

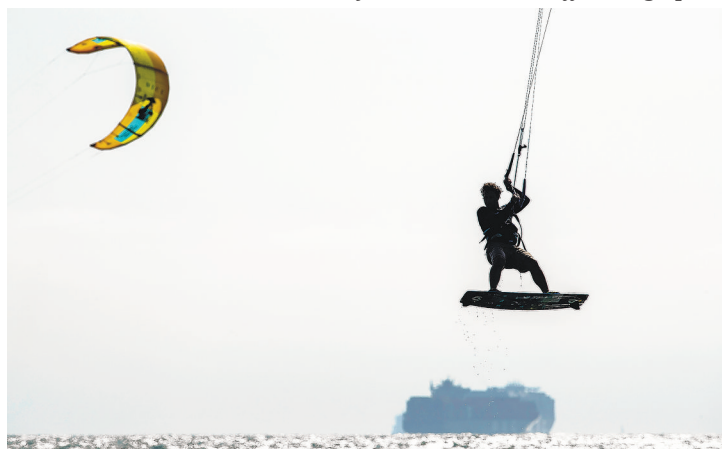
Daily Pilot

THURSDAY, MAY 13, 2021 /// Now including Coastline Pilot and Huntington Beach Independent /// dailypilot.com



Photos by Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

Surfers take to the skies



KITE SURFERS play on a breezy afternoon at Sunset Beach on Wednesday.



Murder trial in final stages

Closing arguments begin the case of Jason Becher, accused in the death of Marylou Sarkissian in Huntington Beach.

BY MATT SZABO

Jurors began hearing closing arguments Wednesday in the trial of a man accused of first-degree murder with special circumstances in the death of his ex-girlfriend in Huntington Beach.

Jason Becher of Anaheim, 46, could get life in prison without the possibility of parole if convicted in the 2016 death of his ex-girlfriend Marylou Sarkissian.

The special circumstance of lying in wait creates the enhanced penalty.

Prosecutors allege that Becher waited at Sarkissian's house on Litchfield Drive in the early-morning hours of Dec. 2, 2016, before entering, strangling her and beating her to death.

During the trial, which began April 26, Becher's public defender Irene Pai has not disputed that Becher caused the death of Sarkissian, who was 50. The defense has argued that it was a sudden act of rage, not a premeditated act.

Deputy Dist. Atty. Janine Made-

See **Trial**, page A4

L.B. OKs change to zoning code

The City Council votes in favor of the ordinance, which aims to streamline the approval process for proposed projects.

BY ANDREW TURNER

In hopes of streamlining the approval process for proposed projects while maintaining high development standards, the Laguna Beach City Council last week approved an amendment to the city's zoning code.

One of the key changes to the code is a reduction in the number of projects that would be required to go through the design review process. All such projects would still be subject to zoning plan checks.

In the past two years — since the City Council in 2019 asked the community development staff to address a problem with projects being slow to gain approval — the city's design review board has been asked to consider 249 appli-

See **Laguna**, page A2

Hate crime is charged in incident at Newport 7-Eleven

BY LILLY NGUYEN

A Costa Mesa man pleaded not guilty Tuesday to felony charges related to an assault earlier this month at a Newport Beach 7-Eleven that authorities are calling a hate crime.

Danny Martin Loros, 64, was arrested May 7 by the Newport Beach Police Department after allegedly throwing a liquor bot-

tle at the owner of the 7-Eleven on Balboa Boulevard when he was asked to leave the business. The bottle struck the victim in the stomach.

He is alleged to have used racial slurs and made "denigrating" comments about immigrants to an officer.

Loros is charged with one felony count of assault with a deadly weapon other than a

firearm and one felony count of violation of civil rights causing violent injury. He is also charged with one felony hate crime enhancement. He faces a maximum sentence of seven years in state prison if convicted on all counts.

Loros is in custody on a bail of \$60,000, according to jail records.

"Business owners should be

able to run their businesses without fear of being attacked because of how they look," Orange County Dist. Atty. Todd Spitzer said in a statement.

"Hate crimes are not only devastating for the individual victims, they are also devastating for the entire community because of the fear these kinds

See **Hate**, page A2

ALSO FROM THE DAILY PILOT:



Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

OLIVIA GRITZMACHER LIFTS NEWPORT HARBOR GIRLS' LACROSSE OVER RIVAL CORONA DEL MAR PAGE A3

FIREFIGHTERS MAKE SHORT WORK OF TWO-ALARM FIRE AT COSTA MESA LAUNDROMAT PAGE A2

BY SARA CARDINE

Anyone with a fondness for the city of Costa Mesa will have a chance on Saturday to prove it by joining hundreds of local volunteers as they roll up their sleeves for Love Costa 2021, a citywide day of service.

