

# Daily Pilot

SUNDAY, APRIL 18, 2021 /// Now including Coastline Pilot and Huntington Beach Independent /// dailypilot.com

## Laguna Beach to consider adjusting penalties

Fines imposed for littering and drinking in public would be consistent with other violations of the municipal code.

BY ANDREW TURNER

At its meeting on Tuesday, the Laguna Beach City Council will consider adopting an ordinance that calls for bringing the penalties imposed for littering and drinking in public on par with those levied for other violations of the city's municipal code.

The standard penalty for a violation of the municipal code in Laguna Beach is \$100 for a first offense, \$200 for a second violation within a 12-month period, and \$500 for each additional offense within that time frame.

The agenda bill, submitted by Laguna Beach Police Chief Robert Thompson, aims to repeal sections of the municipal code pertaining to drinking and littering, for which there are lesser fines.

In Laguna Beach, a first offense for littering is \$25, it is \$50 for a second, and then \$100 for any further violations.

For drinking, the first offense is \$30, the second is \$60, and any that come after are considered to be misdemeanors.

If the ordinance passes, the fines associated with littering and drinking would be consistent with those handed out for other violations of the Laguna Beach municipal code.

There will be a second reading for an ordinance that will repeal a section of the Laguna Beach municipal code that previously criminalized the use of certain speech characterized as "profane, vulgar or boisterous" at City Council meetings. The council unanimously approved the repeal at its last meeting.

Also on the consent calendar is an agenda item for the council to consider applying for recertification as a Tree City USA community.

Laguna Beach just received news of its recognition as such a community by the Arbor Day Foundation, making it the third year in a row that the city has ap-

See **Laguna**, page A3



Photos by Susan Hoffman

ARTIST MARY CHABRE stabilizes one of her large metal sculptures that hang in her Balboa studio.

## Master of the curve

Balboa artist Mary Chabre said she learned how to create colorful sculptures from aluminum flashing, the only metal stocked by the nearby hardware store.

BY SUSAN HOFFMAN

Creating art from aluminum flashing, like so many things, began as a happy accident, according to artist Mary Chabre.

For three summers the Newport Beach resident had attended advanced critique art classes at Anderson Ranch Art Center in Aspen, Colo. While there in 2015, she started using a Guerra Paint & Pigment product, a polyurethane-pigment infusion, to achieve a high gloss effect that she could not achieve with oils.

When she began having trouble working with it on canvas her instructor suggested she try the new paint medium on metal.

She headed to the local hardware store to pick up some



CHABRE PREPARES to touch up one of her large metal sculptures that hang from her Balboa studio.

metal and discovered the only thing they stocked was aluminum flashing.

"I asked the clerk to cut it into 12-by-12 squares and when he took the tape off [the roll], it started to unroll," Chabre recalled. "It got out of the clerk's control."

The freeform result inspired Chabre, who then changed her

mind about having it cut into the 12-inch squares and took the entire roll instead. The next week, she showed up at the studio and painted on it.

"I go to the material to see what it wants to do," Chabre said. "The best ones are a result of letting metal do what it

See **Master**, page A3

## UC Irvine appoints former dean to new role

Hal Stern, the founding chair of the department of statistics, will now be the provost and executive vice chancellor.

BY LILLY NGUYEN

UC Irvine found a new provost and executive vice chancellor in Hal Stern, a former dean of the Donald Bren School of Information and Computer Sciences and the founding chair of the department of statistics that has served as the interim provost since March.

Stern will replace Enrique Lavernia, who stepped down from his position last year after being put on administrative leave pending an external investigation into his academic and research activities.

Lavernia is still employed by the university as a distinguished professor in the department of chemical engineering and materials science, according to a campus spokesman who also stated that a federal agency is performing the investigation.

It is unclear what agency is conducting the investigation or its status.

Stern was appointed as the interim provost by Chancellor Howard Gillman in consultation with the Academic Senate to oversee the transition to remote learning and social distancing protocols last year at the start of the pandemic. Prior to his appointment as the interim, he was the vice provost of academic planning.

