

Daily Pilot

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Volunteers distribute holiday meals as officials stress pandemic caution



Raul Roa | Staff Photographer

VOLUNTEERS HELP load boxes of food into vehicles at the Thanksgiving food giveaway at the OC Fair & Event Center parking lot on Saturday.

The Power of One Foundation and Assemblywoman Cottie Petrie-Norris co-host a Thanksgiving food distribution at the Orange County fairgrounds on Saturday.

BY ANDREW TURNER

The holidays bring an infectious spirit of giving, something that community members have done well to observe for needy families from the start of the coronavirus pandemic.

As Thanksgiving approaches, the Power of One Foundation and more than 70 volunteers worked together to make sure that families would be able to put food on the table to celebrate it.

During Saturday's Thanksgiving food distribution at the OC Fair & Event Center parking lot in Costa Mesa, more than 1,000

turkeys were given away. Attendees who had not preregistered were still given USDA combo food boxes, including fruits, vegetables, dairy products and protein items.

"Assemblywoman [Cottie] Petrie-Norris helped raise money for our foundation to pay for the turkeys, so they made a dent in what we paid for the turkeys," Shawnee Witt, the operations director for the Power of One Foundation, said. "We got them wholesale, but we did purchase every turkey that we are giving away for Thanksgiving as a foundation."

Participants who came through the food distribution lines remarked how quickly

they were able to complete the process. More than a dozen volunteer stations were set up, and two lines separated those with appointments from those without them. Witt added that no one got turned away as long as there was still food to hand out.

"That was so fast," said Gabriela Gomez, 17, of Tustin, a senior at Beckman High School after her family received food. "The people were so happy."

Gabriela added that she was interested in volunteering for similar food giveaways in the future.

See **Meals**, page A7



Raul Roa | Staff Photographer

SOME CLAIM Orange County fairgrounds officials are being noninclusive by flying the LGBTQ pride flag without extending the same offer to other groups.

O.C. Fair's LGBTQ pride flags cause a flap

Officials approved flying the colorful standards as a sign of inclusiveness. Now, some are calling for their removal, claiming they represent special interests.

BY SARA CARDINE

When Orange County fairgrounds officials decided in 2019 to fly rainbow flags in various locations on the 130-acre Costa Mesa complex and leave them up year-round, the act was intended to be a sign that all are welcome.

In a May 23 meeting of the Orange County Fair & Event Center Board, then-director Andreas Meyer proposed raising the six-striped banner, a symbol of pride in the LGBTQ community, as a statement of inclusion.

"I wanted to bring this proposed resolution to the board ... to make a very visual expression to all members of the community that they are welcome on this property," Andreas told the panel.

"When you see a rainbow flag flying, the sense of safety that that gives you and the sense of welcome that gives you, for a community that can otherwise be invisible, is very, very important," he continued.

Board members approved the plan 6-1, with two members absent, and adopted a resolution recognizing the history and contributions of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities.

Not everyone agreed with the move, however. Three days after the colorful standards were hoisted outside the fair's administration building, the main entrance gate and the Pacific Amphitheater, one was stolen and had to be replaced.

Now, more than a year later, a group of citizens is making repeated requests for the flags to be removed, claiming they represent a special interest and are noninclusive to others

See **Flags**, page A7



Photos by Raul Roa | Staff Photographer

SIGNS PUT UP for the "Monument to the Unelected" art installation in the city of Orange. It is made up of signs with the names of losing candidates from every presidential election.

Costa Mesa woman places Trump sign on 'Unelected' display

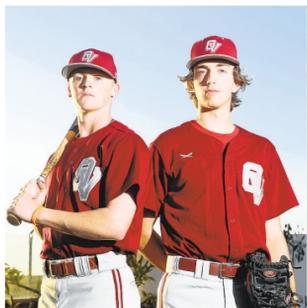
As part of the ongoing "Monument to the Unelected" art installation, a 59th sign reading "Trump" were to be placed in all eight sites across America at the same time marking his loss in the 2020 presidential election.

Nina Katchadourian's installation consists of 58 election signs bearing the names of losing candidates of every U.S. presidential election.

The work was originally commissioned in 2008 by the Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art for the exhibition "Seriously Funny." Since then, the muse-

See **Trump**, page A3

ALSO FROM THE DAILY PILOT:



Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

OCEAN VIEW BASEBALL PLAYERS NOT DONE WITH THE GAME THEY LOVE PAGE A6

COMMENTARY: AS THE NEW SCHOOL-BOARD CHALLENGES, THE KIDS WILL INSPIRE THEM PAGE A3

GUESTS BUNDLE UP AT THE OUTDOOR COAST FILM FESTIVAL PAGE A8

Laguna Beach's KX FM Radio invites local community members to 'Takeover' on the air

BY ANDREW TURNER

Laguna Beach-based radio station KX FM 104.7 is once again inviting community members to take over its airwaves as a fundraising event.

