

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2023 /// Serving the coastal cities of Orange County and beyond /// dailypilot.com

Opening doors for more housing

STEVEN OH, executive lead for the Related Bristol project, stands with an architectural rendering of the Related California development project in Santa Ana on Tuesday. It's a 42-acre mixed-use residential development that will include 3,507 units, a hotel and senior center.



Santa Ana's plans to convert shopping plazas into mixed-use centers may light a path forward for other communities.

BY SARA CARDINE

As cities struggle to plan for and produce housing amid a statewide crisis, Santa Ana officials are working with developers on two projects that could transform nearly 60 acres of underutilized retail space into a thriving residential and commercial center.

Plans are in the works for two adjacent mixed-use developments — Related Bristol and the Village Santa Ana — which could bring a combined 5,333 units of housing, along with more than 16 acres of open space and nearly as much commercial and office space, a hotel and senior care center to the southern end of the city.

The move, made possible by a number of recent amendments to

See **Housing**, page A2

Don Leach
Staff
Photographer

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ISA WORLD PARA SURFING CHAMPIONSHIP

Olympic-style competition comes to shore in Surf City

Event kicks off with a parade of nations and opening ceremony today in downtown Huntington Beach.

BY MATT SZABO

Surfing competitions are common to Huntington Beach. There's a reason why it's called Surf City, after all.

But not every competition has prosthetic limbs laying around, or wheelchairs at the edge of the beach.

"I think that's really great," three-time para surfing world champion Liv Stone said. "It just intrigues people to come watch and to ultimately learn about the sport of para surfing and spread awareness."

Yes, those who are curious or just want to watch some very talented athletes rip should check out the International Surfing Assn. World Para Surfing Championship, which comes to Huntington Beach for the first time this week on the south side of the pier.

An event-record 184 competitors will compete for 27 countries, event officials said. A parade of nations and opening ceremony kick things off at 1:30



Courtesy of ISA | Pablo Franco

LIV STONE of the United States celebrates winning at last year's ISA World Para Surfing Championship in Pismo Beach.

p.m. today in downtown Huntington Beach, followed by competition on Monday through Saturday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Para surfing, also known as adaptive surfing, is where a disabled individual uses a board or waveski to ride a breaking wave.

The ISA World Para Surfing Championship, founded in 2015, is an Olympic-style competition, Jesse Billauer said. Billauer, who lives in Los Angeles, is a well-known surfer who broke his

See **Shore**, page A8



Courtesy of Segerstrom Center for the Arts

FIVE-PIECE COUNTRY rock and pop band Silver Lining will perform this year at Segerstrom Center for the Arts veteran's month concert in the Julianne and George Argyros Plaza on Nov. 5.

Segerstrom concert today salutes active military, veterans

BY SARAH MOSQUEDA

Segerstrom Center for the Arts' special Veteran's Month Concert returns to celebrate veterans and their military families in an event this afternoon.

"We are thrilled to continue the tradition of celebrating National Veterans & Military Families Month this November. There is

an inherent bravery in the choice to serve others, and we are honored to celebrate our neighbors that decided to change their lives in service to others," said Marytza Rubio, vice president of community engagement at the center.

The outdoor concert will take

See **Concert**, page A8

THE FLAGS OF each competing country are pictured at the opening ceremony for last year's ISA World Para Surfing Championship.



Courtesy of ISA
Sean Evans

ALSO FROM THE DAILY PILOT:



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

CRISTOPHER CICHOCKI'S 'RISING INVERSION' GRIPS MAIN BEACH VIEWERS WITH ITS PHOSPHORESCENT GLOW PAGE A4

OBITUARY

Folino remembered for his contributions to O.C.

BY LILLY NGUYEN

When Hank Adler looks around at Orange County, he sees all the things that philanthropist Paul Folino left his mark on — at Cal State Fullerton, where he contributed to the campus's college for business and economics, its center for oral and public history and its golf programs; at Chapman University, where he campaigned for its film school; and at the Hoag Classic, where he sat as tournament chairman from 2019 until his death from cancer on Oct. 14 at age 75.

"Any place you turned around, Paul's mark was in something that was important with respect to philanthropy," Adler said. "We lost a major leader — someone who could put together large groups of people, find a cause and successfully raise money for that cause to make it happen. There aren't many of those people around. Never have been and never will be."

Folino was a longtime tech executive at Costa Mesa-headquartered Emulex Corp. and an integral player in philanthropy in Orange County, according to people who knew him. Statements mourning his loss have been issued from Cal State Fullerton, Hoag Charity Sports and other nonprofits that Folino contrib-



FORMER COSTA MESA Mayor Steve Mensinger, left, shakes hands with Paul Folino, the Art of Leadership Award recipient, during a dinner at the Samueli Theater in May 2015. Folino, who died Oct. 14, is being remembered for his extensive philanthropy.

uted to or helped organize.

In a statement issued by the campus on Folino's death, Greg Saks, vice president for university advancement at CSUE, described Folino as a "force of good for the university. He was not only a major donor to Cal State Fullerton, but enjoyed interacting with students, faculty and staff. His business acumen and willingness to help benefited us all and we will truly miss him."

Meanwhile those at

MIND Education, an organization focused on providing students with good foundations to learn math, credited Folino's philanthropy as having accounted some years for nearly half of the nonprofit's annual budget.

Folino held the distinction of having the only street on CSUF's campus named after an individual. The South Coast Repertory named the Folino Theater Center for the philanthropist and his family.

Folino was a confidant of former Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, who in 2006 said of Folino, "[He] is a true California hero. I share his passion for education, his passion for improving the lives of kids and especially his passion for making California a better place. He's been a great friend."

Those who knew him from his time with the Hoag Classic, which raises funds for Hoag and other charities, say he was a gen-

erous and personable individual who didn't care too much for the spotlight, though Folino conceded in that same 2006 story that the reality was that he wasn't a "stay-in-the-back-ground guy."

Adler, who was chairman of the tournament for close to 17 years prior to Ira Garbutt, said he'd known Folino for about 20 years, dating to the days when the Hoag Classic was still called the Toshiba Senior Classic. After Toshiba bowed out as a major sponsor, Adler said Folino was integral in getting new sponsors willing to contribute without having their names on the tournament.

