

Daily Pilot

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2020 /// Now including Coastline Pilot and Huntington Beach Independent /// dailypilot.com



Photos by Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

A SKATEBOARDER cruises south along the bike path toward the Newport Pier on Friday. Many beachgoers in Newport Beach did not wear masks.

Beach cities anticipating large crowds for hot holiday weekend

BY LILLY NGUYEN

With temperatures expected to reach highs of anywhere between 15 to 20 degrees or higher than average this Labor Day weekend, Orange County coastal cities are keeping beaches open but expanding staff to prepare for the expected surge of beachgoers.

Friday was the first day of a four-day heat wave, and forecasters at the National Weather Service predicted that the highs on Saturday and Sunday would become “dangerously hot.” An excessive heat warning will be in place across the region. Beaches will remain open in the cities of Newport Beach, Huntington Beach and Laguna Beach as COVID-19 cases in Orange County trend downward.

The Orange County Health Care Agency reported 313 new cases and 24 deaths on Friday, though the county remains within the thresholds of the new state guidelines to move into the next tier. The agency reported Orange County has a seven-day average of 5.6 daily cases for every 100,000 residents and a 6% testing positivity rate.

A total of 49,258 cases of the coronavirus



See **Beach**, page A3 **A WOMAN** folds up her tent as beachgoers hang out on Friday in Newport Beach.

Video leads to arrest of caretaker suspected of elder abuse

BY SARA CARDINE

Costa Mesa Police Department officers on Tuesday arrested a caregiver on suspicion of elder abuse after she was allegedly captured on surveillance video repeatedly beating a 91-year-old Costa Mesa woman left in her care.

Rima Abikaram, 50, of Fullerton was a friend of the family in 2015, when she was hired to provide in-home care for the elderly woman, who was confined to a medical bed, according to a re-

lease issued Thursday by the police department.

Another caregiver for the woman reportedly became concerned for the patient after noticing she appeared to have sustained visible injuries and shared her concerns with the victim's family, the release stated.

“The family subsequently installed a hidden camera in Jane Doe's room to monitor the victim's care,” the release continued. “Ultimately, the hidden camera revealed Abikaram abusing and striking the victim.”

Upon police review, it was found that the suspect had struck the elderly woman over 150 times in a four-day period.

Abikaram — whose Facebook page lists her surname as Abi Karam and her hometown as Beirut, Lebanon — was terminated from the position on Aug. 18, at which time the victim's family called the Costa Mesa Police Department to file a report of elder abuse.

Officers investigated the incident and reviewed the camera footage, as well as the elderly

woman's medical records. Records showed she suffered from facial swelling, a black eye and a laceration to her arm.

On Tuesday, Abikaram was located in her home and arrested without incident, according to the report. The case has been turned over to the Orange County district attorney's office. Baha Eldin of the D.A.'s office said Friday charges had not yet been filed against Abikaram.

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Children's book festival going virtual for 2020

BY MATT SZABO

Books can take the reader to galaxies far away.

Back in reality, though, the novel coronavirus pandemic has still prohibited travel for many.

Orange County Children's Book Festival co-founder and executive director Pat Burns was in Tennessee visiting her daughter, Jennifer, when COVID-19 hit in March. She ended up staying there until June and working remotely.

Along the way, Pat Burns had to make a tough decision about the festival, usually held in-person as a one-day event at Orange Coast College. This year, its 17th, would have to be held online.

The festival will still feature celebrity and New York Times best-selling authors, but this year it will be held online from Sept. 14-26. Registration and information are available at kidsbookfestival.com.

Prerecorded videos will be available online, as opposed to attempting to host something real-time on Zoom.

“The choice to host the virtual book festival on YouTube was an easy one,” said Burns, 71, a Costa Mesa resident. “Kids go to YouTube for entertainment and associate Zoom with school. The virtual book festival wants to be a source of inspiration and fun.”

The presenters are as varied as actress Kristen Bell, graphic designer Joy Cho and U.S. Representative Katie Porter, who represents south-central Orange County. Other notable presenters include psychologist and author Adam Grant, young adult novelist Jason Reynolds, writer and illustrator David Shannon and Jeff Kinney, author of the popular “Diary of a Wimpy Kid” series.

Each day during the festival will feature “Story and activity



Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

PAT BURNS, Orange County Children's Book Festival co-founder, adapted the festival's 17th year into a virtual event due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

time,” with five new videos available where authors share their work with festivalgoers.

“The video presentations are

See **Festival**, page A4

Laguna Beach district to apply for waiver

If approved, two elementary schools would be allowed to open their doors on or before Sept. 22.

BY ANDREW TURNER

The Laguna Beach Unified School District board of education voted unanimously to apply for an elementary school waiver in its meeting on Thursday.

In doing so and if approved, the district would be able to open the doors of its two elementary schools — El Morro and Top of the World — on or prior to Sept. 22, the latest target date for Orange County to be able to reopen all schools.

When the county came off the state's COVID-19 watch list on Aug. 23, it meant at the time that county schools would be able to open without a waiver on Sept. 8.

New guidelines released by the state resulted in the new target date.

Prior to the discussion regarding the reopening of schools, more than 60 public comments took nearly an hour to be read. Those comments varied greatly given the polarizing nature of the subject.

Parents in favor of applying for the waiver questioned why the district hadn't applied for the waiver previously and mentioned that the option of online schooling had already been given to those who did not want their children to go back to school.

Several teachers weighed in to

See **Waiver**, page A4

FPPC fines Mesa Water District for 'campaigning' in merger bid

BY SARA CARDINE

Mesa Water District was issued a \$14,500 fine earlier this year by the Fair Political Practices Commission for violating campaign transparency and reporting laws and using public funds for advertisements and mailers supporting Measure TT in 2016.

Local voters were asked that November whether they supported Mesa Water's merging with the Costa Mesa Sanitary District, a move the former claimed would grant customers a one-time rebate of \$650 and an annual 28% savings on sewer rates. The nonbinding measure was approved by 54.7% of voters.

There was just one hitch — Costa Mesa Sanitary District officials were strongly opposed to a

See **Water**, page A2

ALSO FROM THE DAILY PILOT:



Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

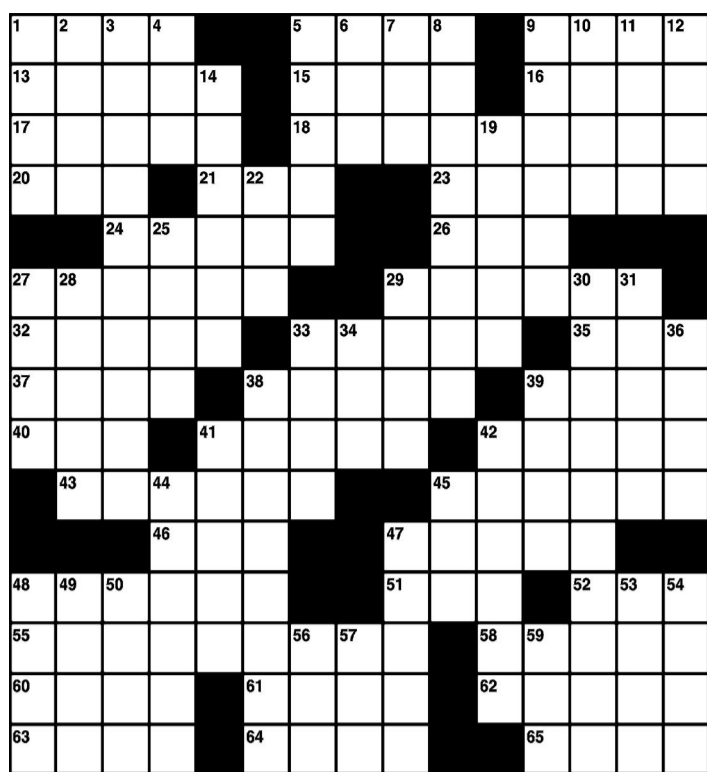
CDM OFFENSIVE LINEMAN JAKE TRACHTMAN COMMITS TO CAL POLY PAGE A6

COMMENTARY: WHY HAS HUMAN TRAFFICKING WORSENING DURING A PANDEMIC? PAGE A4

THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Mathews

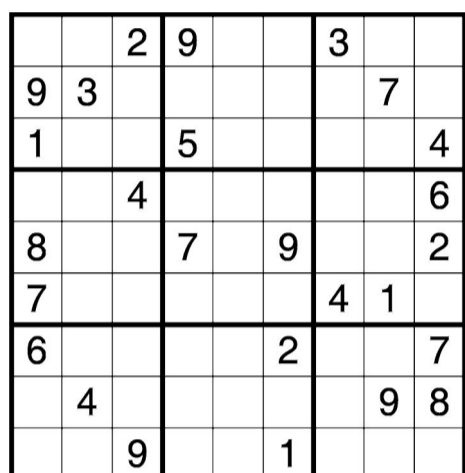
- ACROSS** 1 Evening bugle call
 5 Household pests
 9 Shapeless mass
 13 Keep an eye out for
 15 Tragic fate
 16 Overnight dance party
 17 Swampy area
 18 Poison remedies
 20 Olive of cartoon fame
 21 Part of a clown costume
 23 Casual eateries
 24 Hot under the collar
 26 Gangster's pistol
 27 Two-story house features
 29 _ of; cut off from
 32 Entice; lure
 33 Counterfeit
 35 Mai tai ingredient
 37 Tree fellers
 38 Makes tea
 39 TV remote button
 40 _ off with; stole
 41 Brief haircuts
 42 Ship poles
 43 Creek
 45 Actress Jamie Lee _
 46 Joan of _; French saint
 47 Scarcer
 48 Whole
 51 Snug as a bug _ rug
 52 Deadly critter
 55 _ binder; school paper holder
 58 Game of chance
 60 Spouse
 61 British nobleman
 62 _ around; move furtively
 63 Backyard building
 64 Mulberry or myrtle
 65 Nervous



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.



For answers to the crossword and Sudoku puzzles, see page A3.

- DOWN**
 1 _-shanter; woolen cap
 2 " _ in a Manger"
 3 UK legislative body
 4 Ashley, to Mary-Kate
 5 "A stitch in time

- saves nine," e.g.
 6 Prefix for stop or toxic
 7 Little child
 8 lotas
 9 "Wuthering Heights" author Emily
 10 Not on time

- 11 Finished; done
 12 "Porgy and _"
 14 Stymie
 19 Personal journal
 22 " _ a long way to Tipperary"
 25 Seam splits
 27 Asterisk
 28 Austin's location
 29 Curtsies
 30 Ready to throw in the towel
 31 _-frutti
 33 Straitlaced
 34 _ and haw; hesitate
 36 Clutter
 38 Piece of jewelry
 39 Stable female
 41 _ Haute, IN
 42 Wall paintings
 44 Elevated
 45 Has the ability to
 47 _ through; ransack
 48 Lawn trees
 49 Flood survivor
 50 Carry
 53 Doe's mate
 54 Annoyingly slow
 56 Cochlea's place
 57 TV's "Car 54, Where _ You?"
 59 Afternoon hour

Tribune Media Services

WATER

Continued from page A1

merger, which they considered a hostile takeover. Then-sanitary district board president Mike Scheafer penned an Oct. 24, 2016, letter of complaint on behalf of the board to the FPCC, the agency responsible for policing campaign finance in California. The letter alleged a series of mailers and newspaper advertisements paid for and issued by Mesa Water District leading up to the election, including two print ads in the Daily Pilot, unfairly biased voters in favor of Measure TT. "Verbiage related to purported savings from a proposed consolidation was in a bold font, clearly distinguishing it from the remainder of the text and contrary to how it appears in the voter information pamphlet," the letter stated. "We believe this to be a clear violation. We appreciate your swift investigation into this complaint." This May — more than three years after the original complaint — commission officials determined Mesa Water District violated portions of the Political Reform Act when it spent \$42,151.40 of public funds on unreported campaign activities. A stipulation document prepared by commission counsel Ruth Yang and Galena West, chief of enforcement, and approved by commissioners during a May 21 meeting laid out the facts of the case. The Political Reform Act considers any local government agency that spends \$1,000 or more in public funds advocating for or against a ballot measure to be a campaign committee, obligated to disclose and report its expenditures, the document explained. It went on to describe the four violations: "The District violated

the Act by sending prohibited campaign related mass mailings at public expense, failing to include a disclosure statement on advertisements, failing to timely file eight 24-hour independent expenditure reports and failing to timely file one semi-annual campaign statement," it continued. Commission officials ordered Mesa Water to pay \$14,500 in fines, indicating the agency could have been penalized up to \$141,454, for the number and nature of infractions committed. Mesa Water District General Manager Paul Schoenberger said by email Friday Measure TT outreach materials were vetted through attorneys to ensure regulatory compliance. "Mesa Water genuinely believed the materials to be educational — the Fair Political Practices Commission disagreed," he said. "[The district] could have fought the stipulation but at a cost far greater than the nominal amount they were asking for." Schoenberger defended the agency's pursuit of a merger with the Costa Mesa Sanitary District, referring to a study conducted by consultant Arcadis U.S. that determined consolidating the two special districts could save \$15.6 million in one-time costs and \$2.7 million annually. Still, he said, the district won't take future steps so long as the sanitary district remains opposed. "Because Mesa Water supports collaborative consolidations, we will not pursue to potential efficiencies until CMSD wishes to explore optimal governance structures," Schoenberger added. Scheafer, who still serves on the sanitary district board of directors, said his agency believes Mesa Water's study findings were flawed and inaccurate. In June 2017, CMSD

sued the water district to obtain documents pertaining to the study — the suit was dropped when two parties reached a settlement agreement in July 2018. Scheafer said it's unlikely the district would consider a merger without a recommendation from the Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO), which determines special district boundaries. "If LAFCO were to come to us and say, 'It doesn't make sense for you to exist,' then we'd have to consider that," Scheafer added. "But we're not comfortable with any agency coming in and making a hostile takeover of our agency." Since the settlement agreement, the two special districts have maintained separate operations. In July, Mesa Water was reaccredited as a "District of Distinction" by the Special District Leadership Foundation for its "ongoing commitment to transparency and accountability." Meanwhile, another open FPCC case remains under investigation, this time against the sanitary district. Filed on Oct. 13, 2017, at the commission's own initiative, the matter involves a fall 2016 newsletter CMSD distributed before the November election. It contained an article revealing Mesa Water's Measure TT expenditures and depicted an image of \$100 bills circling a drain. In a "CMSD Awards" section, the newsletter noted that, like Mesa Water, it had also been accredited as a "District of Distinction" in 2009, 2012, 2014 and 2016 — the same year in which the activities under investigation occurred. FPCC spokesman Jay Wierenga said Friday commission officials could not comment on open investigations. sara.cardine@latimes.com Twitter: @SaraCardine

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BEACH

Continued from page A1

and 1,042 deaths in the county have been reported. About 43,005 patients have recovered. In Newport Beach, Huntington Beach and Laguna Beach, city beaches were closed for the Fourth of July weekend.