The 'KX Takeover' debuted just one year after the station came into being in 2012. The event allows for Laguna Beach locals and those associated with the station to jump on the air as guest hosts who DJ for their own time slot.

Listeners then have an opportunity to donate to the station and support their favorite DJ. The guest host who raises the most money for the station is then crowned the winner of the Silver Tongue Award.

The annual pledge drive is taking place through Tuesday this year, although segments from the KX Takeover will remain available at kxfmradio.org/kxtakeover. Donations can also be made through the Thanksgiving holiday.

KX FM founder Tyler Russell McCusker, who started the station eight years ago at the age of 23, said he continues to be humbled by the community response.

Russell McCusker called the fundraiser flat-



MERRY TUNGKA and Frank and Krista Arellano, from left, of Laguna Sound, take a break as they participate in the KX Takeover on-air pledge drive on at the KX 104.7 radio station in Laguna Beach on Friday.

Don Leach | Staff Photographer

tering "because people are taking time out of their lives to come on the air and raise money, not for themselves and not for their own cause, but actually to keep us afloat."

It is also an opportunity for different voices to be heard. Councilman Peter Blake let it be known at the most recent City Council meet-

ing that he would be participating in the KX Takeover. Blake will go on the air at 7 p.m. on Monday, and then Councilwoman Toni Iseman will be on for the 3 p.m. hour on Tuesday.

See **Takeover**, page A8

the holidays are happening at

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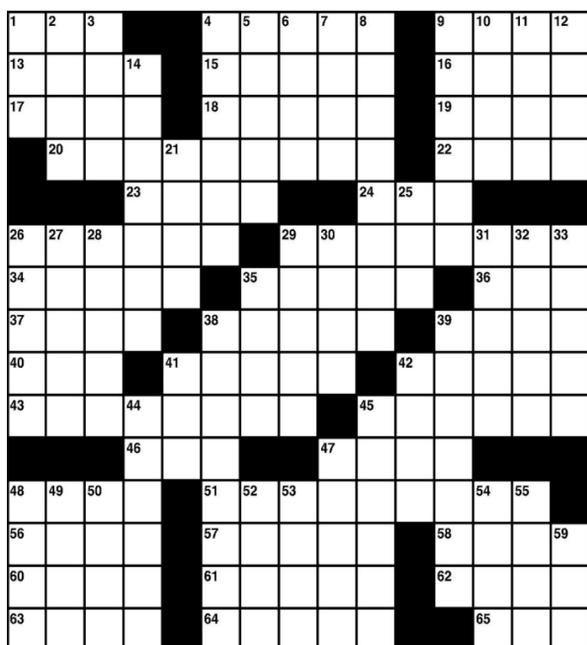
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THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Mathews



- ACROSS**
 1 Yakety-_: chatter
 4 "Yabba _ Doo!"
 9 Life _; duration of existence
 13 Word attached to pull or pop
 15 "Doe, _ , a female deer"
 16 Crossword definition
 17 Dig for ore
 18 Wisdom tooth, for one
 19 Monthly expense
 20 Postgraduate degree
 22 _ away at; erodes
 23 Philosopher Descartes
 24 Madrid Mrs.
 26 Rainbow _; freshwater fishes
 29 Tries
 34 "Deal or No Deal" host
 35 Bawled
 36 Mr. Potato Head piece
 37 Delete
 38 Like capitol roofs
 39 Swedish actress Andersson
 40 _ Antonio, TX
 41 One of the 12 Apostles
 42 Pretty woman at the ball
 43 Etched
 45 Helps with the dishes
 46 Do drugs
 47 Melody
 48 Injure with a dagger
 51 Well-known & long-remembered
 56 Fling forcefully
 57 Indian or Arctic
 58 Voting day: abbr.
 60 "You're only young _"
 61 _ out; eliminate gradually
 62 Make well
 63 Football maneuver
 64 More painful

SUDOKU

By The Mephram 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.

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

For answers to the crossword and Sudoku puzzles, see page A6.