In his new official role, Stern will oversee the university's teaching and research enterprise, which includes 14 schools and more than 4,000 faculty members and 224 degree programs.

Stern arrived at the university in 2002 and will also retain a faculty position as a chancellor's professor of statistics.

"I'm honored to have been



Hal Stern

See **Stern**, page A2

## Laguna Festival of Arts set to return

BY ANDREW TURNER

After being shut down last year due to the coronavirus pandemic, the Laguna Beach Festival of Arts is preparing to reopen to the public this summer.

The Festival of Arts plans to open to the

public again in July with the Pageant of the Masters and the Fine Art Show.

Made in America: Trailblazing Artists and Their Stories will be the theme for the Pageant of the Masters, for which

See **Arts**, page A3



Photo by Spencer Grant

NATASHA NELSON models Mariana Nelson's outfit made from ribbons left over from a school play on Aug. 18, 2019. In the background are judges Diane Challis Davy, Pageant of the Masters director, and Alex Jarger.



Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

### ALSO FROM THE DAILY PILOT:

**MARINA FOOTBALL REPEATS AS BIG 4 LEAGUE CHAMPION**  
Brantt Riederich had 181 rushing yards and two touchdowns to lead the Vikings to a 41-7 win over host Segerstrom in the Big 4 League championship game on Friday night.  
PAGE A5

**APODACA: REVISITING DR. DARK CLOUD'S PREDICTIONS A YEAR INTO THE PANDEMIC**  
PAGE A4

**EDISON GIRLS' LACROSSE FALLS TO SANTA MARGARITA IN OVERTIME**  
PAGE A6

## CdM graduate eager to share her 'Miracle' story

BY MATT SZABO

Twenty-year-old Lucie Courtois, who has written her first children's book, celebrated the fruits of her labor at a signing event Friday afternoon outside of Lido Village Books in Newport Beach.

Getting to this point for the 2020 Corona del Mar High School graduate might seem like a miracle in itself. She currently has some vision in her left eye but none in her right.

The Corona del Mar resident was born with corneal opacities and has received more than 20 corneal transplants. She began to use the services of Blind Children's Learning Center in Santa Ana as an infant.

"She's got another [book] that she's writing after this," said Courtois' mother, Carol Trapani, who sits on the BCLC board of directors. "She wants to inspire people who have any kind of disabilities, that they can do anything."

Trapani said it took her daughter a couple of years to write "Miracle: Endless Possibilities," a story with multi-



Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

LUCIE COURTOIS is guided by her mother, Carol Trapani, as she signs copies of her book, "Miracle: Endless Possibilities" during a book signing event on Friday.

ple characters. That's at least partially due to Courtois' outgoing personality, she said.