Both Newport Beach and Huntington Beach had initially planned to remain open in July until Newport officials decided to close beaches after two lifeguards tested positive for COVID-19. About 30 lifeguards were in quarantine as a result, said spokesman John Pope. Huntington Beach soon followed suit with closures.

“Fortunately, our lifeguard team is now back at full staff and has been for some time,” Pope said. “In alignment with the county of Orange and our neighboring beach communities, our beaches will be open this weekend, as we encourage visitors and residents to enjoy Newport Beach safely and responsibly.”

The city said that it would have its full summer staff on duty this weekend, including some additional on-call staff in the event that crowds are bigger than anticipated. Newport Beach officials also said that the city’s police department would also be monitoring for violations of city code at the beaches. No amenities will be closed. Pope said that crowds tend to range anywhere from 70,000 to 90,000 throughout a typical Labor Day weekend and that the city expects numbers to be toward the higher end of that range.

In Huntington Beach, the city said it expects more visitors than normal and that both lifeguards and paramedics would be on duty at beaches this weekend.

City spokesman Eric Blaska said the community emergency response team of the city’s fire department set up booths on July 25 in the downtown area and near the beach to provide masks to those without them or to those who



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

PEOPLE WAIT in line for a boat tour of Newport Harbor on Friday, a day before record-high temperatures are supposed to hit the region for the Labor Day weekend.

would like one.

“The heat wave is coming, and we understand that both residents and visitors want to get outside to enjoy the fresh air, get in the water to cool off and actively recreate on our beautiful beaches,” said Blaska, who is also a firefighter paramedic. “We do ask beachgoers to be safe this weekend, and it starts with them.”

“Speak to a lifeguard prior to entering the water,” Blaska advised. “The lifeguard will tell you the safest place to enter to avoid unsafe waters, stay self-aware of their swimming capabilities and don’t overexert themselves, stay hydrated, apply sunscreen and practice social distancing.”

Laguna Beach city officials advised residents ahead of the holiday weekend to mind physical distancing and to wear face masks and said that city “mask advisors” will be handing out free masks this

weekend throughout the city.

“We are prepared to provide the public with a safe and enjoyable Labor Day weekend,” said Shohreh Dupuis, assistant city manager.

Dupuis said that both the marine safety and police department will be at full holiday staffing levels and will address crowds and social distancing. Marine safety officers will be monitoring beach activity and will also have special assignments such as tide pool educators. Lifeguard rovers will be at potential hot spots of activity such as Treasure Island, Victoria or Crescent Bay beaches.

Beaches will be operating in all three cities at typical hours.

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

• Santa Ana: 9,469 cases; 251 deaths

• Anaheim: 8,456 cases; 226 deaths
 • Huntington Beach: 2,246 cases; 67 deaths
 • Costa Mesa: 1,709 cases; 23 deaths
 • Irvine: 1,499 cases; 12 deaths

• Newport Beach: 1,060 cases; 21 deaths
 • Fountain Valley: 481 cases; 10 deaths
 • Laguna Beach: 186 cases; less than five deaths
 Updated figures are posted daily at ocovid19.ocohealthinfo.com/coronavirus-in-oc. For information on getting tested, visit ocovid19.ocohealthinfo.com/covid-19-testing.

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CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS

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

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COMMENTARY | LITA MERCADO

Why has human trafficking worsened during a pandemic?

Although the pandemic has halted much of our country's operations, it hasn't stopped some of its most dangerous criminals: Human traffickers.

While the world reels from the effects of COVID-19, human traffickers are capitalizing on the pandemic, continuing to prey on the most vulnerable. Calls to the National Human Trafficking Hotline have increased by more than 40% during the COVID-19 pandemic compared to the same time last year.

Despite stay-at-home orders, people are continuing to purchase sex — placing sex trafficking victims' health and safety and that of entire communities in jeopardy.

Orange County is not immune to this problem. In 2002, O.C.'s first known victim, a 10-year-old Egyptian girl and victim of labor trafficking, was identified. Two years later, Waymakers co-founded the O.C. Human Trafficking Task Force to fight human trafficking in partnership with law enforcement and the community.

In fact, the 2019 Human Trafficking Victim Report shows that over a two-year period the task



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

STUDENTS AND activists participate in candlelight vigil for victims of human trafficking worldwide at Vanguard University in Costa Mesa in 2011.

force identified a total of 415 human trafficking victims.

During COVID-19 shutdowns, traffickers are more easily exposing already vulnerable and desperate victims through high unemployment rates, universal economic collapses, increased screen time, loss of community support systems, language barriers and immigration status — all of which open doors for victims to be lured into labor or commercial sexual exploitation by force, fraud or

coercion.

It's easy to Google statistics or numbers, but for many, numbers simply gloss over the horrific stories they represent — but we need to make it personal. Each victim has their own disturbing story of abuse and fight for justice. One victim advocate broke it down, saying, "It may be just one victim, but that one victim in one month was sold 150 times, raped by 150 men and beaten so her trafficker can pocket \$15,000." Once these victims are mentally, physically, sexually and verbally broken down, they lose all sense of humanity and become objects.

Let's be clear. Human trafficking is a violent and continuous act upon vulnerable victims. It is not a new word for prostitution; there are no "business partnerships" within these dysfunctional dynamics of power, control and violence. At Waymakers, we have discovered raped, beaten, threatened and kidnapped victims who were struggling to survive in the shadows of what the community mistakenly thinks is "prostitution."

Compounding the physical and emotional trauma these victims

face is the new challenge of getting justice in the wake of stay-at-home orders, which greatly impacted the processes of the criminal justice system. The devastating consequence is the loss of the victims' rights and voices movement. Victims are still not being supported and heard as COVID-19 limitations further complicate an already difficult set of circumstances for the most traumatized.

Pre-pandemic, half of Waymakers' victim referrals came from local law enforcement. The other half consisted of a combination of NGOs, social services, faith-based organizations, the National Human Trafficking Hotline, the O.C. Human Trafficking Task Force website, hospitals and other government entities. Today, roughly 75% of our referrals come from community partners and individuals. Our community is stepping in to support victims as COVID-19 reprioritized law enforcement efforts across Orange County and the United States.

We need your eyes and ears to help identify suspected human trafficking situations. Help us

shine the spotlight on dangerous human traffickers obsessed with making money from the rape and unimaginable destruction of human lives and families. And let's stand alongside victims who display such strength and resiliency and show them that they are not alone — we are their allies.