- 65 Timid around others
DOWN
 1 _ Kippur; Day of Atonement
 2 Passionate
 3 Casino game
 4 Wayans & others
 5 Venerate
 6 Bart-k or Lugosi
 7 Outscore
 8 Took into custody
 9 Cry out in terror
 10 Tearful request
 11 Dad's sister
 12 Trawling items

- 14 Drafter
 21 Head of France?
 25 Ruby or burgundy
 26 _ Were the Days"; 1968 song
 27 Julius Caesar or Sophia Loren
 28 Being in debt
 29 Ready for battle
 30 Bleachers level
 31 Hartman & Collins
 32 Dining room necessity
 33 Animal pens
 35 Sheep shelter
 38 Evolves
 39 Under
 41 Faux _; blunder
 42 Wrap tightly
 44 Russia's dollars
 45 Marathon participant
 47 Razz
 48 Small store
 49 Fish in a casserole
 50 Curved bands of sparks
 52 Reverberate
 53 Equipment
 54 Kicks oneself for
 55 Slangy affirmative
 59 Underhanded

Tribune Media Services

COMMENTARY | SANDY ASPER

As the new Newport-Mesa Unified school board faces challenges, the kids will inspire them

I want to welcome the new members of the Newport-Mesa Unified School District Board of Education to the world of COVID-19 and all your future attendant problems: distance learning, IT issues, masks, sanitizing, master schedules and schools going in and out of shutdowns.

You will be in charge of navigating all these problems with a newly appointed superintendent.

I also want to welcome you to the world of children — big and small, old and young, privileged and not.

These are your people. They count. They matter. They are why you are here, and there are 20,000 of them — 20,000!

Think about that figure for a moment. The California cities of Barstow, Belmont and Blythe have about the same number of citizens as the school district. When you think about it that way you realize the responsibility you have.

You may have been

elected in one trustee area, but your responsibility is to the whole district and every one of those kids, the ones who live on the west side as well as the ones in Newport Coast, and all the kids in between.

In the olden days (about five minutes ago), the board spent a lot of time attending events and doing what some people call "the princess wave," which obviously means showing that they may enjoy the accolades that seem to go with the job.

But you, the new board, are not going to experience any of those feelings surrounding age-old "perks." You will be treated with respect but no longer worshiped. Transformation will be your goal always.

What will be new to the culture will be hard work. You will ask for and get all the information you need without delay. Every trustee will have equal access to information, and you will feel the

responsibility to understand it, and if you don't, you will be able to call anyone in the district to get the answers.

You will be way more open to listening to teachers. In fact you will constantly seek and get their advice because you know they hold all the information and wisdom about this district.

It all sounds daunting doesn't it? It is, but when you picture these students: the kindergartners with their little fresh faces, the middle school students trying so hard to be cool, and the high school kids trying so hard to grow up, you will realize not only the responsibility but the joy of knowing that you, yes you, are making a huge difference.

So everyone wishes you well in this city of kids, and know you will do your best.

SANDY ASPER is a Newport Beach resident who taught at the Newport-Mesa Unified School District for 40 years.

TRUMP

Continued from page A1

um has committed to show the installation every presidential election year.

"They're so particular to a North American landscape before an election. These things pop up everywhere ... I thought maybe there's a way to work with these election signs but in a way that actually makes us think about our

shared political past," Katchadourian said in an October interview.

This year "Monument to the Unelected" was located at eight sites in New York, Wisconsin, Ohio, Arizona and California.

Katchadourian invited eight first-time voters at each location to add the new sign.

For the installation hosted by Grand Central Art Center at the front lawn of an Orange private home, Costa Mesa

resident Lesly Bautista was asked to place the sign on Nov. 14.

"I felt really empowered to get the chance to be able to vote in such a crucial election and be able to change things," Bautista said.

The 21-year-old, who is majoring in business at Orange Coast College, added that she felt relieved about the election outcome and that her whole family was on the same page politically.

— From staff reports



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forum

MAILBAG

Tracking postal boxes

Last August, we began documenting a number of blue U.S. Postal mailboxes being removed from Huntington Beach's most traveled streets near where we live like Brookhurst and Bushard streets, Talbert Avenue and our main drag of Beach Boulevard.

Timewise, this was in keeping with the allegations that Trump and his embattled, sycophantic Postmaster General Louis DeJoy were pulling this stunt in many other U.S. cities.

Our H.B. head postal manager first claimed when we called him that "we were told to remove those mailboxes that aren't that busy." When we retorted that most all the time all of these mailboxes were in vital, busy areas and often so full no one could put in any more letters or parcels, he said it was "national and out of our hands even if we disagree with having the few remaining blue letter boxes removed. There really aren't that many standalone mailboxes in town anymore, except at our main stations like mine."

Orange County, whether red or blue, deserves better and to not have anyone attempt to shunt, delay or steal anyone's mail.

It's bad enough we've also documented the many citizens here who had their pro-Biden or pro-Trump home lawn signs stolen. No matter who one supported, the right to free speech on either side of the aisle should be fully allowed at all times.

