESPIE, Vista

North County Times; Letters to the Editor; Sun., Aug. 26, 2007.

www.nctimes.com/articles/2007/08/26/opinion/letters/8_25_0716_32_34.txt

Calendar of Events

- **Pool Industry Expo**, Sept. 27-29, Monterey Conference Center, Monterey, CA. www.poolindustryexpo.com
- **World Aquatic Health Conference**, Tues., Oct. 2 - 4, Cincinnati Hilton Netherland Hotel, Cincinnati, OH. www.nspf.org.
- **R7 Board Meeting**, Tues., Oct. 9 (2nd Tues. of the month), 7:00 p.m., SCP Conference Room, 5648 Copley Drive, San Diego (858-467-9495).
- **B.O.R.D. Mtg.**, Sat., Nov. 3, Holiday Inn Capitol Plaza, Sacramento. Contact IPSSA executive office, ipssamail@aol.com or 888-360-9505.
- **Aqua Show 2007**, Mon., Nov. 12-16, Mandalay Bay Convention Center, Las Vegas, NV. www.aquashow.com.

Editor/Publisher: Nancy Gillespie, *A+ Business Services*

P.O. Box 192, Vista, CA 92085-0192 • (760) 945-6667 • Fax (760) 945-6616 • nancyJG5@cox.net • www.AplusNancy.com