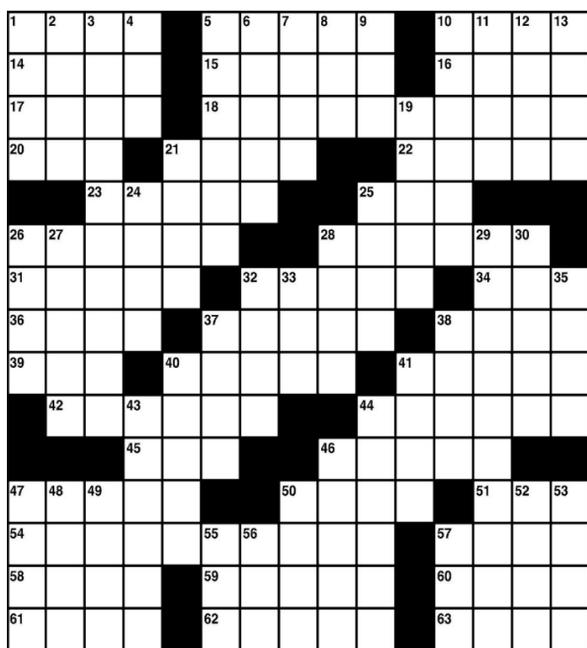
"She doesn't let her vision, or lack

See **Miracle**, page A2

**THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE**

By Jacqueline E. Mathews

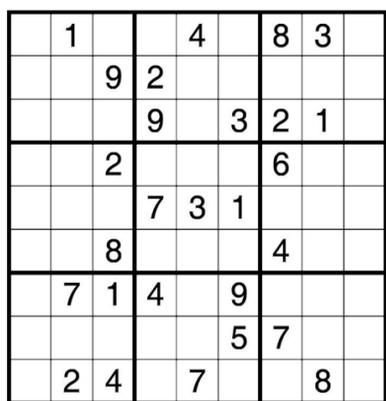
- ACROSS**  
 1 Friendly talk  
 5 Metal fastener  
 10 Read \_; study about  
 14 Theater box  
 15 Mild cigar  
 16 On the \_; offered to diners  
 17 Sudden \_; impulse  
 18 In \_; with hindsight  
 20 Word attached to wig or ring  
 21 Pasture cries  
 22 Installs electricity  
 23 Burst forth  
 25 Jolt  
 26 Determine the value of  
 28 Refreshes  
 31 Rattled  
 32 Nudges  
 34 Farm mama  
 36 Sully  
 37 Motel crew  
 38 Wingless insect  
 39 Before \_ long; very soon  
 40 Warbles  
 41 \_ mignon; beef-lover's treat  
 42 Dep. Barney Fife's portrayer  
 44 See the \_; take a tour  
 45 Dyer's tub  
 46 Dentist's directive  
 47 Thing of value  
 50 Word on a tombstone  
 51 Big game  
 54 Dwindling  
 57 Head for the hills  
 58 Start of the title of Howie's game show  
 59 Burn slightly  
 60 Tear in two  
 61 Agile  
 62 Do ironing  
 63 At \_; quarreling
- DOWN**  
 1 Hasn't a \_; is in the dark  
 2 Circle dance



**SUDOKU**

By The Mepham Group

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



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

- |                     |                           |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 3 Belligerence      | official                  |
| 4 20th letter       | 11 Look through a keyhole |
| 5 Leftover bits     | 12 All at _; suddenly     |
| 6 Shoe bottom ridge | 13 Eccentrics             |
| 7 "Phooey!"         | 19 Origami birds          |
| 8 Go astray         | 21 Arrest                 |
| 9 Wine and dine     | 24 Become dizzy           |

- 25 Elly May Clampett's pa & others  
 26 Eur. nation  
 27 Ghost  
 28 Serling & Stewart  
 29 Wealthy  
 30 \_-talk; use flattery  
 32 Cookware items  
 33 Big \_; huge truck  
 35 Consumes  
 37 Baseball glove  
 38 Desert fruits  
 40 Virginia, for one  
 41 Come upon  
 43 \_ optimistic; too hopeful  
 44 Military blockades  
 46 Marriage symbols  
 47 \_ up; tallies  
 48 Ooze out  
 49 Pockmark, e.g.  
 50 Have supper  
 52 Give to a borrower  
 53 Classic sneakers  
 55 Critter that bites  
 56 Knight's title  
 57 To and \_

Tribune Media Services



Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

**LUCIE COURTOIS**, far left, poses with her cousin, Nicholas O'Neal, 9, and Meredith Cagie, a Blind Children Learning Center staff member, as bookstore owner Michelle Pierce takes a picture during Friday's event at Lido Village Books in Newport Beach.

**MIRACLE**

Continued from page A1

thereof, stop her," Trapani said, adding that Lucie now attends California School for the Blind, a transition program to help create independence. "Miracle: Endless Possibilities" tells the story of a young, visually impaired third-grade boy who has to navigate the trials of bullying but also experiences friendship. Courtois said the book could be considered somewhat autobiographical, though there are differences from her own life.

At Friday's book signing, a nametag was inserted with Courtois' name in Braille in the front of each book, though she also signed some copies with a pen. It was a fun affair for family and friends, and her aunts, uncles and cousins traveled from New Orleans for the signing. Lucie's older brother, Luc, was inspired by her and is in medical school at Tulane University to become an ophthalmologist. "I'm so proud of her," said BCLC teacher Cathy McHugh, who showed up to lend support at the signing event.