Mike and Marlene Lano
Huntington Beach

Regretting a ballot choice

Tim Geddes's letter hit me where it hurts. While I was mourning the loss of a very competent Rep. Harley Rouda to uninformed voters and cheering the demise of President Trump, this while marveling that over 70 million could vote for such an unmitigated criminal, I discover that I'm one of the uninformed voters in local elections. I admit my misguided vote for Tito Ortiz based on a voter-guide bio that hid his blemishes. I failed to do the proper research that would have unveiled his Trump-like qualities. Let that be a lesson to all. It certainly is one for me.

Jim Hoover
Huntington Beach

Thanks for the election support

It is an honor of a lifetime to have been elected as the incoming Newport-Mesa Unified School District trustee for Area 3. A community is as strong as its engaged stakeholders, and Area 3, with an astonishing 90% voter turnout rate, has resoundingly proven to be a community that is engaged and prides itself on civic involvement.

My campaign was inspired and guided by an African proverb that goes as follows, "If you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go together." This is why for months, I met with parents, teachers, elected officials, candidates, coaches, leaders of bargaining units, district officials, community activists, homeowners association leaders, mental health professionals and school board trustees. I reconnected with former PTA colleagues and met new and upcoming leaders in the education industry. After listening to all of the stakeholders and hearing the needs of our

schools, neighborhoods and district staff, I was energized at the possibilities of working together to provide our two cities the best education possible for our kids.

I am extremely thankful to my family, friends, supporters and volunteers who helped me along the way. Their encouragement and energy provided me with the confidence and the stamina to carry my campaign across the finish line.

As a trustee, I pledge to work tirelessly and to advocate for Newport-Mesa's students, teachers, staff and families. The campaign season was just the start. Now the real work begins!

Carol Crane
Trustee-elect NMUSD School Board Area 3

Thoughts on Newsom and pandemic

Sorry, but I won't be modeling my behavior this Thanksgiving after Gov. Hypocrite and the legislators who traveled to Hawaii on a political junket.

Apparently while I am limited in Orange County to three households, to the outside (except for visits to indoor, frequently sanitized restrooms), to eating from single-server disposable dishes, for no more than two hours, and to collecting the names and addresses of those attending, it's OK for Mr. Newsom to eat, drink and be merry with a dozen pals at Yountville's French Laundry; and it's fine for boondoggling politicians to eat, drink, and be merry at a Maui resort while lobbying with the Independent Voter Project.

Do as I say, not as I do — that's the message from the privileged and powerful. Role models they ain't, hypocrites they are.

Shame on you, Mr. Newsom and shame on those elected officials in the midst of a pandemic surge.

Paul Watkins
Newport Beach

President Trump has flaunted his indifference to the coronavirus since the beginning. He encouraged and actually dared people to come to his rallies where most were maskless and avoided social distancing just to prove their fidelity to him. He totally mismanaged the pandemic responsible for hundreds of thousands of lives while Gov. Newsom attended one dinner at a world-famous restaurant to celebrate a friend's birthday, sat outdoors with a rather large group, breaking no state or public health rules at the time, and you would think from the public reaction that he has just murdered someone.

To have Orange County be one of the counties to make the most political noise out of it is the height of hypocrisy considering the way the coastal area has just elected three public servants, two by considerable margins who have openly flaunted disdain for the coronavirus and public health rules. Other elected officials in the coastal cities have also fought against the public health guidelines, leaving their constituencies vulnerable to the virus. This cavalier attitude toward COVID-19 guidelines has no doubt been partially responsible for the 67,000 cases and more than 1,500 deaths in Orange County.

Upon perusing the campaign donation forms that all candidates have to file, it becomes clear that many received money from out-of-town donors, a practice that, although not illegal, might be considered by some as questionable. Would it be naive to think that those donors, some of whom are developers, will encourage local and county officials to provide leadership that includes concern for public safety

and in so doing, help protect their investments?

Hopefully, the local and county officials have learned enough from their mistakes this last year to guide their constituencies to safe and healthful practices, acting as leaders rather than political opportunists.

Lynn Lorenz
Newport Beach

Steel campaign signs exceed limit

The Michelle Steel campaign has exceeded the post-election 10-day time limit to remove all of its temporary signs. On Nov. 14, just a cursory drive-by count revealed there were at least 35 of them on the median of Beach Boulevard between Warner and Indianapolis avenues, as well as in numerous other locations throughout the city of Huntington Beach. As of Nov. 19, at least 20 signs remain on the Beach Boulevard median, and more are still posted or standing in other areas.