The annual event is an opportunity for individuals, churches and nonprofits to lend a helping hand wherever it is needed, in projects created and organized by city residents.

Community members can go online to lovecostamesa.org and sign up for one of nearly 40 service projects that will take place from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday. Work opportunities range from care package assembly and letter-writing campaigns to local painting and gardening projects.

Part of a broader "Love Our Cit-

"We want to encourage people to know their neighbors, to care for their neighbors and get to know the city, and this is an event that stimulates that."

— Ian Stevenson
Executive director of Trellis

ies" campaign that takes place in municipalities in Orange County and beyond, the local event is spearheaded by Trellis, a nonprofit collaboration of church leaders

See **Costa Mesa**, page A4



MURALIST JOSH MADRID and his 5-year old daughter Dali help retouch his artwork in front of the city of Costa Mesa Skatepark on Oct. 3, 2020.

Raul Roa
Staff
Photographer

Firefighters make short work of laundromat fire

BY SARA CARDINE

Firefighters from multiple agencies responded Tuesday night to a two-alarm fire at a commercial laundry business on the 2900 block of College Avenue in Costa Mesa that caused the temporary evacuation of individuals at a nearby business, officials reported.

Costa Mesa Fire & Rescue Capt. Joe Noceti said people who were not at the laundromat but who were in the building at the time of the fire called it in at 7:43 p.m. It is believed

the laundromat was unoccupied at the time of the incident.

“There was fire showing from the window of the unit of origin,” Noceti said Wednesday, describing how a vacant business in between the laundry company and a second business, where people were located, provided a barrier that allowed firefighters to temporarily evacuate those still inside.

Crews from Huntington Beach, Fountain Valley and the Orange County Fire Authority responded to the location, where

they made quick work of the blaze, knocking down the fire shortly before 8 p.m.

Noceti said responders were able to contain the fire to a rear portion of the building where the laundry business was located.

“Firefighters did a good job of keeping it to the area of origin and keeping it from spreading to the whole business,” he added.

The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

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Courtesy of Costa Mesa Fire & Rescue

INDIVIDUALS ON the 2900 block of College Avenue Tuesday were evacuated Tuesday after a fire broke out at a laundry business. The cause of the blaze was being investigated.

HATE

Continued from page A1

of crimes create,” Spitzer said.

A spate of hate crimes have taken place throughout Orange County in the last few months. The district attorney’s office has also filed charges in the case of an Orange man allegedly punched an elderly Asian couple in the head while they walked through a park in April and a Fullerton man that allegedly threw rocks at an Asian woman and her 6-year-old child in March.

Spitzer also announced the formation of a hate crimes unit on Tuesday. Officials said that since 2019, the district’s attorney’s office has prosecuted more than twice the number of hate crimes compared to the number of hate crimes prosecuted in the 25 years previous.

Court records indicate that Loros will appear in court on May 25 at the Harbor Justice Center in Newport Beach.

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LAGUNA

Continued from page A1

cations, 84 of which would have come off that board’s agendas had the streamlining measures been in place, according to Community Development Director Marc Wiener.

The city’s planning commission studied the proposed amendment twice, first in October and then in April, when it gave its recommendation to the City Council that it be adopted without modification.

In addition to expanding the list of projects eligible for an exception from design review, the ordinance allows for staff administrative review of minor projects, such as minor roof alterations that won’t affect view equity in the neighborhood and additions to single-family homes that don’t create a new upper story or increase the height of a residence above 15 feet from ground elevation.

Administrative design review shaves time off a project’s approval because it does not require a staff report, although hearings are held weekly and public notice is required.

The staff report presented to council noted a conservative approach will



Allen J. Schaben | Los Angeles Times

PATRONS DINE on Forest Avenue in Laguna Beach in 2020.

be taken in exercising administrative design review, and projects considered to be “controversial” will be referred to the appropriate design review body — either the Design Review Board or the Planning Commission.

Councilman George Weiss asked Wiener how a project would be interpreted as controversial by staff.

“The threshold would be fairly low, but at the same time, we’re not going to refer something if it’s what we view as being frivolous,” the community development director assured Weiss.

“While we want to streamline the process, it’s

very important to also still have that high level of review and allow for neighbors of projects to have the opportunity to be aware of what’s going on and provide input on that,” Wiener said.

There were also safety amendments made that exempt certain roofing, exterior wildfire resistant construction materials and seismic improvements to property from going through design review.

“We support the safety amendment exceptions and are pleased that the Planning Commission unanimously approved them,” said Tom Gibbs, a member of the city’s emer-

gency and disaster preparedness committee. “We commend this effort on simplifying and streamlining approval processes, including and most importantly public safety elements.”

