

Water Customers Can Now Go With Information Flow



SDBJ INSIDER

Tom York

other important information via smartphones, thanks to a mobile application recently completed by local IT design firm **Bytes Inc.**, which is headed by founder and CEO **Sanjiv Prabhakaran**. The app is available for those phones using **Google's** Droid operating system, as well as **BlackBerry** devices and iPhones. Details at sdewa.org ... **Stan Crooke**, founder and

There's now an app for that. **San Diego County Water Authority** customers can access current news releases, including a 24-hour water-related news feed, not to mention videos and links to

Local Cruise Ship Industry Riding a Falling Tide

TOURISM: Perfect Storm Of Adversity Washes Over Business; Mexico a Factor

■ By LOU HIRSH

With visits to San Diego by cruise ships on the decline the Port of San Diego is stepping up efforts to promote the beleaguered cruise ship industry. Drug-related violence in Mexico, the accidental sinking of the cruise ship *Costa Concordia* last month off the coast of Italy, and the im-

minent exit of **Carnival Cruise Lines** from the local market in combination have significantly reduced the number of cruise ships scheduled to make port calls in San Diego in the coming year.

Despite the adversity facing the industry, at least one official from the Port of San Diego remains upbeat.

"As far as I know, the public has not lost its desire to go on cruises," says **Rita Vandergaw**, the Port of San Diego's business development director overseeing cruise-related programs. "The travel agents I've heard from are still booking trips."

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Photo courtesy of Carnival Cruise Lines
The Carnival Spirit is expected to make its last cruise from San Diego in April.

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