Details matter. If candidate Michelle Steel can't understand and comply with simplistic city regulations regarding removal of campaign signs, then how can she be expected to comprehend the complex minutiae in congressional bills, resolutions and amendments? And how can she even be entrusted with the best interests of District 48 when she doesn't even clean up her own messes?

Rules matter too. Oh wait — righhht. Michelle Steel.

Mark Scott
Huntington Beach

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HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Ocean View High players not done with the game they love

BY ANDREW TURNER

Ocean View High School baseball players Jimmy Legg and Max Takacs had barely left the cradle when they were introduced to baseball.

Both said that baseball became a part of their lives by the age of 3, each picking up the game because of a family affection for it.

And now both have committed to play baseball for Division 3 schools, ensuring that their involvement with the sport will continue.

Legg, a switch-hitting middle infielder, has committed to Pomona-Pitzer, while Takacs, a right-handed pitcher and first baseman, is bound for Stevens Institute of Technology in New Jersey.

An enthusiastic grandma, Janet Clark, who followed both the Angels and the Dodgers and particularly loved longtime broadcaster

Vin Scully, according to her grandson, transferred that love of the game to Legg.

He had two older brothers, Jake and Joey, who both played the game. When he was 4, his mom, Jennifer, started a Wee-ball division at Ocean View Little League, which allowed kids younger than 5 to begin playing baseball before they matriculated to T-ball.

While the coronavirus pandemic shortened the season for high school baseball players in the spring, Legg, who stands at 5-foot-10 and weighs 170 pounds, has been able to keep his skills sharp with a travel ball organization called the So Cal Birds.

He made sure to give a shout-out to both his high school and the So Cal Birds when he announced his commitment on Twitter in late October.

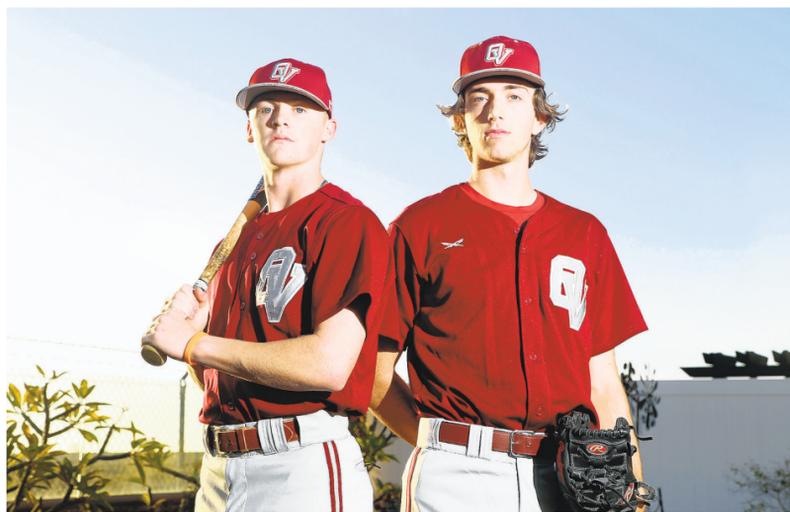
Legg, who said he has a 4.5 weighted grade-point average, indicated that he is

considering being a math major at Pomona-Pitzer, and he is planning for a future in baseball beyond his college days.

"I would like to stay in the game of baseball as long as possible, whether that be playing or in a front office position or a coach or something," Legg said. "Another thing about Pomona is they have, I believe, 10 alumni that are in MLB front office positions."

Academics also played a big role in Takacs' decision in choosing a college program. Takacs, who said he carries a 4.67 weighted grade-point average, committed to Stevens Institute of Technology on Nov. 8.

"I love numbers," Takacs said. "I've always been a fan of just statistical stuff, so when I look at my ... opportunities for majors, that [school] definitely aligns more with what I'm interested in in my daily life than anything else."



Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

OCEAN VIEW High baseball teammates Jimmy Legg, left, and Max Takacs have both committed to Division 3 schools and will now have a chance to continue playing in college.

Speaking of numbers, the 6-foot-4, 190-pound right-hander said that his fastball was clocked at 88 mph in recent weeks.

Takacs, who grew up playing ball in Fountain Valley Little League, was asked what his Little League self would think about the prospect of being able to play baseball in college.

"One of my biggest goals in Little League was to even

make the high school team, so I think even telling him that he would be playing varsity baseball for a couple years, that would be really exciting to him," Takacs said. "The fact that I would be playing in college, too, that would be like the coolest thing ever for Little League me."

Both Legg and Takacs said that they grew up as Angels fans.

If the popular choice for

Little Leaguers was to pick Derek Jeter as their favorite player in the early 2000s, Takacs made it sound as if today's choice is also a no-brainer.