"We were just board members together. The wonderful thing about Paul is that he was interested in philanthropy, not in Paul taking a lead in anything. We would have an annual breakfast every year and he should've been the one leading the breakfast and taking the bows, but he'd always say, 'Why don't you announce my name and I'll just wave?'" said Adler. "That was Paul. He did not want to take credit for so much that he did for the community. It was just his way of giving back. He was a phenomenal guy."

Jeff Purser, former executive director of Hoag Charity Sports, said when Folino wanted to support a cause

he went the full mile.

"If he believed in your charity, he went to work for you. He put his money where his mouth was, so to speak," Purser said. "Even before he became our chairman, which was in 2019, he was an ambassador for us in the community. He was always helping me and the tournament reach out to corporation partners that he was friends with and to his contacts within the community. He was always just such a leader."

But what Purser remembers most fondly was that Folino loved golf, despite the fact he didn't have a natural gift for it.

"He loved the game and loved to get out there. My best memories with him were just spending time with him and whoever we had out there as guests. He loved to be out on the golf course, talking, laughing and having a great time. If he had a good day, it was fun. If he didn't, he didn't care. It was about spending time with people," Purser said. "I never, ever, ever — not *once*, did I ever see him angry or in a bad mood. He was always happy and always optimistic and always positive. He was unique."

"It's what made him a great man, I think."

lilly.nguyen@latimes.com
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HOUSING

Continued from page A1

Santa Ana's general plan, would revitalize an area just west of Bristol Street, between MacArthur Boulevard and Sunflower Avenue, occupied by two aging shopping centers that represent a bygone era of economic development.

Metro Town Square and South Coast Plaza Village were anchored by large occupants like Bed, Bath and Beyond, which has since filed for bankruptcy and pulled out of the complex, and the Orange County Museum of Art, which relocated to Costa Mesa last year.

The centers are tailored to service-based businesses like nail salons, dry cleaners and tutoring centers. They lie in stark contrast to South Coast Plaza, whose vast acreage begins just one block to the south across the border between Santa Ana and Costa Mesa.

Minh Thai, Santa Ana's executive director of planning and building, said the city amended its general plan in 2022 to widen development opportunities in that part of town. Consequently, the South Bristol area now allows for 25-story buildings and up to 125 residential units per acre.

"The goal of the general plan for the South Bristol area is to focus on capitalizing on the success of the South Coast Metro Area by introducing mixed-use villages," Thai said, describing places that offer living, retail and entertainment opportunities along with green space.

"Not only does it make good planning sense to concentrate different types of uses within a closer area, it also, from our perspective, helps the city direct growth to where growth is desired and can be accommodated."

The projects will provide needed housing in Orange County, where several municipalities — like neighboring Costa Mesa — despite their proximity to lo-



Sara Cardine

SANTA ANA'S Metro Town Square, a largely vacant shopping center built in 1971, will soon be the site of a 41-acre mixed-use development with 3,750 units of housing.

cal coastlines, major freeways and John Wayne Airport, have struggled to realize significant growth in recent years.

EXPERIENTIAL LIVING

Inside a glass-fronted storefront of Metro Town Square, a shopping center located at 3600 S. Bristol Street and dominated by businesses that these days don't seem to attract the same foot traffic as when the plaza was built in 1971, a vision of the property's future is on public display.

Related California, an Irvine-based developer that began building affordable housing projects 34 years ago and has since developed 19,500 residential units statewide, now uses the storefront as an outreach center for the Related Bristol project.

Executive Vice President Steven Oh estimates his firm has held more than 200 public meetings there. A language translated into four languages has collected some 1,350 comments from constituents.

"One of our first objectives was to share the vision of the project, given its scale and magnitude," Oh said during a recent visit to the site. "Change is coming to this center, one way or another — the status quo is no longer an option."

Related plans include building up to 3,750 residential units on the 41-acre parcel, where Metro Towne Center tenants currently

operate under a master lease due to expire in 2025.

The property owners are the descendants of Joseph Callens, a lima bean and sugar beet farmer who served as Fountain Valley's second mayor and held onto the land he once worked before passing in 2001.

Oh said the Callens family, knowing the site's master lease would soon expire, sought out a developer capable of creating a legacy project it would operate for 99 years before handing it back to family members. Related Bristol was the end result.

Anticipated to be fully built as soon as 2036, it comprises a variety of living scenarios set among commercial and open space, according to a proposal submitted to the city of Santa Ana in August 2022.

The southern end of the property would accommodate a 250-room hotel, a senior tower that would provide independent and assisted living for more than 200 residents and retail areas situated around an outdoor plaza.

To the north, residential uses would predominate with up to 6,520 subterranean parking spaces allowing for green areas and walking trails above ground. The design reflects a shift away from a car-centric model of living, working and shopping.

"These big-box malls are simply not doing what they



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

AN ARCHITECTURAL rendering of Related Bristol shows the south end of the 41-acre project, which includes a hotel, senior center, event lawn and retail spaces.

were designed to do in the 1970s," Oh said. "The consumer preferences of how we interact with retail is changing in a significant way. There is a greater demand, quite frankly, for experiential retail."

The Village Santa Ana, proposed for a parcel to the east of Related Bristol on the northeast corner of Bear Street and Sunflower Avenue, aims to offer a similar kind of life-work-play dynamic, according to plans submitted to the city in August.

Its 17.2-acre parcel, currently the site of the South Coast Plaza Village shopping center, built in 1973, will provide up to 1,583 residential units set among 3.63 acres of open space as well as up to 300,000 square feet of office space and 80,000 of retail construction that will fulfill a "desire in Orange County for a more urban, active, and vibrant outdoor-oriented environment," according to the project's website.

Owned by the Segerstrom family, South Coast Plaza is the listed land owner and project applicant. A spokeswoman for the project declined an interview, given the project is still in the early planning stages, but documents suggest construction would take place in five phases over a 20-year period.

Together, the two developments provide more than the 3,137 units of housing Santa Ana is man-

met, will hamstring Orange County's economic future.