"In the time that I worked with her, her Braille skills and writing skills went through the roof. She's extremely intelligent and she's got a wicked sense of humor, so immediately I could see so much potential in her. She's a little powerhouse." Courtois said she wrote the book because she wanted people to be inspired. "I don't want people to be lonely," she said. "They can reach out and connect with anyone."

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**STERN**

Continued from page A1

chosen to remain provost and executive vice chancellor at one of the country's top public research universities," Stern said in a statement.

"As the campus and society emerge from the many challenges of the past year, we will continue on our ambitious path to reach new heights of excellence and social impact," he added. Gillman said that Stern has impressed the community in the past year

with his leadership and that, after meeting with several candidates for the position, Stern has "the vision, experience, character and temperament to best serve UCI in the years to come."

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**MASTER***Continued from page A1*

wants to do...unfurl and natural physics prevail."

Chabre, her husband Gus and their offspring moved from Woodland Hills to Newport Beach in 1965. Twenty-two years later, after two of three of their children were grown and living on their own, the couple settled on the Balboa Peninsula Point.

The cottage they moved into was a Sears kit house that was basically a tear-down that they instead chose to fix up. It is considered to be one of the oldest houses in Newport Beach at 106 years old.

"Originally I got my art made on the porch, but I always had to clean up," said Chabre, who moved into her studio on Bay Street in 2017, which provides more room for the large metal pieces.

"They are a lot of fun,

*Susan Hoffman*

**MARY CHABRE'S** creation hangs from the ceiling of the Peckenpaugh house in Corona del Mar.

but take up a lot of space," Chabre said. "It's a real learning curve to make these things stick together.

I had to learn how to use a rivet."

Chabre, who had once taught elementary school

and had been an interior design entrepreneur, always wanted to study art. She took art classes at

Orange Coast College for three years before enrolling at UC Irvine in 1996, where she earned her degree in studio art.

During her time as a student in the UCI studio art, she received the Arts-Bridge scholarship, which was originally created by UCI in 1996 as a way to fill a needed art instruction shortage in California due to budget cuts.

The UCI students who received the scholarships funded by private and corporate sponsors, would teach various forms of art to K-12 students from local schools. Just under three years later the UC school system adopted the program for all of their campuses.

"The ArtsBridge scholarship led me to teach," said Chabre, who first taught at Newport elementary before volunteering at the two small Catholic schools in Santa Ana. "It's a wonderfully satisfying thing

for me to do."

On her website, Chabre writes in her artist's statement that if her work could talk, "...it would say: 'Lighten up! Let it go! Unwind!' This dynamic 'other energy' exists in all of my work. It begins with me, but ultimately allows for chance or the unintended to put skin in the game."

Among the clients who were attracted to Chabre's large metal pieces were Barbara and Tom Peckenpaugh, who installed in their living room the large replica of a film strip that Chabre created.

"During the pandemic Mary sent us an email about her artwork in an art gallery show which was virtual," Tom Peckenpaugh said. "Barbara and I both ended up liking the same piece."

**SUSAN HOFFMAN** is a contributor to Times Community News.

**ARTS***Continued from page A1*

tickets go on sale to the general public beginning May 3.

Festival of Arts officials decided to proceed with opening the doors for both shows in July at a board meeting on Wednesday. The plan is to entertain guests daily from July 5 to Sept. 3.

David Perry, the president for the Festival of Arts, said that organizers worked closely with city staff to help guide a return for its summer events while following public health guidance.

He thanked Laguna Beach Mayor Bob Whalen, Assistant City Manager Shohreh Dupuis, Laguna Beach police Cpt. Rachel Johnson and Laguna Beach Cultural Arts Manager Sian Poeschl for their efforts.

"Relieved, elated and thankful are words that immediately come to mind on how I feel that our doors will open this summer," Perry wrote in an email regarding the festival's summer events returning. "It's been a tough year, one with a lot of uncertainties and challenges. Now that we have the

'green light' to resume our production, the real work begins.

"Preparations are already underway. In less than three months, we will be welcoming guests back to reconnect with the arts, our exhibitors and the Laguna Beach community."