"I think as a kid, Vladimir Guerrero was definitely my favorite player," Takacs said. "Now, it's probably [Mike] Trout. It has to be, right?"

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HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' WATER POLO

Newport Harbor High junior attacker Morgan Netherton commits to USC

BY MATT SZABO

Newport Harbor High junior Morgan Netherton did not have to look far in her search for a college water polo program.

Her father, Drew, and mother, Lauren, both at-

tended USC. Drew was an All-American water polo player in his senior year of 1994-95, helping the Trojans reach the NCAA championship match in both his junior and senior seasons. Lauren was a fourth-generation Trojan in her family.

Morgan now will mark the fifth generation. The family will continue to "Fight on."

Morgan Netherton said she has verbally committed to the USC women's water polo program.

"The day I finally told [my

mom] that I want to go to USC, I swear, I've never seen her jump that high," Netherton said.

"But a lot of it for me was that I wanted a really good team bond, and I feel like I would get that the best at USC. Once I announced my commitment, so many girls reached out and showed love and support for me, which was just so awesome. I can't wait to get up there and be with the team. I loved [associate head coach Casey Moon and head coach Marko Pintaric]. They were always making me feel like a Trojan."

The attacker has been a key contributor for Newport Harbor since she was a freshman, when she was one of four freshmen on varsity along with Taylor Smith, Lily Gess and Alex Love.

As sophomores, the young nucleus helped coach Ross Sinclair's Sailors (23-9) finish second in the Surf League and reach the CIF Southern Section Division 1 semifinals for the first

time since 2015, losing there 9-7 to eventual champion Laguna Beach.

Netherton was a first-team All-Surf League selection and second-team Daily Pilot Dream Team choice.

At USC, she would join Sailors senior center Olivia Giolas, who also recently signed with the Trojans.

"I'm not going to lie, growing up around USC and going to football games, of course it had an influence and impact on me," Netherton said.

"I mean, how could it not? USC is a special place ... I got to grow up in the midst of it and experience really cool things, and now I'm excited to go do that as a student-athlete."

Drew Netherton said his daughter, the second of four children, made her own decision. But Drew, who played his high school water polo at Hacienda Heights Wilson and also played at Fresno State before that program was eliminated in 1992, said he is happy for Morgan's success.

Drew, who played for the USA Water Polo men's senior national team for four years after college, still suits it up. He has played Masters-level water polo for the Olympic Club since 2003.

He said he values doing the little things for the team to win, and he sees that same quality in Morgan.

"I'm super-proud, but she's doing her own thing, for sure," said Drew, who coached many of the current Sailors in age-group water polo for Newport Water Polo Foundation before they entered high school.

"As a youth coach, one of the things I told the girls was, 'You don't have to score a single goal to be the best player in the pool' ... When my daughter makes that extra pass or shows good decision-making with the ball, that's where I'm really proud. She wants the ball in her hand and she wants to make sure it gets put to the right side of the pool."

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Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

NEWPORT HARBOR'S Morgan Netherton scores against Laguna Beach during the CIF Southern California Regional Division 1 semifinals on Feb. 29 at Segerstrom High in Santa Ana.

CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS

YAK	DABBA	SPAN
OVER	ADEER	CLUE
MINE	MOLAR	RENT
DOCTOR	ATE	EATS
RENE	SRA	
TROUTS	ATTEMPTS	
HOWIE	CRIED	HAT
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SAN	PETER	BELLE
ENGRAVED	RINSES	
USE	TUNE	
STAB	LEGENDARY	
HURL	OCEAN	TUES
ONCE	PHASE	HEAL
PASS	SORER	SHY

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

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MEALS

Continued from page A1

Eduardo Iniestra, who uses the stage name DJ Ka-boom, dropped beats throughout the event.

He said a friend told him about the Power of One Foundation, and he liked the work they were doing. Iniestra, who has been working with the organization since the summer, said it brings him joy to supply energy for the volunteers.

"A lot of people are struggling," Iniestra said. "When I saw what they were doing, I really wanted to get involved somehow. It's just been a beautiful thing to see them put so much effort into feeding the families."

Stacy Dabbas, 57, of Costa Mesa, a part-time special education aid at Estancia High School, was grateful for the opportunity to get food ahead of the holiday. The virus has impacted her family's ability to work.

"The other members of my family are not working



Raul Roa | Staff Photographer

ROWS OF VEHICLES line up at the Power of One Foundation Thanksgiving food giveaway.

thanks to our dear COVID, and so to have this opportunity to come and get a meal that will last several days is such a joy," Dabbas said. "I am so thankful. I was waving at all the people as I was driving by. It's wonderful."