"The good news is the capital is available. The developers and the investors are there," he said. "It's a matter of getting this zoning through the cities so we can get to the point where the space is ready to develop — and time is money."

Ball said Santa Ana was fortunate to have Related Bristol and Village Santa Ana and pointed to neighboring Costa Mesa as a place where opportunities for residential growth are ripe, if city officials can make them happen.

"From a political will standpoint, they have a lot of pressure — nobody wants to see these projects go up in their backyard or wants to see stores go away," he said. "But if I'm a political leader, I need to be thinking of my community 10 to 15 years out."

Costa Mesa Mayor John Stephens agrees. He campaigned in 2022 for the city's Measure K, which gives Costa Mesa more flexibility, like Santa Ana, to rezone certain commercial and industrial corridors to allow for high-density housing. The measure passed with just 22 votes.

"The whole purpose of Measure K was to take underperforming community corridors and, in part, use them for different land uses, particularly housing," Stephens said Thursday. "We need to do whatever we can through zoning and planning to address that need."

The Costa Mesa mayor acknowledged that the "American Dream" of home ownership that served the nation for more than 50 years is just that. He believes the community is beginning to wake up.

"When homeowners like me start to understand the housing struggle of generations that are our children and grandchildren, we start to see we should appreciate the different circumstances they have and plan and adjust for that."

sara.cardine@latimes.com
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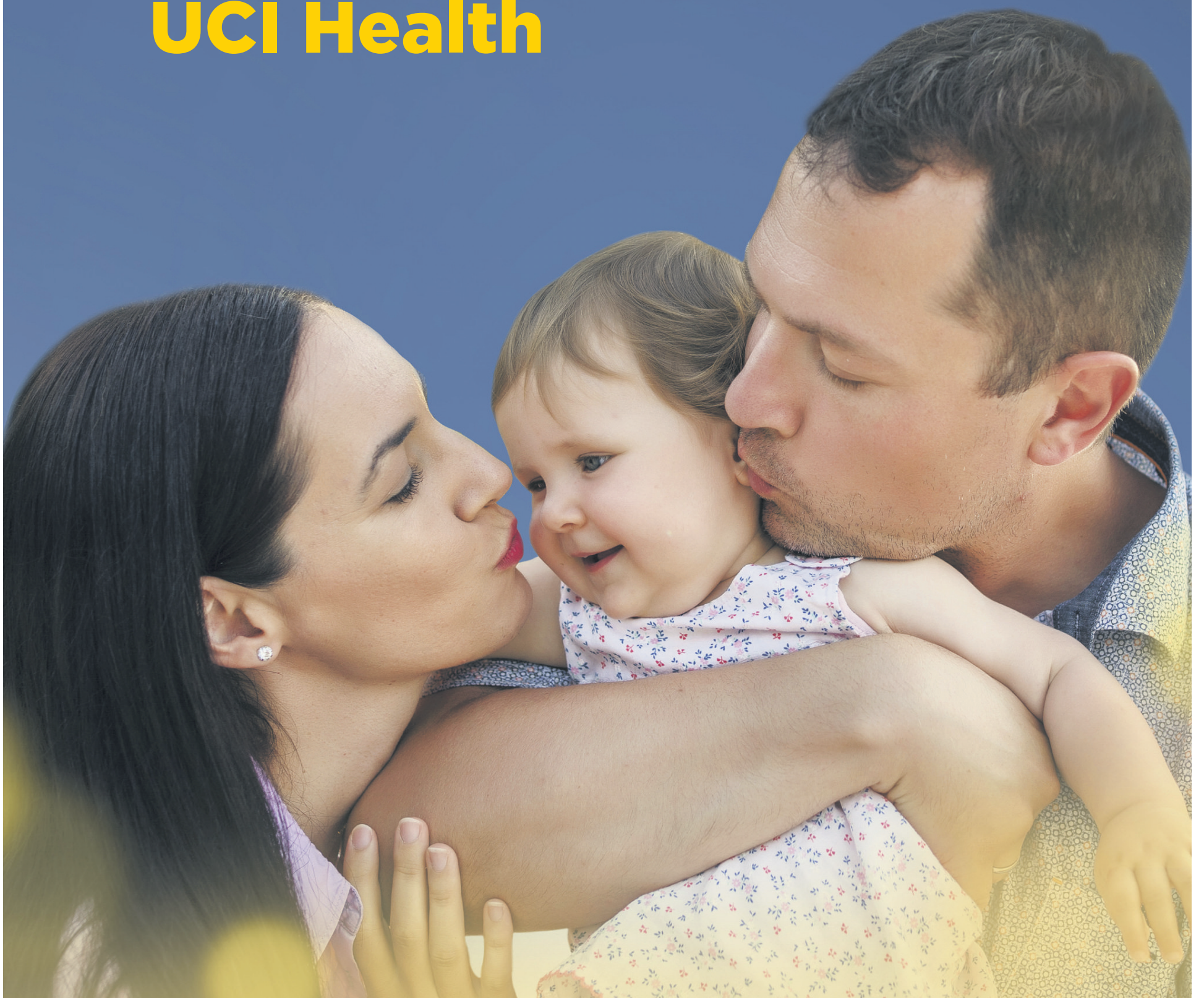
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Beachgoers enraptured by glow of 'Rising Inversion'

BY ANDREW TURNER

Beachgoers who came upon it simply couldn't pass it and keep going.

A massive semicircular structure had been placed at Main Beach, due north of the boardwalk, and even in the daylight, its visitors stared perplexed.

Laguna Art Museum representatives filled them in, sharing that the scene before them was the featured exhibit for the institution's 11th annual Art & Nature program.

Those who could were advised to stick around for sunset, when Coachella Valley artist Christopher Cichocki's headlining work would be officially introduced to the community.

Following a discussion by the artist to kick off the event, museum guests joined more members of the public patiently waiting to catch Cichocki's sculpture, "Rising Inversion," in full effect.

When the sun went down, Cichocki flashed a light over the sand and phosphorescent surface of the artwork, each wave of the mysterious wand-like device giving way to a new piece of what he called a "biomorphic light painting."

Gathered in the dark, a captive audience stood at rapt attention as the image came into being, its turquoise-tinted glow an homage to bioluminescence, an occurrence that happens every so often off the shore of Southern California.

