

# Long Beach BUSINESS JOURNAL

March 31-April 13, 2009

IMAGINE  
LONG BEACH

A City Where  
Customer Service  
Is 'Queen'



By **TROY MARTIN**  
**WIERDSMA**

My family purchased a vacation home in Long Beach last year, and I spend about seven days a month watching cruise ships come and go. What I also enjoy doing when I'm in Long Beach is finding the best restaurants and entertainment sites so when my family arrives, we don't waste time looking for



## Five Stars!

L'Opera Ristorante at 115 Pine Ave. and The Madison Restaurant & Bar at 102 Pine Ave. earned the Southern California Restaurant Writers Association's highest honor for 2008: The Golden Sceptre - Five Star award. More than 600 restaurants and hotel eateries from Santa Barbara to the Mexican border were reviewed by association members last year for food, service, ambiance and beverages. Those scoring between 95 and 100 - 27 in all - earned The Golden Sceptre. Pictured from L'Opera are Walter Caffa, executive chef, Enzo De Muro, co-owner, and Sonia Gomez, general manager. Madison photograph and a list of other local restaurant winners on Page 11. (Photograph by the Business Journal's Thomas McConville)

By **ASHLEIGH OLDLAND**

April 3-4 Bike Festival Gears Up  
Long Beach For Bike Master Plan

City of Long Beach, Downtown

## Local Lenders Hope New SBA Rules Will Ease Loan Drought

By **ANGELA C. ALLEN**  
Senior Writer

Local lenders are cautiously optimistic about the impact of more than \$15 billion in wide-reaching measures recently announced by the federal government to unlock frozen credit markets for small-business owners by spurring renewed lending through the Small Business Administration (SBA).

The new measures will raise SBA 7(a) loan guarantees from 75 to 90 percent and cut fees on several other SBA loan programs, such as the 504 loan, most often used by small-business owners to buy real estate.

Beginning immediately, federal officials are also trying to jump-start credit markets



### Corporate Presence Insert

Annual Interview With  
Mayor Bob Foster;  
And Anheuser-Busch  
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Religious Conventions. Meetings

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**Villages At Cabrillo**

The Family Commons at Cabrillo, the third and final phase of the Villages at Cabrillo project, is celebrating its grand opening this April after being completed in December 2008. The \$32.5 million project by Century Housing is already completely occupied, providing supportive homes for 80 families, many with disabilities and transitioning from homelessness. Kneeling down at front is one of the first families to live in the facility. Tracy Walker, David Johnson and their 3-year-old son David Walker were homeless before they moved into their new home. Pictured standing from left are: Connie Quilling, case manager for PATH Ventures; Caleb Reese, case manager for PATH Ventures; Anna Topolewski, program director for PATH Ventures; Alan Hoffman, chief financial officer for Century Housing Corporation; Peter Postlmayr, project manager for Cantwell Anderson; Councilwoman Tonia Reyes Uranga, of the City of Long Beach's 7th District; David Stokes, partner at Quatro Design Group; Brian D'Andrea, president of Century Villages at Cabrillo; Shu Farmer, director of Century Learning Initiatives for Today (LIFT); Dai-Iy Ko, director of purchasing and estimating for American Constructors; Elle Tolentino, bureau manager for the Long Beach Housing Services Bureau; Patrick Ure, housing development officer for the Long Beach Housing Services Bureau; Norma Lopez, development project manager for the Long Beach Housing Services Bureau; Jeff Chen, vice president of American Constructors; and Javier Molina, partner at Quatro Design Group. (Photograph by the Business Journal's Thomas McConville)



**Fresh Foods Cafe Opens At Catalina Landing Complex**

Staff at the recently opened Fresh Foods Cafe from