Harley Rouda, the current U.S. representative for the state's 48th district, came to the event with a mask that read, "In Fauci We Trust."

Asked about Orange County returning to the purple tier and the accompanying curfew that went into effect on Saturday, Rouda said he believes the decisions are being guided by data and science.

Costa Mesa Mayor Katrina Foley, who also attended the event, warned that gathering can result in spreading the virus and that young people who have been infected are

sometimes asymptomatic.

Foley also encouraged people to get tested for COVID-19, the disease caused by the virus, before getting together with their families for the holidays.

"If you get tested, you reduce the risk," Foley said. "You don't eliminate the risk, but you reduce it."

The Orange County Health Care Agency reported 11 deaths due to the coronavirus and 806 new

infections in its latest data on Saturday. During the pandemic, the county has had 1,551 virus-related deaths and 69,142 cases.

Hospitalizations because of the virus are at 365, with 88 of those patients being treated in intensive care units.

An additional 13,213 tests for COVID-19 were reported within the last day, bringing the cumulative number of tests administered in the county to 1,327,852. The healthcare agency estimates that 57,723 people countywide have recovered after having the virus.

Here are the latest cumulative coronavirus case counts and COVID-19 deaths for select cities in Orange County:

- Santa Ana: 13,267 cases; 324 deaths
- Anaheim: 11,743 cases; 337 deaths
- Huntington Beach: 3,009 cases; 88 deaths
- Costa Mesa: 2,347 cases; 45 deaths
- Irvine: 2,349 cases; 14 deaths
- Newport Beach: 1,388 cases; 26 deaths

• Fountain Valley: 720 cases; 21 deaths

• Laguna Beach: 293 cases; fewer than five deaths

Here are the case counts by age group, followed by deaths:

- 0 to 17: 5,410 cases; one death
- 18 to 24: 10,274 cases; four deaths
- 25 to 34: 14,755 cases; 21 deaths
- 35 to 44: 10,983 cases; 41 deaths
- 45 to 54: 11,176 cases; 119 deaths
- 55 to 64: 8,312 cases; 213 deaths
- 65 to 74: 4,218 cases; 304 deaths
- 75 to 84: 2,247 cases; 337 deaths
- 85 and older: 1,719 cases; 511 deaths

Updated figures are posted daily at ochealthinfo.com/coronavirus-in-oc.

For information on getting tested, visit ochealthinfo.com/covid-19-testing.

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FLAGS

Continued from page A1

who use the O.C. fairgrounds.

A handful of constituents spoke Thursday in a regular meeting of the OC Fair & Event Center Board, though the item was not on the meeting's agenda.

"This board decided to fly this one particular special interest flag to make people feel included and welcome. However, there are also other groups that do not feel included or welcome," Costa Mesa resident Cindy Massaro said. "If only one single special interest group's flag is flown, other groups will continue to feel disenfranchised if their flags are not also recognized."

Massaro — who first came to the board with the opinion in July, asking for a Christian flag to be flown — suggested the

board consider opening OC Fair flagpoles to other banners or removing the LGBTQ flags.

Costa Mesa resident Kellie Avakian also began petitioning the board in July. She asked Thursday whether the panel might consider raising flags to other groups associated with the site, including 4-H, Future Farmers of America and the U.S. Equestrian Federation.

"We need to be having all flags that represent the fairgrounds on the flagpole, not just LGBTQ, which doesn't represent Orange County as a whole," she said.

Board members, prohibited by the Brown Act from responding to public comments made on non-gendized topics, have remained mum on the subject.

But during the May 2019 meeting when the LGBTQ flags were approved, director Barbara Bagneris,

who cast the lone dissenting vote, explained her reasoning.

"I have flags that I'm passionate about, too, that I'd like to see flown here. [But] I don't think there's enough poles for all the flags that could be flown," Bagneris said, adding such precedent could open the floodgates to more requests. "We are going down a slippery slope if we do that."

Meyer then maintained the LGBTQ pride flag is an expression of inclusivity to all.

Costa Mesa resident Aaron McCall — member of the nonpartisan civic engagement organization Indivisible OC 48, representing constituents in California's 48th Congressional District — said Friday he agreed.

"I thought it was really wonderful and a great testament to the fairgrounds, where people in charge feel they want to build a

community that is inclusive in Orange County," he said. "This is saying queer folks are part of our community and we love them and they're welcome."

McCall, who is gay, was part of the civic effort to have a pride flag flown over Costa Mesa on May 22, 2019, through that June in recognition of former San Francisco super-

visor and gay activist Harvey Milk, who was fatally shot in 1978. He said the flag is a symbol that a space is safe for all.