The 3,000-pound structure, 12 feet tall and 40 feet long, dominated its location in front of a hillside above the surf line. Its depth ranged from 5 feet in the center to 1 foot at its edges, giving it a spherical appearance.

A high-density foam made the structure transportable. It was then sealed with concrete, a

phosphorescent topcoat and sand from the shoreline of Laguna Beach.

While the artwork is located at Main Beach, placing it in front of the hillside and away from the downtown area was by design, Cichocki said.

"The phosphorescence is a pigment that I've been using in my work for almost two decades," Cichocki said. "It's a kind of custom varnish that I've created in relationship to this phosphorescent pigment. With just a matter of 30 minutes of sunlight, it will glow all night long. If you were to have zero light pollution, this thing would be looking as bright as this particular activation of the light painting."

Cichocki considers his work to be at the intersection of the natural world and industry. In 2022, he had the opportunity to exhibit and perform at the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival. "Circular Dimensions x Microscape," his installation featuring 25,000 feet of PVC pipe, created a pavilion that served as his performance stage.

During its brief stay on Main Beach, "Rising Inversion" was the planned backdrop for an audiovisual performance by Cichocki on Saturday night.

"Circular Dimensions is my musical moniker," Cichocki said. "It's an audiovisual, ever-evolving series of performances that responds to the immediate site. I've been doing it for 10 years now, and there's always some element of sound, some element of light, of video, kind of a multi-sensory environment."

Cichocki said the sounds planned for Saturday night's show included a combination of ambient sound, Gregorian chants and sounds heard in Laguna such as ocean waves and street traffic passing by in the dead of night.



Photos by Don Leach | Staff Photographer

ARTIST CHRISTOPHER CICHOCKI draws lines with a flashlight on his luminescent sculpture, "Rising Inversion," the signature piece of the 11th annual Art & Nature program, at north Main Beach in Laguna Beach.



A CROWD OF guests gathers to watch artist Christopher Cichocki (in orange jacket) unveil his work "Rising Inversion" on Thursday.

"If there's nothing around and that car's going down the vastness of Coast Highway, it actually sounds like a wave," Cichocki added. "There's this synthesis that occurs."

The final sunset for the work will fall on Sunday, concluding this year's Art & Nature festivities.

A graduate of Palm Desert High who went on to study at California Institute of the Arts, Cichocki said it was an honor to have his work featured in Art & Nature. He named several headlining artists of the past, including Laddie John Dill, Lita Albuquerque and Phillip K. Smith III.

Julie Perlin Lee, executive director of Laguna Art Museum, said she consulted with former Art & Nature artists before landing on Cichocki as this year's featured creative. She said that Cichocki had appeal as a multidisciplinary artist who had a history of being able to collaborate with multiple agencies on projects.

"What was really fascinating to me is that Christopher is an artist who is thinking on a huge timescale," Perlin Lee said. "He thinks on geologic time, and that's something that I think is really important for me, and I hope others are picking up on

that when they see his project here, that we are very concerned with our environment today and our planet today.

"So many of us are focused on the now, but I love that the undercurrent of Christopher's work is to think about the much bigger and broader picture, and not even just in terms of water and its scarcity here on Earth, but he also talks about in his work, he thinks about how water even got onto our planet in the first place when it was being formed."

andrewturner@latimes.com
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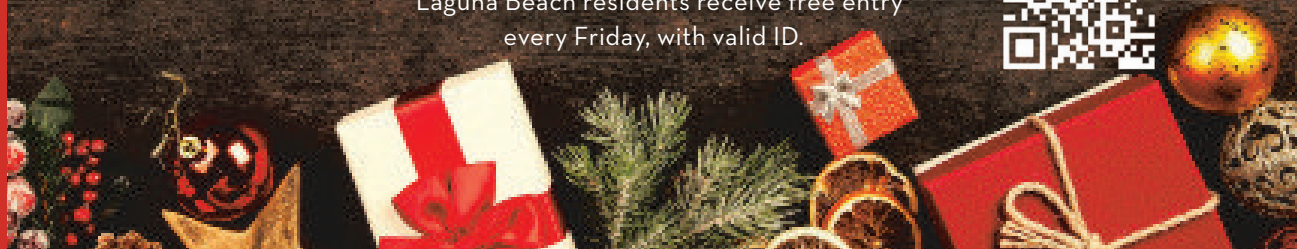
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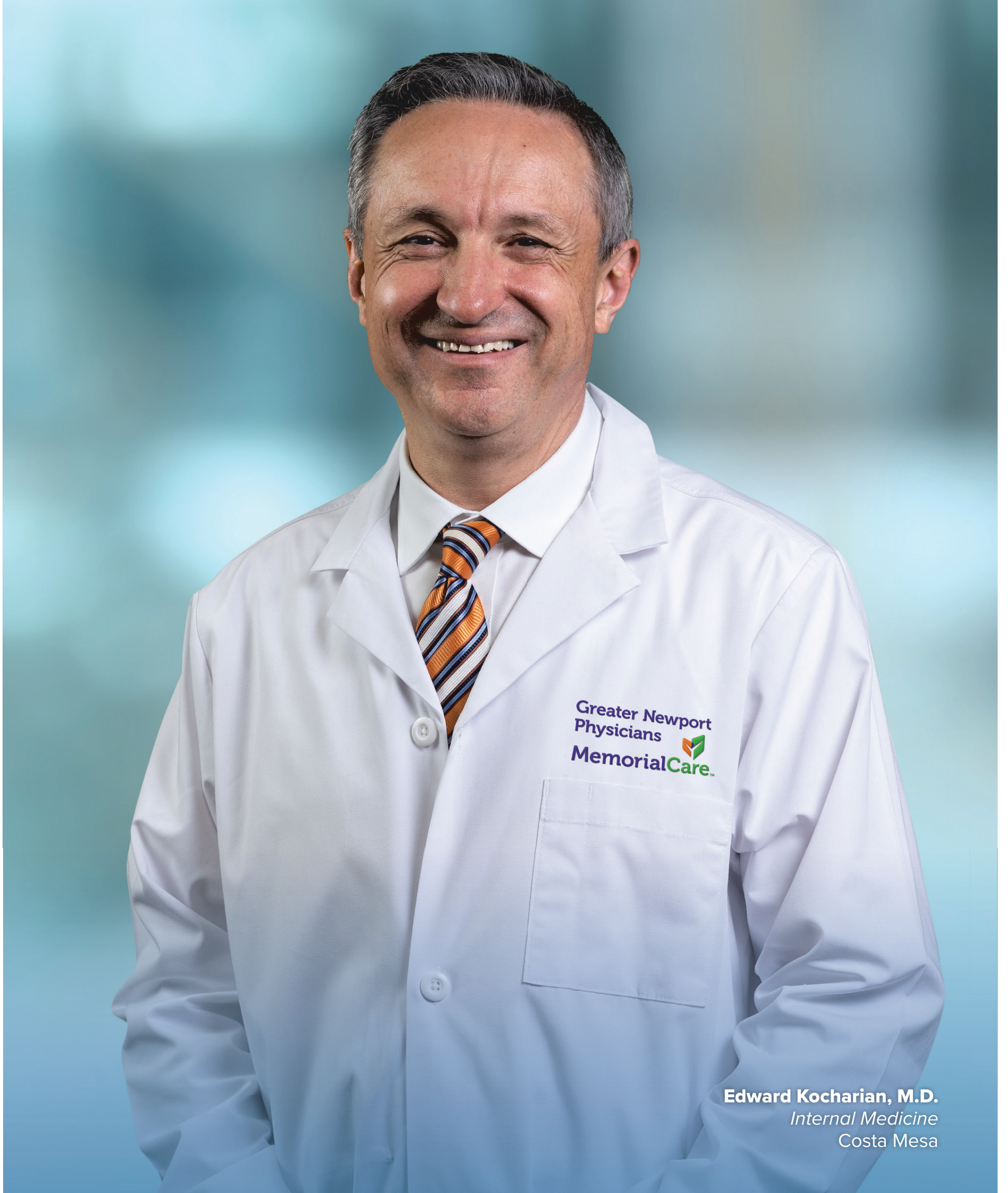