Be watchful, learn the indicators and call your local police department, the National Human Trafficking Hotline at (888) 373-7888 or text "HELP" or "INFO" to 233733 for 24/7 support. You can also learn more about the issue in Orange County and how you can support our united effort to protect victims at ochumantrafficking.com.

Let's make sure all victims are seen and heard amid the public health crisis.

For more about Waymakers, visit waymakersoc.org.

LITA MERCADO is director of victim assistance programs at Waymakers, which serves as the administrator and lead victim services agency for the Orange County Human Trafficking Task Force.

MAILBAG

Praising the dedication of healthcare workers

Re: How Placentia-Linda Hospital nurses forge through a night shift, TimesOC, Aug. 30, I have the privilege of teaching aspiring nurses at West Coast University.

Though I am not a nurse, I teach in the general education department of the university. This department offers courses in English, mathematics, cultural pluralism and critical thinking. Such an array of classes empowers the university to offer a Bachelor of Science in nursing, as well as degrees in other areas of healthcare.

In my career as a college teacher, from a state university, to not-for-profit universities, to for-profit institutes of higher education, I have never encountered more dedicated faculty members, administrators, staff and students as I have at this mission-driven university.

If my experience at WCU is generally indicative of those who are entering the healthcare profession, we are indeed in good, caring hands with people who are willing and will one day be prepared to endure the rigors of working on the front lines of patient care.

Ben Miles
Huntington Beach

Supporting Scarbrough

If you have attended any civic meetings in Newport Beach in the last several years, you may have seen Nancy Scarbrough in attendance. There is hardly an issue involving city government that Nancy has not had on her radar, most often as an active participant. From her initial involvement in Still Protecting Our Newport activities, which focused on environmental issues such as the bay, Banning Ranch, short-term lodg-

ing, the SPON Policy and Budget Committees and the Good Neighbor Policy Committee, she has branched out to many different areas of concern in our community.

She regularly attends City Council meetings and has attended or viewed the live feed of most Planning Commission meetings. And perhaps most impressively, she has attended every town hall meeting of council members Joy Brenner, Diane Dixon and Jeff Herdman, even though they do not represent her district. She was one of three people who regularly attended the office hours of Will O'Neill until they were postponed.

When asked about her biggest concern in dealing with civic matters, at the top of Nancy's list is the Housing Element Update Advisory Committee that began before the pandemic. But to her consternation, despite its urgency as an issue, no one is talking about it.

Where Nancy finds time to get involved in all of these civic activities and hold down a full time job has everyone in awe. She has owned her own commercial design business for 35 years. She has also raised three sons here in Newport Heights and they attended all three schools — Newport Heights Elementary, Ensign Intermediate and Newport Harbor High. Her boys also participated in Junior Guards and Newport Aquatic Center Programs.

What is definitely noteworthy is that Nancy Scarbrough did not do all these things to put them on her resume. She was encouraged and then accepted to run for City Council only a few months ago. If you have ever met her, her serious and inquisitive nature tells you that she is "all business."

She is that "classic overachiever" interested in seeking perfection in all that is going on in her life and around her in the community. If that is not a refreshing description of her attributes as a future council member, I

don't know what is.

Lynn Lorenz
Newport Beach

My experience with Jeff Herdman

Election season in Newport Beach has arrived, and with it comes the mud slinging, discrediting and judgment passed on newly arrived candidates as well as the incumbents. Nowhere is this more true than in a recent Letter to the Editor that appeared in the Aug. 30th edition of the Newport Indy newspaper about Councilman Jeff Herdman.

As recent past president of the Balboa Island Improvement Assn., I have had the direct experience of working with Jeff on a number of projects and all I know about Jeff are the facts, and here they are:

He gets the job done. No grass grows under his feet. You can expect an immediate response from him if asked to follow up or get something done. He absolutely does not say one thing and then do another.

He is highly organized, professional and always has the good of the organization and those it represents as his top priority.

On matters that come before the City Council and require a vote, he is really good at checking in with his constituents for opinions which form the basis of his votes. Public comments area a very important part of his job.

Communication is perhaps his strongest leadership skill. He has published 59 blog posts/newsletters since taking office that serve to keep the over 1,000 subscribers well-informed on John Wayne Airport issues and mediation, council action and happenings in his district and throughout the city. He holds regular town hall meetings and is a speaker at a variety of HOA meetings within his district.

His reorganization and repositioning of the Aviation Committee has added meaning to its work

and has drawn in experts in the field of aviation from throughout the community. Jeff, along with community groups and city staff, are leading efforts to address quality of life issues resulting from JWA.

What you hear in Jeff is probably best said by his council colleague, Joy Brenner, in a recent Facebook post: "Both Diane Dixon and I support Jeff because he works full time and more on city business, as do we." His level of commitment and dedication to his responsibilities as a city councilman have earned him the privilege of being reelected for another four year term.

Jack Callahan
Newport Beach

Standing up for in-person instruction

During these unprecedented times, parents, teachers and school board members throughout the state continue to struggle with tough decisions related to COVID-19's closure of our classrooms. Parents are growing extremely anxious, as distance learning continues to be less than ideal for many.

The debate of whether in-person or distance learning is appropriate weighs on the minds of countless families. Luckily, the law permits every school to apply for a waiver which allows kindergarten through sixth grade the opportunity to safely return to the classroom.

Newport-Mesa Unified School District has a golden opportunity to fulfill the wishes of parents who want to send their children back to in-person instruction.

Initially, NMUSD chose not to apply for this waiver due to the almost certain guarantee that Orange County would fall off the original watch list which kept schools closed. Regrettably, Gov. Newsom switched course mid-stream and adopted a new metric system that complicated matters.

HOW TO GET PUBLISHED

Email us at erikhaugli@latimes.com. All correspondence must include full name, hometown and phone number (for verification purposes). The Pilot reserves the right to edit all submissions for clarity and length.

A waiver would protect the district from the ever-changing guidance from the state. It would also prevent schools from yo-yoing between distance and in-person learning should the county move back to the purple tier — or whatever new doctrine comes from Sacramento.

NMUSD must break free from the state's firm grip so we can chart our own path.

For those parents concerned with COVID-19, NMUSD created a 100% virtual Cloud Campus. This learning platform allows for a safe, risk-free environment to learn with some of our finest teachers. We should be thankful that the board put in the hard work to adopt this infrastructure. Parents have a right to decide which type of learning is right for their family.

A lot of moving parts are needed to create a waiver, including effective communication and negotiation between the board and unions. Before decisions are made and negotiations are final, let's survey the teachers to see exactly how they feel about returning safely to the classroom.

While I am only a candidate for this position and cannot vote on this matter, I implore our current board of trustees to stand up for in-person instruction and apply for the waiver.

Krista Weigand
Newport Beach

Note: Weigand is a candidate for NMUSD, Trustee Area #6.



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

FIFTH-GRADERS cheer after giving a correct answer during a "Walk Through the American Revolution" educational activity at El Morro Elementary School in Laguna Beach on Feb. 16, 2017.

WAIVER

Continued from page A1

oppose reopening classrooms, considering both health risks presented by the virus and the work it has taken for teachers to prepare their curriculum for online instruction.