“The safety exceptions do not impact any reasonable aesthetic or view concerns, and generally streamlining is an important focus to achieve public safety,” Gibbs added that the city does not want to discourage homeowners from undertaking safety measures, especially those related to fire risk.

One of the modifications the council made to the amendment involved accessory dwelling units, also known as “granny flats”: If a property already has one and its owner wants to expand the size of the residence, the proposed project will have to go through the regular design review process rather than an administrative review.

The list for referrals and exceptions to design review will be established by the council in a future resolution.

In their comments before approving the amendment on a 4-1 vote, some council members said they favored allowing a project to be appealed to the council after it

goes through administrative design review.

“I want [appeal] to council,” Councilman Peter Blake said.

“We’re trying to avoid [Design Review Board hearings]. Why would we send it to DRB? We’re trying to keep things from going to DRB, we’re trying to eliminate the weaponization of neighbors against each other and the politicization of the building process in this community and all the obstruction that has taken place over decades.”

Councilwoman Toni Iseman said she felt strongly that projects should go through design review, and that was the basis for her dissenting vote.

“I want to go on record that I wish I could support this,” Iseman said. “I believe that the design review board should be the experts to look at this, and I regret that there was not the ability to compromise on that.”

According to Mayor Bob Whalen, the amendment to the city’s local coastal plan must also be approved by the Coastal Commission before going into effect. “The timing depends on their calendar, but it could take up to a year,” he said.

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LA21-BM009

THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E.
Mathews

ACROSS

- 1 Like two peas in a _
- 4 _ God; natural disaster
- 9 Other _; besides
- 13 TV's "Family _"
- 14 Clip wool
- 15 New York's state flower
- 16 Baseball equipment
- 17 Finicky
- 19 Under the weather
- 20 Skimpy skirts
- 21 Turn over a new leaf
- 22 Come _; unravel
- 24 Org. for Hornets & Heat
- 25 Ending
- 27 Human _; people
- 30 Previn or Agassi
- 31 Dennehy or Keith
- 33 Lamb's father
- 35 TV series for David McCallum
- 36 Thin and angular
- 37 Sheltered bay
- 38 Neon or nitrogen
- 39 Feeling ho-hum
- 40 Bessie Smith's music
- 41 Haunted house sound
- 43 Dogs
- 44 O'Neill & Harris
- 45 Made clothing
- 46 Two strokes under par
- 49 Spin
- 51 Building site
- 54 Wasted
- 56 " _ in the Clowns"; Judy Collins song
- 57 Ridiculously small
- 58 Ambition; zeal
- 59 Utilizes
- 60 Talks

	1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13					14						15			
16					17						18			
19					20						21			
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30						31	32					33		34
35						36					37			
38					39						40			
	41		42						43					
									45					
46	47	48				49	50					51	52	53
54						55					56			
57						58					59			
60						61					62			

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.

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

For answers to the crossword and Sudoku puzzles, see page A4.

- persistently
- 61 Go in
- 62 Double curve

DOWN

- 1 Ring out
- 2 Preposterous
- 3 Dental degree letters
- 4 Have high hopes
- 5 Gregorian _; monastery music

- 6 Actress Garr
- 7 Feedbag morsels
- 8 Part of every wk.
- 9 Harry or Bess
- 10 Golfer's aim
- 11 As slippery _ eel
- 12 Bookish fellow
- 13 J. Edgar Hoover's agcy.
- 18 Forest home

- 20 Guy
- 23 Norms on the links
- 24 Orderly
- 25 Viper's tooth
- 26 Peruvian Indians
- 27 Tie up
- 28 Unwarranted
- 29 Rescued
- 31 Tree coating
- 32 Have regrets
- 34 Disarray
- 36 Leaves
- 37 Classic board game
- 39 21st-century U.S. president
- 40 Cereal holder
- 42 Passes on, as a message
- 43 Cowboy, at times
- 45 Sifting device
- 46 Detect
- 47 Pool water's color
- 48 Slimy residue
- 49 Marine bird
- 50 Judge's order
- 52 Small numbers
- 53 Six-pointers, for short
- 55 JFK's predecessor
- 56 Haul into court

Tribune Media Services

GIRLS' LACROSSE

Olivia Gritzmacher lifts Newport Harbor over rival CdM

BY ANTHONY CIARDELLI

In German, the “Macher” at the end of Olivia Gritzmacher's last name means “doer.” That isn't quite descriptive enough a word to explain what the Newport Harbor girls' lacrosse captain did Tuesday in her team's 13-7 Battle of the Bay victory over Corona del Mar.