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COLUMN | **PATRICE APODACA**

No matter what they call it, they're banning books

During recent travels abroad, I visited some bookstores and libraries. Some might consider it a bit odd to fit such stops into a vacation itinerary, but other book lovers will no doubt relate to my keen interest in exploring repositories of the written word wherever I happen to venture.



Whether their raison d'être is commercial gain or the common good, these places can be fascinating windows into a locale's history, culture and people. Some are situated in centuries-old buildings with stories that add to the allure. Yet there's also the strong pull of universality — there's nothing quite like the musty-sweet smell that wafts up when a book is cracked open or the quiet thrill of knowing that an entire world lies within its pages.

I know it didn't make much sense — I could have waited and ordered the books I wanted after returning home or downloaded them to my tablet — but I couldn't help myself. I bought so many books while traveling that I feared I might exceed my weight limit on the journey home.

Then when I did make it home, that lovely, whimsical, slightly eccentric feeling ran headlong into news that Huntington Beach's City Council had carried through on some members' previously stated

intention to set up a community parent advisory board tasked with approving children's books for the city's public library.

They can cloak this move in whatever euphemistic language they want and issue any denial that suits them, but make no mistake: These council members have initiated an institutional means to ban books that they don't like.

And rather than protecting children, which they claim as the motivation behind the measure, this



File Photo

BRUCE GROWTH takes his grandchildren Logan and Juliana Weber to the Huntington Beach Public Library in May 2023.

looks like little more than a naked attempt to impose a minority's regressive morality on everyone else. It's a safe bet that any book that even hints at LGBTQ+

or racial themes and characters will be targeted for censorship. Ugh. Welcome back to

See **Apodaca**, page A7

COMMENTARY | **MICHELLE WULFESTIEG**

Honor in every farewell: Promoting veteran hospice care

In the United States, veterans account for an astonishing 642,000 deaths every year, making up one in every four deaths. This startling statistic isn't just a national issue; it's a pressing concern right here in Orange County. These heroes are real-life individuals who, when called upon, have put everything on the line to serve our country.



Sarah Mosqueda

THE TUSTIN PARKS and Recreation Department honored local U.S. service members killed and missing in action at the Veterans Sports Park on Memorial Day 2023. An expert in hospice care suggests that the Orange County community should ease the burden of end-of-life care for veterans.

ties, according to data from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

For our veterans, the challenges surrounding

the end of life are magnified. The scars of battle, both physical and emotional, often demand specialized end-of-life care. Those who once had a

home in the military sometimes find themselves without one in their final years, making the prospect of dignified end-of-life care even more daunting against a backdrop of a national housing crisis.

In the heart of Orange County, where veterans comprise 5% or 130,000 of the county's populace, these challenges are felt deeply. Data from the Family Evaluation of Hospice shows that veterans receiving hospice care experience higher levels of anxiety and sadness compared to nonveterans. Our work with terminally ill veterans has allowed us to help shed light within the medical community regarding the challenges they might face at the end of their lives, including overcoming ingrained stoicism, the fear of admitting pain as a sign of weak-

ness and the effects of PTSD.

During the first 10 months of running Orange County's first nonprofit residential care facility for the elderly (RCFE) with a focus on hospice residents, and California's only hospice-centric RCFE with the Assisted Living Waiver, we have been able to provide care for veterans and other Orange County residents who may not have had insurance or enough Social Security to cover traditional hospice care. Generous donations from philanthropic individuals and the community have also allowed us to maintain the dignity of those approaching the end of their lives.

More than anyone, veterans have earned the right to a dignified and honorable end. Now more than ever, the community must rally behind these

heroes, ensuring they aren't forgotten when they most need support.

It is our duty to serve those who have served us. The work that we do is a testament to this commitment, and we call upon our Orange County neighbors to seek ways to uphold this commitment as well. As Veterans Day approaches, let us remember and act, ensuring that every veteran's farewell is filled with honor, dignity, and love.