By a vote of 3-0, action was taken by the board to allow for in-person services to be provided for the district's special education preschool students, of which there are five.

Deputy Supt. Leisa Winston said that the district has 310 students eligible for special education services. Viewing in-person services for special education students from a position of eq-

uity across all grade levels, board members James Kelly and Carol Normandin abstained.

Supt. Jason Vilorio indicated that with a transition to Phase II, in which school sites can open with modifications, he would like the return to in-classroom learning to take place at the start of a full week of school.

That would mean that if schools were allowed to reopen on Tuesday, Sept. 22, students would not return to the classroom until Monday, Sept. 28.

The board also voted to approve staggered starting dates for its students with hybrid learning.

The reasoning behind the staggered start was be-

cause "it would allow the district to establish routines with small student numbers and address any issues that arise before introducing students in the next grade levels," district spokeswoman Anakaren Ureno said.

In the first week at a date to be determined, elementary school students from transitional kindergarten through second grade would return on either Monday or Tuesday in their respective cohort. Third grade through fifth grade would come back on Wednesday or Thursday. All elementary school students participate in distance learning on Friday.

Middle school students would be the next to go

back after the county has progressed from the "widespread" to "substantial" tier regarding its virus transmission rate.

Sixth-grade students, the new kids on campus, would go to school first, returning on Monday or Tuesday. The seventh and eighth grades would come back to school with their cohorts on Wednesday or Thursday. Again, online instruction would be in place on Friday.

High school students would go back last, and they would be split up into cohorts to manage the number of students in the classroom.

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FESTIVAL

Continued from page A1

authors that are giving a fun interpretation of their book," Burns said. "You get to really know the author in a way that they never would have a chance otherwise."

There will also be two special blue-ribbon panels on Sept. 19.

"Be the Change" with Reynolds, Porter and Kwame Alexander will focus

on racial issues, while "Good Grief" with Anastasia Higginbotham, Patrice Karst, Maggie Grinnell and Melissa Fisher Goldman will focus on dealing with COVID-19 social distancing.

The festival concludes with "Red carpet time" on Sept. 26, with many of the festival's best-known authors hosting virtual programs. Bell will be co-headlining two different presentations including one with Benjamin Hart, with whom she co-wrote "The World

Needs More Purple People" earlier this year. The children's book focuses on teaching kids to look for similarities rather than differences.

"Reading has the unique potential to expose us to new worlds and different experiences," Bell said via email. "It can teach us empathy in a way that most mediums can't ... Reading has gotten my kids through the pandemic! We use books as teaching tools and as escape tools. The more

they read, the more I see an expansion of their imagination."

Cho, who has more than 13 million followers on Pinterest, wrote three different children's books that are being released this year as part of the "Oh Joy!" series. The interactive books are designed for children up to 3 years old.

Like Bell, Cho has two daughters and sees reading as essential to their development. She will be reading from "Be Curious" during

her red carpet time in the festival.

"We're in a situation where lots of physical, in-person events have been canceled," Cho said. "We've all sort of gotten used to the new normal. I think if there's any way that we can keep things going in a way that's safe for everyone, then it's the best of both worlds. This festival is a great thing to be a part of."

Burns is happy that the festival will be continuing, even in a virtual form. Dur-

ing the pandemic, she also sees books as more important than ever.

"Kids still need to be inspired, especially now," Burns said. "Maybe more now than ever before. They can feel that escape in a book, escape in the fantasy of a story and float into a happier space. That's what we bring. We bring that kind of energy and hope and joy to kids."

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND 15-DAY PUBLIC REVIEW FOR THE CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on **Tuesday, September 22, 2020, at 5p.m.**, a public hearing will be conducted in the City Council Chambers at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach. The City Council of the City of Newport Beach will receive public comments and consider this matter.

Due to the rapidly evolving public health response to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), members of the public are advised that the City Council meeting and public hearing may be convened telephonically or in an alternate format as deemed necessary by the City. Those individuals planning to participate in the public hearing are encouraged to check the City website at <https://www.newportbeachca.gov/home> for additional information concerning in-person participation on the day of the public hearing for any updates.

Draft Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) 2019-2020 – The City prepared the draft CAPER for the Fiscal Year, beginning July 1, 2019, and ending June 30, 2020, as required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The draft CAPER provides a detailed account of how the City utilized its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds in Fiscal Year 2019-20 to pursue the strategies, goals, and objectives proposed in the 2019-2020 Action Plan to address the housing and community development needs identified in the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan. The purpose of the Public Hearing for the CAPER is to allow the public the opportunity to comment on the draft CAPER.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the review and approval of the draft CAPER is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(2) (the activity will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment) and 15060(c)(3) (the activity is not a project as defined in Section 15378) of the CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, because it has no potential for resulting in physical change to the environment, directly or indirectly.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the publication of this notice commences a minimum 15-day public review period. Copies of the draft CAPER will be available during the public review and comment period from September 4, 2020 through September 22, 2020. The public is invited to submit written comments on the draft document to the Community Development Department no later than 4p.m. on September 22, 2020. Copies of the 2019-2020 draft CAPER will be available for public review on the City's website at www.newportbeachca.gov/CDBGreports. If and when the State of California's emergency shelter-in-place order is lifted, the draft documents will also be available for review at the following locations during normal business hours:

City Clerk's Office 100 Civic Center Drive Newport Beach, CA 92660 949-644-3005	Community Development 100 Civic Center Drive Newport Beach, CA 92660 949-644-3200	Central Library 1000 Avocado Ave Newport Beach, CA 92660 949-717-3800
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ACCESSIBILITY TO MEETINGS AND DOCUMENTS

It is the objective of the City to comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the ADA Amendment Act of 2008, the Fair Housing Act, and the Architectural Barriers Act in all respects. If you require public documents in an accessible format, the City will make reasonable efforts to accommodate your request. If you require a disability-related accommodation to attend or participate in a hearing or meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the City Clerk's Office at least 72 hours prior to the meeting at 949-644-3005, to inform us of your needs and to determine if accommodation is feasible.

The City does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, military status, or other protected class status in any of its activities or operations.

All interested parties may appear and present testimony at the public hearing in regard to this matter. If you challenge this matter in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you raised at the public hearing or in written correspondence delivered to the City, at, or prior to, the public hearing. **The matter may be continued to a specific future meeting date, and if such an action occurs additional public notice of the continuance will not be provided.** The immediate Friday prior to the public hearing the agenda, staff report, and documents may be reviewed on the City of Newport Beach website at www.newportbeachca.gov. **Individuals not able to attend the meeting may contact the Community Development Department or access the City's website after the meeting to review the action on this matter.**

Questions concerning the draft CAPER or the hearing and written comments may be addressed to Priscila Davila, CDBG Consultant, at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660, or via telephone at 562-673-3388. You may also contact Lauren Wooding Whittingler, Real Property Administrator, at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660, or by telephone at 949-644-3236, with any questions concerning this notice.