Gritzmacher exploded for nine goals, including eight of the Sailors' first 10, on the way to their second victory of the season over Corona del Mar, the No. 2-ranked team in the CIF Southern Section Division 2 poll.

Her dominant performance came just one game after she scored seven goals in a victory over Edison. Gritzmacher prefers to credit the rest of her team for her success.

“It feels good,” Gritzmacher said. “I couldn't do it without my teammates. Like Joelle [Rothbard] getting on those draws, Cat [McCrory] getting on those

ground balls down low, Lucy [Valdes] getting all those saves. The stats don't show it, but the whole team is into it and that contributes to my success.”

The Sailors also had strong contributions from Rothbard, who scored three goals, and Valdes in goal. She made 11 saves in the winning effort.

Corona del Mar (12-4, 1-3 in the Sunset League) enjoyed standout performances from Frankie Garcia, who scored twice and Belle Grace, who added two goals of her own in the loss.

Garcia saw her team keep up with Newport Harbor (11-5, 3-1), which is ranked No. 5 in the CIF Southern Section Division 1 poll. It's a positive result after Newport Harbor defeated CdM 13-3 earlier in the season.

“I think we got possession a lot more than we did in the last game,” Garcia said. “We played with them. We were more composed and calm, much less frantic. We still need to work on playing as a team.

We need to work on trusting each other.”

After Gritzmacher scored the game's first goal just over 90 seconds in, Haile Franklin and Belle Grace scored back-to-back to give CdM an early 2-1 lead.

Gritzmacher scored twice more to take the lead back for Newport Harbor before Garcia scored to tie the game 3-3. Newport Harbor went into halftime leading 10-7, with eight of those goals off the stick of Gritzmacher.

CdM head coach Jessica Murray complimented her opponent's standout performance but remained proud of her team's effort in the loss.

“She's fast,” Murray said of Gritzmacher. “She's talented. She's just a really good player and she works for it. I was very impressed by her play today.

“I think when you look at the stats from the first game we played them; our draw controls were about even, we didn't give up nearly as many eight meters. I really



NEWPORT HARBOR players celebrate a 13-7 win over Corona del Mar during a Sunset League match on Tuesday.

Scott Smeltzer
Staff
Photographer

think our girls came and played hard. I'm proud of what they did today.”

The teams started the second half at a more methodical pace until Valdes came up with a critical point-blank save on Garcia, which swung the momentum back in Newport Harbor's favor.

In the next minute of play, Rothbard scored two goals to extend the Sailors' lead to 12-7.

Valdes wasn't finished. With her team up 13-7, she

made three more point-blank saves to seal the victory for Newport Harbor. For the sophomore goalie, aggression is the key.

“Making the first save point-blank is always just like ‘Wow,’ ” Valdes said. “Having it right there again for the rebound, you just have to go crazy. I think I ran out at the girl and hit her with my stick, sometimes I block it out afterward.”

Newport Harbor head coach Brooke Martini has

enjoyed seeing the growth of her young goalie.

“A lot of the girls on our team are building their confidence,” Martini said. “She's only a sophomore and she's doing amazing as a goalie. She's saving us so much and her confidence is building too.”

CdM hosts Edison Thursday, while Newport Harbor hosts Los Alamitos.

ANTHONY CIARDELLI is a contributor to Times Community News

GIRLS' TENNIS

Huntington Beach and CdM earn Open Division status in CIF

BY MATT SZABO

The Huntington Beach High School girls' tennis team already earned its status as the top squad in the area after winning the Surf League title.

Now the Oilers will hit the road to play one of the other best teams that the CIF Southern Section has to offer.

Huntington Beach made the eight-team Open Division for the first time in program history, it discovered when the section released playoff brackets on Monday. Corona del Mar is also in the Open Division, and also faces a tough task in the first round.

Among other local girls' tennis playoff teams, Laguna Beach made the post-season in Division 1, while Fountain Valley and Sage Hill are seeded Nos. 2 and 3 respectively in Division 3. Estancia and Costa Mesa each made the playoffs in Division 5.

All matches before the finals are scheduled for 3 p.m.

Huntington Beach (14-0) travels to play No. 2 seeded Marmonte League champion Thousand Oaks Westlake (13-0) in the first round of the Open Division on Friday. Surf League singles champion Kaytlin Taylor paces the Oilers, who also boast the league doubles champions in sisters Cindy and Yen Nhi Huynh.