For updates on or to purchase tickets to the Pageant of the Masters and the Fine Art Show, go to [foapom.com](http://foapom.com), and follow the Festival of Arts on social media using the tag @FestivalPageant.

Perry added that the Festival of Arts looks forward to bringing the community together again to interact with art and each other.

"Fans may look forward to once again exploring the artwork of local artists and marvel at art that comes to life in the Pageant of the Masters," Perry said.

"The pageant theme will be *Made in America: Trailblazing Artists and Their Stories*. Pageant director Diane Challis Davy and her team are already backstage picking up where they left off last year."

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**LAGUNA BEACH**

Police Chief Robert Thompson is bringing an agenda bill to Tuesday's Laguna Beach City Council meeting that addresses the penalties for littering and drinking in public.

*Courtesy of the Laguna Beach Police Department Twitter page*

**LAGUNA***Continued from page A1*

peared on the Tree City USA list.

The meeting will begin at 5 p.m. in the recently established hybrid format, allowing members of the public to participate in

public comment sessions in person should they choose to do so.

Those who speak before the council in Council Chambers are required to wear a face covering, and they are to exit through the front door after speaking on their subject of interest.

Access to the City Council

meetings is still available online. To tune into Tuesday's meeting, go to [lagunabeachcity.zoom.us/j/96634159517](https://lagunabeachcity.zoom.us/j/96634159517).

The meeting can also be viewed on Cox cable channel 852.

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Pottery Barn

# AT HOME *in the garden*

## APRIL 22-25

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forum

COLUMN | **PATRICE APODACA**

# Revisiting Dr. Dark Cloud's predictions a year into the pandemic

**A** year ago I interviewed Dr. Dark Cloud, and it was a jaw-dropper.

Otherwise known as Andrew Noymer, an associate professor of Public Health at UC Irvine and a noted authority on past pandemics and a self-identified data nerd — the good doctor discussed with me the coronavirus pandemic, which was then still in its early stages.

What he related was indeed dark. If I may summarize, he warned of the likelihood that the year ahead would be bad and that many people would die.

At the time, I recall, the column I wrote about Noymer prompted some skeptical responses. Back then he was tweeting regular “gut checks” about potential mortality numbers, which — depending on various factors that could change daily — usually projected a total of at least several hundred thousand deaths nationwide.

Although Noymer stressed that these numbers

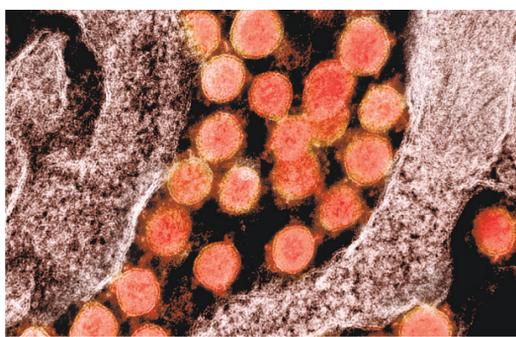
didn't represent a hard prediction, he offered them as a reality check at a time when many people weren't taking the threat of the pandemic as seriously as they should.

With the U.S. death count from the COVID-19 virus now approaching 600,000, it's clear that more of us should have paid closer attention to what he was trying to tell us.

I caught up with Noymer recently to ask him to reflect on the past year, how his expectations matched up with reality, what we've learned about the spread of the novel coronavirus and what we might experience going forward.

For all that he got right about the progression of the pandemic, Noymer acknowledged that there were some notable details that he missed earlier on, such as the specific timing and manner in which waves of the disease rolled out in different geographic regions.

And for all his dire warnings, it turns out that Noymer wasn't pessimistic



National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases-Rocky Mountain Laboratories

**TRANSMISSION ELECTRON** micrograph of new coronavirus particles, isolated from a patient.

enough about Orange County, where he expected the death count from COVID-19 to top out at about 4,000. The number is now nearing 5,000, and could surpass that benchmark by June.

“That tells you that even Dr. Dark Cloud was too optimistic,” he said. “It was even worse than I thought.”

But what struck me most about Noymer's current outlook is that, for someone known for his blunt and sometimes ominous warnings, he is now surprisingly sanguine.