MICHELLE WULFESTIEG

is Southern California Hospice Foundation's executive director. Her personal journey includes a near-death experience following two strokes before the age of 25, driving leadership of this nonprofit's commitment to enhancing the lives of terminally ill patients and their families.

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THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By *Jacqueline E. Mathews*

ACROSS

- 1 Emerald or amethyst
- 4 Clock sounds
- 9 Egg on
- 13 Hatchets
- 15 Madison Square Garden, e.g.
- 16 Yank
- 17 Chauffeured car
- 18 Recluse
- 19 500 sheets of paper
- 20 Afflicted
- 22 Bookie's numbers
- 23 Too thin
- 24 "Time _ Bottle"; Jim Croce song
- 26 Firstborn
- 29 Irregular
- 34 Out of _; irritable
- 35 Bawler
- 36 Hoopla
- 37 Stage signals
- 38 Explosive devices
- 39 Partiality; favoritism
- 40 As happy _ clam
- 41 Hell
- 42 _ Rover; luxury SUV
- 43 Blushed
- 45 Indian dollars
- 46 Finale
- 47 Hasn't the ability to
- 48 In fashion
- 51 Native Australian
- 56 Strummed instrument
- 57 Wanderer
- 58 Baltic & Bering
- 60 Come _; discover
- 61 Unsuspecting
- 62 Emmy-winning TV series
- 63 Inclination
- 64 Perennial

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48	49	50				51	52	53			54	55	
56						57					58		59
60						61					62		
63						64						65	

SUDOKU

By *The Mepham Group*

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit sudoku.org.uk.

		2	5			3	8	
	8	6						
				3	6			
		1				2		
9	8	6		3	5		1	
		7				4		
			7	6				
						6	3	
	9	5			2	1		

For answers to the crossword and Sudoku puzzles, see page A7.

- flower
- 65 Bread variety
- DOWN**
- 1 Eight pints: abbr.
- 2 Way out
- 3 Office note
- 4 Inborn ability
- 5 Wry literary style
- 6 Small coin
- 7 Joint with a cap
- 8 Tiny fishes
- 9 Tumult
- 10 Felt remorse about
- 11 Thrilled
- 12 American _; ND's state trees
- 14 Cold desserts
- 21 Velvety ground cover
- 25 And not
- 26 Acting award
- 27 No-goodnik
- 28 Terror
- 29 Carrying a gun
- 30 Babies' accessories
- 31 Northeastern state
- 32 Wise saying
- 33 Suffers defeat
- 35 Morse's invention
- 38 Colorful kerchief
- 39 Christening
- 41 Clucker
- 42 Ladder piece
- 44 Adequate, as a living
- 45 Las Vegas athlete
- 47 Long for
- 48 Nightstick
- 49 Extravagant publicity
- 50 Flat-faced golf club
- 52 Dangerous critters
- 53 Fail to mention
- 54 Close
- 55 Uncomplicated
- 59 That woman

APODACA

Continued from page A6

reality. As previously reported in the Daily Pilot, the Huntington Beach decision was made despite significant opposition, including from three of the seven board members. During a five-hour comment period and in emails to the council, the vast majority of people expressed their disagreement with the measure.

Yet it appears that the four members who approved the resolution — Mayor Pro Tem Gracey Van Der Mark, who spearheaded the effort, Mayor Tony Strickland, and Councilmen Casey McKeeon and Pat Burns — were hellbent on passing it anyway.

Council members Dan Kalmick, Natalie Moser and Rhonda Bolton voted against the measure.

The advisory board will include up to 21 members — who, unsurprisingly, will be handpicked by the council — and they will have the final say on which new children's books will be approved. They will also be empowered to remove books currently in the children's section. Decisions made by a simple majority will be final, meaning they will override the vetting done by experienced, trained library staff.

Of course, the stark reality is that Huntington

Beach is far from alone in its repressive policy. Over the past few years, a movement led by well-funded national organizations to restrict access to certain books in school libraries and ban some titles from K-12 curriculum has utilized misleading, hyperbolic rhetoric and bullying tactics to impose its will. In many ways, it has succeeded, as it has had a chilling effect on teachers, school librarians and administrators.

More recently, this effort has widened to include public libraries.

According to the American Library Assn., 2022 saw the largest number of library books challenged since the organization began tracking the data.

This year is on pace to surpass that record. In the first eight months of the year there were nearly 700 attempts to challenge or censor 1,915 library books, a 20% increase over the same period last year, the ALA reported. And those numbers likely represent an undercount.

Most of the books targeted were written by or about people of color or members of the LGBTQ+ community, the association said.

Across the country, the attacks on public libraries have grown increasingly menacing. Many libraries are in danger of having their funding slashed if they don't accede to de-

mands, and some are at risk of closure. There have been bomb scares. Librarians have been threatened and called groomers and pedophiles.

That's a long way from the image of the spectacle-wearing, pencil-behind-the-ear bibliophile whose greatest offense was shushing too readily. Sure, that was a mildly insulting stereotype, but given today's grotesque climate, it conjures feelings of nostalgia and affection. In reality, librarians are skilled professionals who deserve our respect and appreciation.

But many of those who are worried about the dangerous path we're on aren't sitting idly by. Efforts to cull books deemed inappropriate by a reactionary minority are motivating others to rise up, organize, mobilize and make their power felt. They are determined to reclaim the narrative and their rights.

So I've got some news for the Huntington Beach City Council and all others who champion censorship: Ideas have a way of bursting through the walls built around them. You may have won this round, but in the long run you are doomed to fail.

PATRICE APODACA is a former Los Angeles Times staff writer and is coauthor of "A Boy Named Courage: A Surgeon's Memoir of Apartheid." She lives in Newport Beach.

CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS

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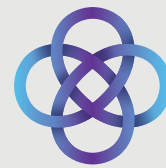
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'Cinderella' brings class to Irvine Barclay



Courtesy of World Ballet Series

PART OF THE World Ballet Series, "Cinderella" is performed live by a multinational cast of 40 professional ballet dancers gathered to bring the most celebrated fairy tale to life.

BY SARAH MOSQUEDA

The U.S. National Tour of World Ballet Series: "Cinderella" comes to the Irvine Barclay Theatre on Nov. 8 and 9. Gorskaya-Hartwick Productions is acting as a fairy godmother of sorts by bringing a Ballet for All Masterclass to Irvine as a part of the event.