Corona del Mar (12-2) plays at top-seeded Palos Verdes Peninsula (5-1) in another Open Division first-round match Friday. The Sea Kings' top doubles team of Reece Kenerson and Jane Paulson, Surf League finalists, has lost just once this year. Corona del Mar freshman Sienna Brooks has



Don Leach
Staff Photographer

CINDY HUYNH, shown playing against Corona del Mar on April 27, is a key player for the Huntington Beach High School girls' tennis team.

been surging at the end of the season and made the league finals in singles.

Peninsula was the Bay League co-champion and also won last year's Open Division crown.

Laguna Beach (9-5), the Wave League runner-up, plays at Coastal Canyon League champion Camarillo (6-0) in the first round of the Division 1 playoffs on Wednesday. The Breakers have a strong singles lineup, including Wave League singles champion Sarah MacCallum, her younger sister Jessica as well as Kaitlyn Smith.

Fountain Valley (13-4) hosts either Long Beach Millikan or Oxnard in the first round of the Division 3 playoffs Wednesday. The No. 2-seeded Barons, the Wave League champions, used a team approach and strong doubles play to win their first league title since 1991 this year.

Coach Harshul Patel said that his top player, Veronica Trinh, will be fine for the playoffs after missing much

See **CIF**, page A4

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NOTICE OF HYBRID VIRTUAL/IN-PERSON PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING PROPOSED INCREASE TO SEWER SERVICE CHARGES

NOTICE is hereby given that the City Council of Laguna Beach will conduct a hybrid virtual/in-person public hearing on Tuesday, June 29, 2021, at 5:00 p.m., to consider increases to the sewer service charge imposed on real property within the City of Laguna Beach, excluding properties within the boundaries of the South Coast Water District. The proposed charges are apportioned to the various use categories based upon wastewater discharge quantities and discharge constituents for the various types of uses and the availability of sewer facilities for vacant lots. The amount of the charge is based upon adjustments needed to support funding the wastewater operations in the sewer service area and the capital improvement programs for the City's collection system and the wastewater treatment infrastructure. The improvements are needed to replace aged sewer systems infrastructure with the goal of reducing sewer spills. The sewer user charges are imposed annually and collected through the property tax rolls.

Improvements to the City's wastewater collection and treatment plant systems are prioritized based on field inspections, service history, and age of infrastructure. The annual Capital Improvement Program identifies improvements to sewer lines, sewage lift stations, and the City's portion of improvements to the regional wastewater treatment system operated by the South Orange County Wastewater Authority. The cost for the City to complete the next ten years of planned collection system improvements is about \$62 million and about \$18 million for wastewater treatment plant improvements. The City continues to make significant improvements to the aging system that includes replacing and rehabilitating sewer pipes, rehabilitating lift stations, installing odor control infrastructure, and adding improvements to make the system more reliable to reduce sewer spills.

To keep on pace with the improvements plan, sewer user charges are proposed to be increased by 6% in each of the next five years. A question-and-answer Zoom meeting will be held as follows:

Review Meeting on Wednesday, May 26, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://lagunabeachcity.zoom.us/j/92045018216?pwd=TmFFZmZuZWFiSjS2czOUk4RjhoVTY2UT09>
Meeting ID: 920 4501 8216
Passcode: Sewer
One tap mobile
+16699009128,,92045018216# US (San Jose)

The Laguna Beach City Council will hold a hybrid virtual/in-person Public Hearing to consider the proposed increase to sewer service charges. Protests to the proposed increase in sewer service charges must be delivered in writing to the City Clerk, City of Laguna Beach, 505 Forest Avenue, Laguna Beach, California 92651, prior to the beginning of the public hearing on June 29, 2021. If written protests against the proposed increases are presented by a majority of owners of affected parcels, the increases will not be imposed. Please include the parcel number shown on this notice with any correspondence or written protest.

Comments may be made via teleconferencing during the hearing, in writing prior to the hearing (when emailed or mailed to the City Clerk's office), or in-person in the Council Chambers. Please note that all members of the public must wear a face covering while in the Council Chambers, including while speaking, and must leave the Council Chambers immediately after speaking. Written correspondence should be delivered to City Hall by noon the day before the hearing; however, in order to allow sufficient time for Councilmembers and staff to review and consider your comments, it is recommended they be submitted to the City Clerk's office on or before 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 16, 2021.

Procedures for participating in the hybrid virtual/in-person meeting are on the City's website linked to the meeting agenda.

If approved, the proposed sewer service charge will increase an average of \$4.31 per month; ranging from \$3.82 per month in the first year to \$4.83 per month in the fifth year for single-family homes. Please see the Proposed Residential Sewer User Charges table on page 3. Additional information regarding the Wastewater System Financial Plan can be reviewed at www.clbwq.net by clicking on "Proposed Sewer User Charge Information."