/s/ Leilani I. Brown, MMC, City Clerk, City of Newport Beach

LEGAL NOTICE



CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on **Thursday, September 17, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.**, or soon thereafter as the matter shall be heard, a public hearing will be conducted in the Council Chambers at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach. The Planning Commission of the City of Newport Beach will consider the following application:

Residential Design Standards Code and LCP Amendments – Amendments to Title 20 (Zoning Code) and Title 21 (Local Coastal Program Implementation Plan) of the Newport Beach Municipal Code (NBMC) revising development standards applicable to single- and two-unit residential development. This item was continued from the May 7, 2020, Planning Commission hearing. Specifically, the proposed amendments would reduce bulk and mass associated with future residential development as follows:

- Revisions to Third Floor Standards.**
 - Third floor step backs would apply to covered deck areas (currently applies only to enclosed floor area).
 - Third floor side step backs would apply to lots 30 feet wide or greater (currently applies to lots wider than 30 feet).
 - Maximum covered third floor area (enclosed or unenclosed) limited to 50 percent of buildable area. Uncovered deck area would remain unrestricted.
 - Third floor step back standards (front and rear) would apply to 25-foot wide or less lots zoned R-2 (currently exempt).
 - Third floor step back standards (front, rear, and sides) would apply to single- and two-unit dwellings in Multiple Residential (RM) zone (currently exempt).

- Clarification of Gross Floor Area**
 - Unfinished attics with a ceiling height of 6 feet or higher would count as floor area (currently only finished attics count).
 - Covered patios, decks, and balconies above the first floor would count as floor area unless completely open on at least two sides, rather than one side.
 - Carports only open on one side would count as floor area.

Single-Unit and Two-Unit Dwellings in the R-BL Zone

- Third floor and open volume standards applicable to R-1 and R-2 zones would now apply to single- and two-unit dwellings in Two-Unit Residential, Balboa Island (R-BL) zone.

Pursuant to the authority and criteria contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the amendments are statutorily exempt from the CEQA in accordance with Section 21065 of CEQA and State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15060(c)(2), 15060(c)(3), and 15060(c)(4). The proposed action is also exempt from the CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.

All interested parties may appear and present testimony in regard to this application. If you challenge this project in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you raised at the public hearing or in written correspondence delivered to the City, at, or prior to, the public hearing. Administrative procedures for appeals are provided in the Newport Beach Municipal Code Chapter 21.64. The application may be continued to a specific future meeting date, and if such an action occurs, additional public notice of the continuance will not be provided.

SPECIAL NOTICE REGARDING COVID-19
Given the Declaration of a State Emergency and Proclamation of Local Emergency related to COVID-19, we recommend that you submit your questions and comments in writing for Planning Commission consideration by sending them to the Community Development Department at PlanningCommissioners@newportbeachca.gov. To give the Planning Commission adequate time to review your questions and comments, please submit your written comments by **Wednesday, September 16, 2020, at 5:00 p.m.** In addition, members of the public will have the ability to participate in this meeting telephonically. Please review the Planning Commission Agenda for further instructions. The Agenda, staff report and corresponding documents will be posted to the City's website at www.newportbeachca.gov/planningcommission, by end of business day on **Friday, September 11, 2020**. While the City does not expect there to be any changes to the above process for participating in this meeting, if there is a change, the City will post the information as soon as possible to the City's website. The City of Newport Beach thanks you in advance for continuing to take precautions to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus. If you are unable to participate in the meeting via the process set forth in the agenda, please contact the Planning Division at 949-644-3200 or CDD@newportbeachca.gov and our staff will attempt to accommodate you.

For questions regarding this public hearing item please contact Jaime Muro, Principal Planner, at 949-644-3209, jmuro@newportbeachca.gov

Project File No.: PA2019-070 **Activity No.:** CA2019-004 and LC2019-006

Zone: Various **General Plan:** Various

Coastal Land Use Plan: Various **Filing Date:** May 14, 2019

Location: Citywide **Applicant:** City of Newport Beach

Lauren Kleiman, Secretary, Planning Commission, City of Newport Beach

Legal Notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Pursuant to the California Self Service Storage Facility Act (B&P Code 21700 ET seq.) The undersigned will sell at public auction on Monday September 21, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. Personal property including but not limited to furniture, clothing, tools and/or other household items located at: The sale will take place online at www.selfstorageauction.com

Domici, Damon
Falomir, Roger R.
Hopkins, John J.
Elparin, Bryan K.
All sales are subject to prior cancellation. All terms, rules and regulations are available online at www.selfstorageauction.com.

Dated this 5th of September and 12th of September 2020 by Costa Mesa Self Storage 3180 Red Hill Costa Mesa, CA 92626 (714) 966-9901
9/5, 9/12/20
CNS-3395358#
DAILY PILOT

Legal Notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Pursuant to the California Self Service Storage Facility Act (B&P Code 21700 ET seq.) The undersigned will sell at public auction on Monday September 21, 2020 at 2:30 pm Personal property including but not limited to furniture, clothing, tools and/or other household items located at: The sale will take place online at www.selfstorageauction.com

Desmond, Sean Craig
Morris, Cynthia Ann
Schenquerman, William
Stephan, Gary R.
Gheorghe, Somerda
Doctor Brandt, Tiffany aka Doctor Tiffany Brandt
All sales are subject to prior cancellation. All terms, rules and regulations are available online at www.selfstorageauction.com.

Dated this 5th of September and 12th of September 2020 by Woodbridge Self Storage 5020 Barranca Pkwy Irvine, CA 92604 (949) 857-4900
9/5, 9/12/20
CNS-3395388#
DAILY PILOT



CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on **Thursday, September 17, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.** or soon thereafter as the matter shall be heard, a public hearing will be conducted in the Council Chambers at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach. The Planning Commission of the City of Newport Beach will consider the following application:

Brockhaus Residence Addition – A request for a variance to allow portions of a 1,538-square-foot addition to an existing single-story 1,742-square-foot residence and two-car garage to encroach up to 1.2 feet into the required 6-foot side setbacks on each side of the property. The residence is nonconforming as it is built with 4.8- and 4.9-foot side setbacks and the proposed addition will remain in line with the existing structure.

The project is categorically exempt under Section 15301 – Class 1 (Existing Facilities) of the State CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) Guidelines.

All interested parties may appear and present testimony in regard to this application. If you challenge this project in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you raised at the public hearing or in written correspondence delivered to the City, at, or prior to, the public hearing. Administrative procedures for appeals are provided in the Newport Beach Municipal Code Chapter 20.64. The application may be continued to a specific future meeting date, and if such an action occurs, additional public notice of the continuance will not be provided.

SPECIAL NOTICE REGARDING COVID-19

Given the Declaration of a State Emergency and Proclamation of Local Emergency related to COVID-19, we recommend that you submit your questions and comments in writing for Planning Commission consideration by sending them to the Community Development Department at PlanningCommissioners@newportbeachca.gov. To give the Planning Commission adequate time to review your questions and comments, please submit your written comments by **Wednesday, September 16, 2020, at 5:00 p.m.** In addition, members of the public will have the ability to participate in this meeting telephonically. Please review the Planning Commission Agenda for further instructions. The Agenda, staff report and corresponding documents will be posted to the City's website at www.newportbeachca.gov/planningcommission, by end of business day on **Friday, September 11, 2020**. While the City does not expect any changes to the above process for participating in this meeting, if there is a change, the City will post the information as soon as possible to the City's website. The City of Newport Beach thanks you in advance for continuing to take precautions to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus. If you are unable to participate in the meeting via the process set forth in the agenda, please contact the Planning Division at 949-644-3200 or CDD@newportbeachca.gov and our staff will attempt to accommodate you.