“I have to say that I am very optimistic right now, believe it or not,” he said. “In California, our numbers are looking better than ever.”

But, as one should expect, that more favorable outlook came with a cautionary note.

“I'm less certain than I was a year ago,” he told me. “Even though much of what I said was born out, I'm less certain now. There's still a lot of mysteries.”

What remains to be seen, he said, is whether the state's greatly improved case rate will hold, or if we'll experience a resurgence similar to ones that are occurring in other states such as Michigan.

As Noymer explained it, after hitting a scary high peak in January, California's numbers began to fall, and we are now in “a trough.”

“We have the golden opportunity here in the Golden State to vaccinate like mad in the next six weeks and ensure that the trough is a low plateau and not a dip between waves.”

He is also circumspect

regarding the outlook nationwide. In part that's because the virus continues to mutate, and variants have taken hold in many areas. Recently U.S. health authorities announced that the mutant strain first identified in the United Kingdom last winter is now the predominant strain in the United States.

There's strong evidence that the vaccines approved for use here provide good protection against this variant. But less is known about other, potentially more contagious and deadly variants that have been spreading rapidly in other countries. And it's likely that still more variants will emerge that could threaten efforts to contain the pandemic.

Despite the positive news — U.S. case rates much improved from the worst days of the pandemic, and four million people a day now receiving vaccine doses — the sad reality is that the progress we've made won't be enough to prevent more heartache.

“There are more deaths that are going to happen. I'm sorry to say it,” Noymer said.

How many more is impossible to forecast, given that there are still many unknown factors and the reality that the virus is still surging in some places around the globe. Noymer doubts that the United States will emerge from this nightmare without seeing at least 100,000 more fatalities. Preventing an even worse outcome hinges on a continued massive vaccination

See *Apodaca*, page A6

**A WORD, PLEASE**  
**JUNE CASAGRANDE**

# Grammar rules change over time, and many of them aren't even real

**A**bout a decade ago, I read a blog written by a linguistics student who proclaimed, “Prescriptivism must die!!!”

He was talking about the school of thought that believes that textbooks and other language authorities should lay down rules about how to use certain words and grammatical structures. This school of thought, which ruled the day in the 1950s and '60s, says we need a Big Book of Grammar No-Nos and that everyone who doesn't follow those rules is wrong.

The alternative to prescriptivism is descriptivism, which points out that language rules aren't static and can't be forced. What was wrong a century or two ago is right today. For example, the word “girl” used to mean a child of either sex. So it would have been wrong to insist “girl” referred specifically to a female child. Our language is always in flux, with every word in transition between incorrect and correct. So it doesn't make sense to insist that “cool” is a temperature and not a state of Fonziness.

Some say this is linguistic anarchy. Not true. Descriptivism recognizes that language has rules. They're just more liquid than prescriptivists would like. And those rules are made by everyone who speaks the language, not a few tweedy academics trying

to boss everyone else around.

Still, I disagreed with the blogger. Being older than him, I could see clearly that “prescriptivism must die” was a bad take. It didn't need any help dying. It already had one foot in the grave. Prescriptivist rules I'd been hearing for years were falling out of favor and they continue to.

Here are some of the supposed rules I used to hear a lot and don't hear much anymore.

**Don't split an infinitive.** People used to say that “to boldly go” was a grammatical error because the adverb is sandwiched between infinitive “to” and the base verb “go,” theoretically splitting that infinitive. But there's no such rule and never has been. If there were, you'd have to say, “He seems really to like pizza” instead of “He seems to really like pizza.”

**Don't end a sentence with a preposition.**

Sometimes, a preposition like “with” or “to” or “at” is terrible at the end of a sentence. “Who have you been talking so loudly and rudely that neighbors two blocks away can hear you to?” But the only rules that apply here are common sense and clear communication. “Who have you been talking to” is fine with “to” at the end as long as the sentence works.