Questions or comments regarding the proposed rate increases should be directed to the City of Laguna Beach Water Quality Department at (949) 497-0378 or waterquality@lagunabeachcity.net.

Proposed Residential Sewer User Charges						
Description	Current FY 2020/21 5%	Proposed FY 2021/22 6%	Proposed FY 2022/23 6%	Proposed FY 2023/24 6%	Proposed FY 1024/25 6%	Proposed FY 2025/26 6%
Unimproved Lots - Per Parcel						
Annual Charge	\$552.30	\$585.44	\$620.56	\$657.80	\$697.27	\$739.10
Monthly Charge	\$46.03	\$48.79	\$51.71	\$54.82	\$58.11	\$61.59
Difference in Previous Annual Charge	\$26.00	\$33.14	\$35.13	\$37.23	\$39.47	\$41.84
Difference in Previous Monthly Charge	\$2.17	\$2.76	\$2.93	\$3.10	\$3.29	\$3.49
Ultra-Low Water User Single Family Units - Per Unit						
Annual Charge	\$625.80	\$663.35	\$703.15	\$745.34	\$790.06	\$837.46
Monthly Charge	\$52.15	\$55.28	\$58.60	\$62.11	\$65.84	\$69.79
Difference in Previous Annual Charge	\$30.00	\$37.55	\$39.80	\$42.19	\$44.72	\$47.40
Difference in Previous Monthly Charge	\$2.50	\$3.13	\$3.32	\$3.52	\$3.73	\$3.95
Single Family Units - Per Unit						
Annual Charge	\$764.40	\$810.26	\$858.88	\$910.41	\$965.04	\$1,022.94
Monthly Charge	\$63.70	\$67.52	\$71.57	\$75.87	\$80.42	\$85.24
Difference in Previous Annual Charge	\$36.04	\$45.86	\$48.62	\$51.53	\$54.62	\$57.90
Difference in Previous Monthly Charge	\$3.00	\$3.82	\$4.05	\$4.29	\$4.55	\$4.83
Condominiums - Per Unit						
Annual Charge	\$751.80	\$796.91	\$844.72	\$895.41	\$949.13	\$1,006.08
Monthly Charge	\$62.65	\$66.41	\$70.39	\$74.62	\$79.09	\$83.84
Difference in Previous Annual Charge	\$36.00	\$45.11	\$47.81	\$50.68	\$53.72	\$56.95
Difference in Previous Monthly Charge	\$3.00	\$3.76	\$3.98	\$4.22	\$4.48	\$4.75
Apartments (2 Units) - Per Unit						
Annual Charge	\$675.15	\$715.66	\$758.60	\$804.11	\$852.36	\$903.50
Monthly Charge	\$56.26	\$59.64	\$63.22	\$67.01	\$71.03	\$75.29
Difference in Previous Annual Charge	\$32.04	\$40.51	\$42.94	\$45.52	\$48.25	\$51.14
Difference in Previous Monthly Charge	\$2.67	\$3.38	\$3.58	\$3.79	\$4.02	\$4.26
Apartments (3 or More Units) - Per Unit						
Annual Charge	\$619.50	\$656.67	\$696.07	\$737.83	\$782.10	\$829.03
Monthly Charge	\$51.63	\$54.72	\$58.01	\$61.49	\$65.18	\$69.09
Difference in Previous Annual Charge	\$30.00	\$37.17	\$39.40	\$41.76	\$44.27	\$46.93
Difference in Previous Monthly Charge	\$2.50	\$3.10	\$3.28	\$3.48	\$3.69	\$3.91

Proposed Commercial Sewer User Charges						
Description	Current FY 2020/21 5%	Proposed FY 2021/22 6%	Proposed FY 2022/23 6%	Proposed FY 2023/24 6%	Proposed FY 1024/25 6%	Proposed FY 2025/26 6%
Commercial Light - Annual Charge						
Charge per 100 cubic feet (ccf) of water consumption	\$4.26	\$4.52	\$4.79	\$5.07	\$5.38	\$5.70
Minimum Annual Charge per parcel	\$751.00	\$796.06	\$843.82	\$894.45	\$948.12	\$1,005.01
Commercial Medium - Annual Charge						
Charge per 100 cubic feet (ccf) of water consumption	\$6.53	\$6.92	\$7.34	\$7.78	\$8.24	\$8.74
Minimum Annual Charge per parcel	\$751.00	\$796.06	\$843.82	\$894.45	\$948.12	\$1,005.01
Commercial Heavy - Annual Charge						
Charge per 100 cubic feet (ccf) of water consumption	\$9.42	\$9.99	\$10.58	\$11.22	\$11.89	\$12.61
Minimum Annual Charge per parcel	\$751.00	\$796.06	\$843.82	\$894.45	\$948.12	\$1,005.01