For questions regarding this public hearing item please contact Liane Schuller, Planning Consultant, at lschuller@newportbeachca.gov or 949-644-3200.

Project File No.: PA2020-116 **Activity No.:** VA2020-003

Zone: R-1-6,000 (Single-Unit Residential) **General Plan:** RS-D (Single-Unit Residential Detached)

Location: 1521 Sylvia Lane **Applicant:** Ralf Brockhaus

Lauren Kleiman, Secretary, Planning Commission, City of Newport Beach

Legal Notices

The City of Huntington Beach Seeks Personnel Commission Applicants

Applications are currently being accepted to fill three (3) vacancies on the City of Huntington Beach Personnel Commission. The vacancies are for two-year terms ending June 30, 2022. The Personnel Commission acts in an advisory capacity to the City Council and City Manager regarding the determination of hearing procedures and the selection of hearing officers, personnel administration investigations, appeals on grievance matters, appeals from decisions related to the employer-employee relations resolution, reviews impasse matters, and performs other functions as may be prescribed by ordinance or resolution. The Commission meets monthly on the third Wednesday at 5:30 pm. Interested applicants are encouraged to complete a City of Huntington Beach Application for Appointment by no later than Monday, September 21, 2020. Please access the application online via the City's official website at www.huntingtonbeachca.gov, click on *Government* and then on *Boards and Commissions*. Please complete the application online, then download or printout the completed application, and submit it to: shenderson@surfcity-hb.org or mail it to: City of Huntington Beach, Attn: Sandy Henderson, H.R. Dept., 2000 Main St., Huntington Beach, CA 92648. For more information, contact Sandy Henderson in Human Resources at (714) 960-8828.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Laguna Beach City Council will hold a virtual Public Meeting to consider the: **Appeal of the approval of Design Review 18-0845 and Coastal Development Permit 18-0846 for a 3,573 square-foot single-family residence with an attached 446 square-foot garage on a vacant building lot in the R-1 (Residential Low Density) zone at 22350 Third Avenue. Design review is required for the new structure, additional building height, elevated decks (1,291 square feet), skylights, grading, spa, and fuel modification/landscaping.** Adjacent property owners have appealed the decision of the Design Review Board to approve the project. They contend that the communal driveway is insufficient to accommodate emergency access and does not meet Municipal Code standards; that the project impedes access to and from nearby homes; that the project does not provide visitor parking; that there is no Municipal code-compliant emergency vehicle turnaround; that the project does not exhibit design articulation and does not provide adequate setbacks; that neighborhood compatibility (mass and scale) is not achieved; that the project is inconsistent with the General Plan; that procedural errors occurred with regard to story poles; that there are pedestrian orientation hazards; that no construction staging plans were presented; that privacy and noise impacts were not addressed; that there are soil stability problems; and that the prohibition of parking on the access driveway is improper. The appellants also challenge the Design Review Board's determination that the project is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article 19 (Categorical Exemptions), Section 15303, Class 3(a) of the State CEQA Guidelines. SAID PUBLIC MEETING to be held **Tuesday, September 22, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.** For additional information, contact City staff: **Chris Dominguez, Associate Planner (949) 497-0745** or cdominguez@lagunabeachcity.net and/or the appellant: **Joy Berry (949) 500-7009** joy@joyberry.org and **gsanders@nossaman.com**. You may also communicate comments about the proposed application and the appeal to members of the City Council, whose names and e-mail addresses are listed on the City's website (www.lagunabeachcity.net). **At this time, the City Council Chambers will not be open to the public. However, comments may be made via teleconferencing during the hearing, or in writing prior to the hearing, when emailed or mailed to the City Clerk's office. 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., Tuesday, September 15, 2020. Procedures for participating in the virtual meeting are on the City's website linked to the meeting agenda.** If, in the future, you wish to challenge the subject matter in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you (or someone else) raised at the Public Meeting described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City Council at or prior to the Public Meeting. Lisette Chel-Walker, CMC, City Clerk

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HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL



Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

JAKE TRACHTMAN, a senior offensive lineman at Corona del Mar, committed to the Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo football program on Thursday.

CdM offensive lineman Jake Trachtman commits to Cal Poly

BY ANDREW TURNER

Corona del Mar High School senior offensive lineman Jake Trachtman reckons that he has had some bad luck when it comes to football.

In his sophomore year, he sustained a broken elbow. As the Sea Kings' starting left guard as a junior, he suffered a Jones fracture in his left foot in the opener that kept him out until Week 10.

Trachtman returned in whatever capacity he could, so in the playoffs, he served as a blocker for CdM's kicking team.

"The thing I most admire about Jake is his ability to overcome adversity," Sea Kings left tackle Thomas Bouda, an Army commit, said.

"When he dealt with those injuries for two years, he never quit and never gave in. He would never complain, he put his head down and worked his tail off. His work ethic, his drive, his dedication to get better every single day is

something that I really admire about him. He's someone you want playing next to you on a Friday night."

Working through the pain has earned Trachtman an opportunity to play the sport he loves beyond his high school years.

Trachtman committed to the Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo football program on Thursday.

A 6-foot-7, 290-pound senior, Trachtman said he also considered Northern Arizona and Lehigh among his top three. He said he also had offers from the University of San Diego, Valparaiso and Lake Erie College.

"My goal for football was to use athletics to get me into a college which I could not have with just purely my own grades," Trachtman said of why he chose Cal Poly, adding that he felt a connection with the coaching staff. "I'm truly super lucky to get into Cal Poly. I love the location. It's going to set me up for life."

The Sea Kings senior cast a wide

net of gratitude when it came to the people that helped him reach this goal. He named head coach Dan O'Shea, offensive coordinator Kevin Hettig and offensive line coach Clay Kennedy from the CdM coaching staff.

He also raved about the workouts that he did with his personal trainer Karif Byrd, some of which began with 6 a.m. runs on the track at Orange Coast College.

"We basically transformed my body into something completely different, and I'm a whole [new] person, from night and day," Trachtman said. "All credit to him. He pushes me to be the best I can be, and he makes us strive for greatness."

In battling back from a foot injury last year, Trachtman was able to contribute to a CdM playoff run that he described as, "one for the books."

The Sea Kings got payback against Simi Valley Grace Brethren 56-28 in the CIF Southern Section Division 3 final, before going on to

beat San Mateo Serra 35-27 in the CIF State Division 1-A championship game.

Trachtman was not going to let the season go for naught. He said he learned to take his life into his own hands and make sure he had no regrets from his father, Marc.

With the coronavirus pandemic threatening his senior season, Trachtman, a self-proclaimed history buff, and his teammates have not lost sight of their chance to repeat it. The Sea Kings finished last season undefeated at 16-0.