"This is our way to share our love for ballet with everyone," said Gulya Hartwick, co-founder of World Ballet Series and Gorskaya-Hartwick Productions.

Hartwick said there are more than a 150 performances of the World Ballet Series: "Cinderella" in over 140 cities across the U.S. each season, each self-presented. This beloved version of the classic fairy tale brings new excitement to the familiar story that everyone knows ends with "happily ever after."

"The story itself is very old. There are over 1,500



A BALLET for All Masterclass will take place in Irvine as part of the World Ballet Series: "Cinderella" presentation.

versions and some of the retellings are very bizarre, and some are more familiar to the modern viewer," said Hartwick. "We add a few twists and there are some unexpected characters in the production that always make audiences laugh, which is music to our ears."

"Cinderella" is performed live by a multina-

tional cast of 40 professional ballet dancers with choreography by Marina Kesler. The show is accompanied by a score from Sergei Prokofiev, and the sets are handmade, as are the nearly 150 costumes in the production.

"It is a magical production for so many reason,"

See **Class**, page A9

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CONTACT US

Carol Cormaci
Executive Editor
carol.cormaci@latimes.com

Beth Raff
Advertising Manager
(424) 225-9928
beth.raff@latimes.com

10540 Talbert Ave.,
Suite 300 West,
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

Reporters:
Sara Cardine, Costa Mesa
sara.cardine@latimes.com

Lilly Nguyen,
Newport Beach
lilly.nguyen@latimes.com

Matt Szabo, Huntington
Beach and Sports
matthew.szabo@latimes.com

Andrew Turner, Laguna
Beach and Sports
andrew.turner@latimes.com

Eric Licas, Public Safety
eric.licas@latimes.com

Sarah Mosqueda, TimesOC
sarah.mosqueda@latimes.com

Send Letters to the Editor to erik.haugli@latimes.com. See Mailbag for guidelines.

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CONCERT

Continued from page A1

place in the Julianne and George Argyros Plaza from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. with doors opening at 1.

Five-piece band country rock and pop band Silver Lining will headline the concert with classic rock and country favorites. Founded by lead singer Tiffany Churchill, who has a background in community musical theater, and her husband, drummer Lewis Churchill, more than nine years ago, the band is known for exceptional three-part harmonies and creative arrangements. In addition, Will Beecher is on lead guitar, Phil Luna on keyboards and Rudy Lopez on bass. Last year's event featured pop and soul group Soul3Sixty.

Besides the tunes, the center will provide up to 50 free boxed lunches from

George's Café to veterans and active military members with valid identification. Rubio said it is a way for the center to show gratitude to service men and women, and a gesture she has a personal connection to.

"My grandfather was a WWII veteran, my father is a Vietnam veteran, and most of us have friends, family and colleagues that have first-hand experience with conflict and war. As important as it is to celebrate this brave choice, it is also necessary to recognize the need to build a supportive community for our veterans year-round," said Rubio. "That means broadening our understanding of what it means to be American and creating opportunities for genuine connection."

The complimentary boxed lunch from George's Café will include a full-size wrap, chips, cookie and



VETERANS AND military families enjoy an outdoor concert in the Julianne and George Argyros Plaza.

Courtesy of Segerstrom Center for the Arts

bottled water. Part of the Patina Restaurant Group, George's Café will also have sandwiches, salads and snacks for sale. Attendees are welcome to pack their own picnic lunches, but no outside alcohol, glass containers, tables or barbecues are permitted.

Rubio said Segerstrom Center remains dedicated to supporting veterans, soldiers and their families, and while this event is designed to celebrate them, the entire community is invited to join the celebra-

tion. "Over the past seven years of partnering with our communities and providing free public programs on the plaza, our community engagement department has learned that live music and an open dance floor is the best way to remind ourselves — and each other — that the arts give us all a place to connect," Rubio said.

sarah.mosqueda@latimes.com
Twitter: @SarahNMos

SHORE

Continued from page A1

neck in a 1996 accident, rendering him a quadriplegic.

He has since won three world adaptive surfing titles and six national titles. Billauer, who was inducted into the Surfing Walk of Fame in Huntington Beach last summer, is competing this week in the prone assist men's division.

He said he hopes this event draws some eyes that will ultimately lead to sponsorships for the athletes, who came to Huntington Beach on their own dime for an event that does not offer prize money.

"It's awesome to be able to have a platform like that, for people with various disabilities to be able to compete, get that competitive spirit and energy, that camaraderie and friendship," Billauer said. "It's something to look forward to and strive for."

"I mean, look, these guys are an inspiration. I truly believe that sponsors should be lucky and happy and chomping at the bit to get these people to represent their brand. It's just straight inspiring. The general public loves a good story. Especially with everything that's going on in the



Courtesy of ISA | Sean Evans

ROBERTO PINO of Brazil competes at last year's ISA World Para Surfing Championship. This year's starts today.

world, something that's inspiring like this is priceless."

Stone, 20, is a star in the sport, having won world titles each of the last three years. She has more than 200,000 followers on Instagram.

A congenital bilateral above elbow amputee, she moved to Oceanside a few years ago after growing up in Pennsylvania. Stone was inspired after attending a retreat hosted by famous surfer Bethany Hamilton, who survived a 2003 shark attack in which her left arm was bitten off to forge a successful career.

The ISA World Para Surfing Championship was held in Pismo Beach the last couple of years but moves closer to Stone's home break this year. As

the event kicks off, she said she isn't necessarily thinking of a "four-pea."

"I've trained really hard the past several years," Stone said. "I can be like, 'I've done the work, and now it's just about execution. My past does give me confidence, but I try not to let that get to my head. Just because I'm coming in on top doesn't mean I'm going to stay that way at all. I believe in putting in the hard work, not expecting everything to just be handed to me.'"

She will be competing in the women's stand 1 division, against other women who have an upper limb difference or challenge.

The United States is also the defending team champion at the event, though it encountered tough competition from countries like France, Spain and Brazil last year.

Billauer, now 44, is looking forward to competing as always, but also having people come to check out the competition and get more involved.