Daily Pilot

A Times Community News publication incorporating the Huntington Beach Independent, Coastline Pilot, Orange Coast Daily Pilot and the Newport Harbor News Press combined with Daily Pilot

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46 yrs of adventure 4 sale!!! Fine furniture, piano, kitchen & dining, books, Knick knacks (Il-ladros etc), linens & much more. 20422 Craimer Ln. Huntington Beach

MERCHANDISE 800

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2020 Electric Golf Cart 4 Sale

Almost new Evolution Classic 4 Plus luxury 4-person electric golf cart. Bought Oct 2020. Driven 85 miles. Silver body, black top, black/white seats. \$7000 OBO. 202-660-2294 info/pics.

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(Costa Mesa, CA). BA in English or rtd, +1yr exp as Tutor or rtd. Tutor upper elem math in Chinese to elem students. EOE Mail resume to: Renascence School International, 2987 Mesa Verde East, Costa Mesa, CA 92626.

Tutor

(Costa Mesa, CA). BA in English or rtd, +1yr exp as Tutor or rtd. Tutor math & science in Chinese to elem students. Mail resume to: Renascence School International, 2987 Mesa Verde East, Costa Mesa, CA 92626. EOE

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Legal Notices

Legal Notices

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:

SCOTT DOUGLAS RAPHAEL
30-2021-01198318-PR-PW-CJC

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: **SCOTT DOUGLAS RAPHAEL**

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by **LAURA KNOX** in the Superior Court of California, County of **ORANGE**.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that **LAURA KNOX** be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on June 24, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. in Dept. C8

located at
700 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE WEST,
SANTA ANA, CA 92701

(1) If you plan to appear, you must attend the hearing by video remote using the court's designated video platform; (2) Go to the Court's website at <http://www.occourts.org/media-relations/probate-mental-health.html> to appear for probate hearings and for remote hearing instructions; (3) If you have difficulty connecting to your remote hearing, call 657-622-8278 for assistance.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for the Petitioner: DAVID N. SHAVER, ESQ.

LAW OFFICES OF BUNT & SHAVER, LLP
801 N. PARKCENTER DR., STE 103
SANTA ANA, CA 92705-3526
Published in the Published in the NEWPORT HARBOR NEWS PRESS combined with the DAILY PILOT on: 5/7, 5/13, & 5/14/2021
BSC 219893

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:

JAMES J. TAPPER
30-2021-01199651-PR-LA-CJC

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: **JAMES J. TAPPER**

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by **JESSICA DAHL & JAMESINA SCOTT** in the Superior Court of California, County of **ORANGE**.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that **JESSICA DAHL & JAMESINA SCOTT** be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on July 1, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. in Dept. C8

located at
700 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE WEST,
SANTA ANA, CA 92701

(1) If you plan to appear, you must attend the hearing by video remote using the court's designated video platform; (2) Go to the Court's website at <http://www.occourts.org/media-relations/probate-mental-health.html> to appear for probate hearings and for remote hearing instructions; (3) If you have difficulty connecting to your remote hearing, call 657-622-8278 for assistance.

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IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for the Petitioner: DIANE H. PARRIOTT, ESQ.

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CIF

Continued from page A3

of the season with an ankle injury. Trinh and Skylar Ngo were Wave League doubles finalists for the Barons.

No. 3-seeded Sage Hill (15-1), the San Joaquin League champion, could be headed for a CIF semifinal showdown with Fountain Valley. The Lightning open at home Wednesday against the winner of Tuesday's wild-card match between

Xavier Prep and Eastvale Roosevelt.

"We've worked really hard," Sage Hill coach Whit Kenerson said. "We've done a lot of Saturday practices, and our top girls are playing with the boys a lot. They're getting used to pace and movement and reacting a lot better."

Sage Hill's Kana Byrd and Ava Herin beat teammates Courtney Davis and Eva Ro in the San Joaquin League doubles title match.

In Division 5, Estancia

(7-3) hosts Chino (7-4) in a first-round match Wednesday. Both teams finished runner-up in their respective leagues, the Eagles in the Orange Coast League and Chino in the Mt. Baldy League.

Costa Mesa, which finished third in the Orange Coast League, travels to play La Puente Nogales in a Division 5 wild-card match Tuesday.

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COSTA MESA

Continued from page A1

and residents who work together on citywide issues.

"The idea is to create a day where the community can really love on the city," said Ian Stevenson, executive director of Trellis. "We want to encourage people to know their neighbors, to care for their neighbors and get to know the city, and this is an event that stimulates that."