"It's about openness and unity," McCall added. "It's about loving yourself and loving others."

OC Fair & Event Center Michele Richards said by email Friday the issue has generated opinions on all

sides and it would be up to the board to determine whether it wished to reverse its 2019 decision.

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Chilly movie night in Laguna



Photos by Don Leach | Staff Photographer

GUESTS STAY bundled up as they watch three short films on opening night of the Coast Film Festival on the first fairway at The Ranch Golf Course on Nov. 12 in Laguna Beach.

Guests relaxed and stayed bundled up as they watched three short films on opening night of the Coast Film Festival on the grass of the first fairway at The Ranch Golf Course on Nov. 12 in Laguna Beach.

The first theme, "Snow and Mountains," was appropriate as guests wrapped themselves in blankets, down jackets and thick beanies, as they braved temps in the upper 40s, making many feel like they were in the cold environs on screen.

— Don Leach



AN OFFROAD TRUCK built for the elements was on display.



CHAD NELSON, executive director of Surfrider, Big Wave surf champion Greg Long and Olympic snowboarder Elena Hight, participate in a Q&A about "getting outside" in days of a pandemic.

AROUND TOWN

Virtual conference for 2021 climate advocacy set Dec. 5

The Citizens' Climate Lobby will host a virtual climate conference and nationwide lobbying push on Dec. 5 at 10 a.m.

The "United We Move" conference, which is open to the public and is free to attend, is expected to include discussions on a post-election overview of climate advocacy, breakout training workshops and keynote speakers Hahrie Han, a political science professor at Johns Hopkins University, and John Wood, Jr., the director of public outreach at Braver Angels.

The organization's Orange County chapter, which is based in Newport Beach, expects at least 30 people to participate.

"We're looking forward to attending this national event because the need for climate action is more apparent than ever," said Mark Tabbert, the leader for the Orange County chapter.

"This year, coastal Orange County has experienced more frequent high tide flooding which has damaged homes and businesses. We have also suffered through many more days of unhealthy air quality as a result of record wildfires. We are now preparing to push even harder in 2021 for passage of the national climate legislation we need."

For more information or to register, visit citizensclimate.lobby.org/december-2020-online-conference.

Susan G. Komen Orange County names vice president

Megan Klink, the chief executive officer for Susan G. Komen Orange County, is now the vice president for the organization's west region as part of a national reorganization effort.

The organization announced earlier this year that it would move from a federated business model of independent affiliates

to a single, united entity. A statement from Komen states that Klink now oversees community development and operations for 12 states, spanning from Hawaii to Colorado.

Komen OC's Robin Walker is also being elevated to executive director as part of this transition and will oversee a support team dedicated to Orange County.

"This transformation will allow us to gain efficiencies, while our local impact will continue," Klink said in a statement.

"The diversity and scale of the [Orange County] community makes us a critical population to help shape programs and services that will be implemented nationally. We will have team members here who will continue community outreach, and local events, like the MORE THAN PINK Walk, and will continue in Orange County to bring survivors, patients and families together and raise critical funds for local and national programs."

— From staff reports

TAKEOVER

Continued from page A1

"We think it's important for the radio station to be a voice of every single person in this community, no matter how different their views are," Russell McCusker said. "That's why we don't really care what the person has to say or what they want to do as long as they follow the legal rules that are set by the FCC."

Several hosts of the KX Takeover have already entertained listeners in various ways. Russell McCusker noted that one group of hosts played songs from movies and had listeners call in to guess the answer.

Ed Steinfeld played The Beatles' Abbey Road album in its entirety, saying, "You never get to hear an album the way that it should be heard, all the way through."

Bruce Rave, who said he was formerly responsible for West Coast and international artists and repertoire for Capitol Records, had a great lineup for his hour, bringing on Weird Al Yankovic, The Knack and Missing Persons bass player Prescott Niles

and others for discussion.

"It was a lot of fun to do it," Rave said. "The hour just flew by and I didn't get to nearly the amount of music or stories that I was planning on because like Tyler and I were joking after the show, I'm not going to tell Weird Al after two or three minutes, 'OK, got to cut you off. We got to go now.'"

"It was just really good to have a chance to chat with these people, who in turn showed some really nice love to the radio station for doing it."

Larry Nokes, a lawyer who previously won the Silver Tongue Award, decided to play country music in his return to the contest this year. He would not count himself out for the win, either.

"The money's still pouring in," Nokes said. "It's not over. We're still working."

Nokes added that he is a big fan of the KX Takeover, saying, "I love it because I like the station, and I really like what it does. I really like what it provides to the city. I want to help support in any way I can."

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