"When you see people that are amputees, blind, in wheelchairs, you're like, 'What are these guys doing?'" he said. "Then you watch them and you're like, 'Whoa.' It's not about feeling sorry for them. It's about going, 'You know, that's pretty rad.'"

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Disney reveals culinary lineup at new market

BY SARAH MOSQUEDA

While churros and Dole whips remain culinary draws at the Disneyland Resort, an influx of new dining options at the Downtown Disney District in Anaheim set to open in the near future will make choosing the best snack difficult, especially with an additional four culinary concepts announced earlier this month.

Plans are underway for Parkside Market on the west end of Downtown Disney. Similar to a food hall, the market will feature a curated collection of culinary concepts all under one roof for guests to enjoy.

GG's Chicken Shop will feature both crispy fried chicken and rotisserie chicken sandwiches and salads. The concept comes from the Boka Restaurant Group, with chef and partner Lee Wolen, of Michelin-starred restaurant Boka, at its helm. Named for Wolen's mother, Geri, the first brick-and-mortar location opened in Chicago this year, and the Downtown Disney shop will be the first on the West Coast.

Seoul Sister is a Korean-inspired concept centered around *bibimbap*, a Korean rice bowl dish. Executive chef Kelly Kim is behind the menu that goes beyond rice bowls to include noo-



Courtesy of Seoul Sister

PARKSIDE MARKET, coming to the Downtown Disney District at Disneyland Resort in Anaheim, will include food and drink from Seoul Sister (with bibimbap pictured above), Sip & Sonder, GG's Chicken Shop and a second-story bar.

dles, salads, a selection of appetizers and an Asian-inspired breakfast menu.

Black-women-owned Sip & Sonder will bring its Inglewood-based coffee brand to Parkside Market. Known for creative coffee drinks like Cardi Rose, a rose cardamom espresso latte, founders Amanda-

Jane Thomas and Shanita Nicholas will also offer frozen drinks and some Caribbean-inspired bites.

Parkside Market will be crowned by a second-story bar with both craft cocktails and mocktails to make the al fresco bar a place for everybody. The menu will include frozen lemonades,

frozés and some shareable cocktails.

The announcement of the four additional dining choices follows earlier announcements of culinary heavy hitters joining the happiest place on earth. Great Maple Modern American Eatery, with locations in Newport

Beach's Fashion Island, Pasadena and San Diego, is set to open inside Disney's Paradise Pier Hotel in early 2024.

Popular Taiwan soup dumpling chain Din Tai Fung, known for its xiao long bao will also open on the west side of Downtown Disney. Din Tai Fung's

South Coast Plaza location opened in 2014 and draws hours-long wait times for walk-ins.

Porto's Bakery & Cafe, another popular eatery known for attracting long lines, also has plans to open at Downtown Disney. The Cuban bakery began with a single bakery in Silver Lake and now has multiple locations throughout the Southland, including in Buena Park, a stone's throw away from Knott's Berry Farm. The bakery is known for its guava cheese roll pastries and *medianoche* sandwiches of pork, roast ham, Swiss cheese, mustard and pickles pressed into soft and slightly sweet traditional pan Cubano.

Chef Carlos Gaytán will also open a new restaurant and bar at Downtown Disney in 2024, in the space formerly occupied by Catal & Uva Bar. Gaytán was born in Guerrero, Mexico, but made a name for himself in Chicago when his restaurant Mexique earned a Michelin star in 2013, making him the first Mexican-born chef to earn the honor. Paseo will take over the remodeled Catal restaurant while Céntrico will be Gaytán's outdoor bar and dining concept.

sarah.mosqueda@latimes.com
Twitter: @SarahNMo

CLASS

Continued from page A8

said Hartwick.

But for all the magic, Hartwick said she realizes ballet may be intimidating for some audiences, and the World Ballet Series is dedicated to demystifying the art of ballet.

"Our task when we create new productions is to make it accessible using various techniques, such as dramatic effect to make it clear and fun and entertaining," said Hartwick.

For many years, ballet was perceived as "very exclusive," and Hartwick said she recalls feeling nervous attending a ballet production for the first time. She said Gorskaya-Hartwick Productions is interested in doing away with those stereotypes.

"We are truly growing those new audiences, and we hear so many good things from our audience members about how they thought ballet was something totally not for them, but we proved them wrong."

The Ballet for All Masterclass is

one way Hartwick said the company is working to make ballet fun and accessible.

"What we use, not only us but the whole new classical ballet, are certain gestures that offer you cues to what is happening and what is about to happen," said Hartwick. "There is a secret language of ballet and we have included that in the Masterclass."

Hartwick said registrants will decode the meanings behind the gestures and what they signify.

"You can tell from your body or hands 'the queen is coming' or 'I love you' or 'I don't love you'

or 'I promise to marry you,' Hartwick said. "There are so many things you can tell."

Besides learning the language of ballet, participants of the 45-minute masterclass will have the opportunity to meet World Ballet Series cast members and try their hand, or feet, at the challenge of the first position. Hartwick also said the class is as much fun for the instructor as it is for the attendees.

"The only challenge, for us, is deciding between the cast who is going to lead this particular Masterclass because they all

want to go," said Hartwick. "They are loving it."

The Ballet for All Masterclass will take place on Thursday at 3 p.m. and is free for registrants. No previous ballet experience is required, and the class location will be sent via email once registration is confirmed. Aspiring dancers can register at worldballetseries.com/masterclass.

"We all need a little bit of ballet in our life, one way or another," said Hartwick.

sarah.mosqueda@latimes.com
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Tier 1 | Fifty nine dollars per guest

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Tier 2 | Sixty nine dollars per guest

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Prime Rib of Beef & Pan Roasted Turkey Breast Combination Whipped Yukon gold mashed potatoes, house made stuffing
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Miso Marinated Chilean Sea Bass Soy glaze, coconut rice, stir-fried vegetables, mushrooms, lemongrass ginger beurre blanc

Tier 3 | Seventy nine dollars per guest

Prime Bone-In Rib Eye Sixteen ounce prime bone-in rib eye, whipped Yukon Gold mashed potatoes
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