Love Costa Mesa begins with an 8 a.m. drive-through rally at Vanguard University, where participants can pick up a free T-shirt and snacks and get directions to their individual projects. Then, it's off to work.

Costa Mesa resident Ralph Hulett volunteers with Trellis and has participated in the service day as a project leader since its inception in 2018.

This year, he'll oversee 10 volunteers who've signed up to help clear the overgrown yard of an older neighbor unable to do the work himself.

"Our mission is to help a neighbor transform his property into something beautiful," he said.

"Especially with the past 12 months and the way things have gone, it's really important to let people know there are people out there who care about them and who want to help."

City officials and staff members will also participate Saturday. Costa Mesa Mayor Pro Tem Andrea Marr will work with a team of volunteers to clear trash and refurbish the gazebos at TeWinkle Park, where she walks her dog Lincoln in



Raul Roa | Staff Photographer

ALINE TOLER and her daughter Summer, 5, of Costa Mesa help paint a crosswalk in Costa Mesa on Oct. 3, 2020.

the mornings.

"[Love Costa Mesa] brings people together and it really creates a sense of ownership, where people who live in the city feel responsible for their neighbors and beautifying the city," she said Wednesday.

Councilman Manuel Chavez hasn't missed the day of service since it started. This year, he will help beautify Shalimar Park on the city's westside. It's all part of making Costa Mesa an even better place to live.

"I personally have the most joy when I'm on the ground at community events, and this is really emblematic of that,"

Chavez added.

The day concludes with an outdoor celebration lunch at Christ Lutheran Church, where treats from Costa Mesa restaurants will be on the menu.

Stevenson said the lunch lets people share their experiences and, hopefully, form bonds that will lead to future collaborations.

"There's not another day like it," he said.

The event's drive-through rally takes place from 8 to 9 a.m. Saturday at Vanguard University, 55 Fair Drive.

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TRIAL

Continued from page A1

ra painted a different picture of Becher and his actions as she addressed jurors Wednesday.

She replayed several menacing voicemails left for Sarkissian and her family. Sarkissian filed for a restraining order after an August 2016 incident where she alleged that Becher tried to choke her with a bath towel before she pepper-sprayed him.

She also had a security system installed the day before she died.

"If you believe that when he left for downtown Huntington Beach and told his uncle it was going to be a bad day for Marylou, that at that point he had already planned and intended to kill her later on that night, that would be sufficient for premeditation and deliberation," Madera told jurors.

"If you thought, 'No, actually, I think he created the plan to kill her when he got kicked out of Huntington Beach Beer Co. and the victim didn't take his call' ... that would be premeditation. Or maybe you think, 'Actually, I think when he got into her backyard waiting for his opportunity to attack, that's when he established the premeditation and deliberation to kill this victim.'"

"As long as you all agree that the premeditation and deliberation was done before completing the act that caused her death, you don't have to agree on the exact moment."

Madera reviewed testimony from a bartender at G's Boat House and a manager at Huntington Beach Beer Co. Becher and a friend were at both locations on that December night, but were ultimately kicked out around 10:30 p.m.

She alleged that Becher then went to Sarkissian's home, where he waited outside before entering at 12:15 a.m., when she disarmed the master bedroom sliding door to let her dog out. The door opened and closed multiple times after that between then and 2:24 a.m., according to security records, while, Madera said, Becher was cleaning up after the crime.

"It is December, it is colder ... and this woman is very paranoid and determined to be safe," Madera said. "She's not going to leave her master slider open for almost 45 minutes in the middle of the night. That is the point at which the defendant grabs her."

The front door opened and closed at 2:59 a.m. Sarkissian's son, Robert, found his mother's body that afternoon.

Becher drove to his sis-

ter's house in Oregon before turning himself in.

Pai maintained during her portion of the closing arguments that there was plenty of reasonable doubt involved. She told jurors that she believed that Becher was guilty of second-degree murder or voluntary manslaughter, but not first-degree murder, especially with the "lying in wait" special circumstance.

"All of their evidence is circumstantial evidence," Pai said. "If there are two reasonable interpretations, one that points toward innocence and one that points toward guilt, you must choose the one that points toward innocence."

Pai noted that Becher had been accusing Sarkissian for months of stealing money off the top from his marijuana business.

"If you believe a reasonable interpretation is that my client wanted to get his money, then that tends to show he did not have an intent to kill her," Pai said. "He needed her alive to get his money back. By killing her, he lost it all, obviously."

The closing arguments in his trial are set to resume Thursday morning in Department C35 of Orange County Superior Court in Santa Ana.

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CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS

P	O	D	A	C	T	O	F	T	H	A	N
F	E	U	D	S	H	E	A	R	R	O	S
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