"The virus hasn't stopped any of us," Trachtman said. "I know all of my teammates have been working hard during this quarantine. No excuses. Everyone is trying to find a way to get some work in, whether it's going to the local park and getting some sprints in, or it's having their own home gym, or it's doing push-ups every night before they go to bed."

andrew.turner@latimes.com
 Twitter: @ProfessorTurner

GIRLS' WATER POLO

Los Amigos' Reyes receives first-team All-Garden Grove

Los Amigos High senior utility player Madeline Reyes has earned first-team All-Garden Grove League honors in girls' water polo.

Reyes helped the Lobos (6-13, 2-2 in league) finish tied for third in the five-team league and advance to the CIF Southern Section Division 5 playoffs. Los Amigos lost at Costa Mesa 20-5 in the first round.

Los Amigos sophomore goalkeeper Jasmine Crosthwaite was a second-team all-league selection.

La Quinta's Crystal Hoang was the Garden Grove League MVP. Loara's Danielle Jiron earned Offensive MVP honors, while Rancho Alamitos' Quincy Alberto was the Defensive MVP and Allie Cole the Goalie of the Year.

La Quinta and Loara shared the league title.

Ocean View's Knox is first-team All-Golden West

Ocean View High senior attacker Autumn Knox has earned first-team All-Golden West League honors in girls' water polo.

Knox led the Seahawks, who finished 8-16 overall in 3-5 in league play. Ocean View finished fourth in the six-team league and failed to qualify for the CIF Southern Section Division 6 playoffs. Ocean View junior utility player Angelina Franzetti was a second-team all-league selection.

Segerstrom senior attacker Destiny Hernandez earned Golden West League MVP honors for leading the Jaguars to the league championship.

—From staff reports

BOYS' BASKETBALL

Liberty's Khai Le named to first team

Liberty Christian School junior point guard Khai Le has earned first-team All-Western League accolades in boys' basketball.

Le helped the Minutemen finish 5-9 overall and 3-5 in the league, finishing in fourth place. Liberty Christian failed to qualify for the CIF Southern Section Division 5A playoffs. Junior forward Sullivan Mueller was second-team all-league for Liberty, while junior center Nathan Harris was honorable mention.

—From staff reports

BOYS' SOCCER

Edison's Armand Pigeon earns Surf League MVP

Edison High senior forward Armand Pigeon was named the Surf League MVP for helping the boys' soccer team repeat as the league champion.

Pigeon supplied a team-high nine goals to go with two assists for the Chargers (15-6-1, 4-2 in league), who won their fourth consecutive league title. Edison suffered a 2-1 loss to Mission Viejo 2-1 in the first round of the CIF Southern Section Division 1 playoffs.

Edison senior center back Ethan Van Bu-

ren received the league's Most Outstanding Defensive Player award, and Newport Harbor senior forward Jack Starnes was the Most Outstanding Offensive Player.

Edison senior midfielders Kai Peterson and Marcus Henze, and senior defenders Nick Morrell and Padric Pigeon earned first-team all-league honors.

Henze provided three goals and four assists as an attacking midfielder, and Morrell scored two goals this season.

Second-place Corona del Mar (11-8, 3-3) had senior forwards Chase Marion and Aidan Holmes, and junior center back Carson Webb on the first team. In the first round of the Division 1 playoffs, the Sea

Kings lost 2-0 to Servite.

Senior midfielder Jimmy Castillo and senior defender Jason Hayward earned first-team honors for the last-place Sailors (11-7-1, 2-4), who fell 2-0 to La Habra in the second round of the Division 2 playoffs.

The second-team selections included Edison senior defender James Broussard, junior defender Fin Roghair and junior midfielder Trent Bellinger, CdM senior center back Zane Weaver, senior goalkeeper Nik Darrough and junior midfielder Chris Casey, and Newport Harbor junior midfielders Nicolas Del Villar and Kevin Soltero.

—From staff reports



ARMAND PIGEON (7) looks to pass in a match against Mira Costa at Laguna Hills High on Dec. 28, 2019.

Raul Roa

Fountain Valley's Sebastian Rus is Wave League MVP

Fountain Valley High junior striker Sebastian Rus earned the Wave League MVP award for leading the Barons to their first league championship in boys' soccer since the 2007-08 season.

Rus scored 16 goals and added eight assists for the Barons (9-7-3, 5-0-1 in league). Fountain Valley fell to Mater Dei 6-1 in the first round of the CIF Southern Section Division 1 playoffs.

Huntington Beach senior center back Jared Rhone received the league's Most Outstanding Defensive Player award, while Laguna Beach senior forward Jett Rocha was the Most Outstanding Offensive Player.

The Barons had senior midfielders Austin Pennella and Tyler Le, senior defender Connor Wright and junior defender Cantor Wright on the first team.

Pennella scored eight goals to go with four assists.

Huntington Beach senior midfielder Justin Fujimori, sophomore defender Reid

Fisher and sophomore goalkeeper Daniel Kotkosky made the first team, along with Laguna Beach senior forward Beck Kesler and senior Diego Tellez.

Marina got first-team representation from senior goalkeeper Kyle Miller and senior forward Damian Campos.

Miller helped the last-place Vikings (7-11-3, 1-5) total five shutouts this season. Campos had seven goals and three assists.

Fountain Valley junior goalkeepers Jack Nelson and Connor Trapp, as well as senior midfielder Omar Shukairy, earned second-team all-league honors.

Junior defender Slater Hammer, senior defender Sean Ishijima and junior midfielder Josh Lucas made the second team for runner-up Huntington Beach (10-8-5, 4-1-1), which lost at Goleta Dos Pueblos 3-0 in the second round of the Division 2 playoffs.

The third-place Breakers (7-10-2, 2-4) had seniors John Ford and Cole Needham garner second-team honors.

Marina senior striker Eric Church and junior defender Cooper Livingston were second-team honorees.

—From staff reports

Estancia's Marcos Arreola shares Orange Coast League Offensive MVP honors

Estancia High senior striker Marcos Arreola shared Orange Coast League Offensive MVP honors in boys' soccer.

Arreola scored 12 goals and had six assists this season for the Eagles (5-12-7, 4-2-4 in league), who finished in third place

in the league and lost 4-0 to La Habra in the first round of the CIF Southern Section Division 2 playoffs.

Arreola split the Offensive MVP award with senior forward Omar Hernandez of second-place Saddleback (10-8-4, 5-3-2).

Estancia senior defender Chris Ayala, junior midfielder JR Garcia and freshman defender Chris Sollano earned first-team all-league honors.

Costa Mesa had senior goalkeeper Wal-

ter Olmedo and senior midfielder Alan Morales selected to the first team.

Garcia contributed four assists for the Eagles. Sollano had one goal and one assist.

Estancia's second-team honorees were sophomore forward Felix Solis and freshman goalkeeper Cesar Pedroza.

Costa Mesa senior midfielder Marco Castrejon and junior forward Ethan Ervey made the second team.

The Mustangs went 4-10-8 overall and 2-3-5 in league play, ending the season in fifth place.

Santa Ana senior center midfielder Cesar Zamora was named the Orange Coast League MVP after leading the Saints (20-4-3, 8-0-2) to the league title.

Senior center midfielder Omar Calderon of fourth-place Orange (11-9-4, 3-4-3) was named the Defensive MVP.

—From staff reports