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**DIANE BELL**

## War veterans, 95 and 68, now same-sex newlyweds

**John Banvard, 95, and Gerard Nadeau, 68,** are unlikely trailblazers. As veterans of World War II and the Vietnam War, respectively, they have been living quietly in the state Veterans Home in Chula Vista.

Quietly, that is, until they got married this month in a simple outdoor ceremony at the senior living facility attended by other residents and friends.

"We believe this is historic," said **Ron Brand**, marketing head of the Veterans Home division of the California Department of Veterans Affairs, who has heard of no other same-sex marriage in a U.S. veterans home facility.

The newlyweds have been nominated for inclusion in the Veterans Wall of Honor at the San Diego LGBT Center. "It's so courageous of them to get married at this age at a veterans home," said **Evelyn Thomas**, a wall advisory committee member. She said the wall is the only one of its kind in the country.

Banvard and Nadeau have been living together for about 20 years, however, they moved into the Chula Vista home a little more than three years ago.

Nadeau said they made their decision to wed after the state Supreme Court upheld same-sex marriage in late June. "We thought it would happen, we just didn't know when. We care for each other and love one another so this was a good thing."

"A few residents grumbled about it" at general meeting, reports **Neal Asper**, administrator of the Chula Vista Veterans Home. "But most are happy for them."

**Table talk: Ann Romney** was busy helping her husband, **Mitt**, campaign for president last year, but she has her own projects. Turns out, it's Ann, not Mitt, who is publishing the first book since leaving the campaign trail — and it's not about politics.

Ann has combined the telling of family stories and traditions, favorite recipes and photos into a

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## LABOR MAY SEEK WAGE INITIATIVE

Measure to raise local minimum faster than state law could be on February runoff ballot

**MARK WALKER • U-T**

**SAN DIEGO**

Local labor officials say they may push a ballot measure to increase the minimum wage in the city of San Diego and target it for the likely mayoral election runoff ballot in Febru-

ary.

The idea has been broached with city officials, but no firm plans have been presented.

A minimum-wage initiative could boost turnout among lower-income voters, potentially favoring a Democratic candidate.

Richard Barrera, secretary-treasurer of the San Diego and Imperial Counties Labor Council, said raising the minimum wage in San Diego faster than scheduled increases approved by the state is the goal.

"We have identified this as a priority for the labor movement and for all working families," he said Friday. "We believe the state law is

# \$10

The hourly minimum wage in California, beginning Jan. 1, 2016

a step in the right direction, but we would like to see it get to \$10 an hour faster than before January 2016."

Labor also wants to tie increases to the city's cost-of-living index, a figure determined by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The statewide minimum wage is now \$8 an hour. A new law signed by Gov. Jerry Brown this week raises it to \$9 on July 1 and to \$10 an hour on Jan. 1, 2016.

Mickey Kasparian, head of the county's largest

SEE **MINIMUM • B4**

**"It's the greatest thing. I've looked for him for a long, long time. And now here he is."** Cmdr. Cindy Murray • Navy nurse who reunited with her brother



Chief Petty Officer Robert Williamson is greeted with a hug by his sister, Cmdr. Cindy Murray, at San Diego Naval Medical Center. The last time the siblings saw each other was when Murray was 14 and Williamson was 6. **NELVIN C. CEPEDA • U-T**

## 2 ships passing in the night

Nurse had little luck finding her half-brother — until she learned they were both members of the Navy family

**JEANETTE STEELE • U-T**

**'W**e look alike," Cmdr. Cindy Murray whispered to her baby brother Friday.

It was the first time the Navy nurse had seen him, her only sibling, in nearly four decades.

The two khaki-uniformed sailors stood looking at each other's faces. It was an emotional reunion at San Diego Naval Medical Center — made possible in part because these almost-only children both made the Navy their family.

And neither knew it, until very recently. Murray serves at the hospital, which is situated in Balboa Park. After three decades

of no contact, she spoke to her father in July. Murray's dad delivered a bombshell: "You know, your brother is in the Navy, too."

It was a direct hit to Murray's center mass. She had never forgotten the little boy, whom she last saw when he was 6 and she was 14.

She quickly turned to the chief petty officer in her office. Find this sailor named Robert Williamson, she ordered.

It was nearly quitting time, but Chief Petty Officer Jeremy Simon fired up the Navy computer network and picked up the phone. It took only 20 minutes.

Williamson, a chief petty officer aviation ordnanceman serving at Lemoore Naval

SEE **SIBLINGS • B4**



Cindy Murray and Robert Williamson are seen in an undated Easter photo. **COURTESY PHOTO**

## ESCONDIDO FIGHTS PLAN TO CLOSE POST OFFICE

Mayor writes to federal officials; residents at forum call shutdown unfair, shortsighted

**DAVID GARRICK • U-T**

**ESCONDIDO**

Escondido residents, merchants and community leaders are fighting a plan to close the city's downtown post office, part of series of postal cuts nationwide.

The post office, which opened on Escondido Boulevard in 1993, is one of two slated for closure in San Diego County. The other is in the Westfield Mission Valley mall.

Escondido Mayor Sam

SEE **POSTAL • B2**

## MISS TEEN USA VICTIM OF 'SEXTORTION'

FBI says suspect took control of victims' computers to take nude photos of them

**JOHN WILKENS • U-T**

The crime has become common enough to have its own nickname: Sextortion.

The latest case involves a 19-year-old Temecula college student, accused by the FBI of hacking into the computers of multiple

young women, including recently crowned Miss Teen USA Cassidy Wolf, and using their own webcams to take nude pictures of them in their bedrooms. He then allegedly threatened to spread the images all over the Internet unless they gave him what he wanted.

What he wanted was more nude pictures, nude videos, or a five-minute striptease session on Skype, agents said. At least two victims, one believed to be in Ireland and another in Canada, complied. One who didn't comply later found nude pictures of herself posted on her Instagram account.

The arrest Thursday of Jared James Abrahams, 19, follows several other "sextortion" cases in recent

months. Two months ago, a Glendale man pleaded guilty in a case that involved 350 victims.

It's gotten to the point that the FBI, in its news release announcing Abrahams' arrest, included tips on how to avoid becoming a victim. (They're available at the agency's website, [fbi.gov/about-us/investigate/cyber](http://fbi.gov/about-us/investigate/cyber).)

Although the criminal

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