**Don't start a sentence**

See *A Word*, page A6



Genevieve Ko | Los Angeles Times

**A KALE SALAD** can be described as “healthy,” which can mean “healthful,” columnist June Casagrande writes.

## Daily Pilot

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**E. Gene Crain**

March 2, 1934 - April 5, 2021

E. Gene Crain, 87, passed on April 5, 2021 after a lifetime of passions, accomplishments and friendships. He is survived by his wife of 53 years Diane, two children Jennifer (Greg Roth) and David (Candace), four grandchildren Polly, Madeline, Carly, and Lucas, and his sister, Carol Wood.

Born in Weatherford, Oklahoma, Gene moved to Orange County, California in 1942. He attended Newport Harbor High School and enjoyed an early career as a soda jerk at the Jolly Roger on Balboa Island. Gene studied at Pomona College where he triple majored in History, Government and Economics and was most proud of his time spent representing the Sagehens on the baseball field. After a stint in the Army, Gene's sharp intellect and analytical skills earned him a scholarship to the University of Chicago Law School and a rewarding 53 years of practicing law.

Gene was a resident of Laguna Beach for over 50 years. He was an integral part of Laguna's art scene and a supporter of the Laguna Beach Art Museum. Amongst Gene's greatest friends were a group of California scene painters who shared his lifelong fascination and love for the region. For 60 years, Gene pursued an endless appreciation for these artists' ability to portray humanity and its relationship to nature. Through the mentorship and close friendship of Rex Brandt, Joan Irving, Phil Dike and Millard Sheets, Gene built a collection that was the most meaningful and enjoyable part of his life, outside of his family and friends. His collection has been displayed in numerous exhibits and shows, including the California Holiday show at the Laguna Museum of Art in 2002.

Baseball was truly Gene's greatest pastime. He was a student of the game and played throughout his life, even into his 70's as part of the Dodgers Fantasy Camps where he was inducted into the Fantasy Camp Hall of Fame. He was an avid fan of both the Dodgers and the Angels. He was a supporter of Laguna Beach Little League, which he presided over from 1982-1987, and many other local baseball programs including UCI, Newport Harbor High School and the local junior colleges. He never ran out of baseball trivia questions to ask, and could invariably answer any trivia question asked of him.

Gene greeted everyday by sharing a cup of coffee in Laguna Beach with his best friends, talking baseball, politics, Jeopardy, and relating stories of a life fully lived. He will be dearly missed.

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**HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL**

## Marina repeats as Big 4 champion with 41-7 win

**BY ANDREW TURNER**

SANTA ANA — For all that the Marina High School football program accomplished last season, the current version of the Vikings had one thing left to do that did not happen the year prior.

Marina earned a 41-7 victory over host Segerstrom to repeat as champion of the Big 4 League, and in the process, ended the season on a win.

In capturing the CIF Southern Section Division 11 championship, the program's first CIF title, last season was historic.

The season that was played out this spring will go down in history on its own merits — for what it took to get there due to the coronavirus pandemic, as well as for the gratitude the team felt to have a six-week season amid all that uncertainty.

Marina coach Jeff Turley said that a standard is continuing to be set within the program, one that started with what he called "a very gifted senior class" last year.

"That's all you can ask for," Turley said. "That's what you want to do to build a program is get a standard set and have kids keep trying to live up to that standard, and if you do that, you're going to get successful, and it's going to keep snowballing."

Seniors starred in the league championship repeat performance for the Vikings (5-1, 3-0 in the Big 4 League), who capped the season with a five-game winning streak.

Brantt Riederich exploded for 181 rushing yards and two touchdowns, while also making three catches for 50 yards. His night included a 65-yard rushing touchdown on a third-and-20 carry up the middle that he broke out to the left sideline.

"I just have one goal in mind, and that's to get to the end zone," said Riederich, who intimidated



**MARINA'S GAVIN DEL TORO** tries to make a catch while being pressured by a Segerstrom defender.

that he believes he has played his last football game.

"I definitely have to thank everyone, [offensive] line, receivers and all that. Blocking is not the easiest thing, and I know that, so them really getting their hands on someone helps out a lot."

Jack Miller completed passes to six receivers, compiling 229 passing yards and three touchdowns. His leading receiver was Wyatt McClour with 67 yards.

Dane Brenton made both of his catches count, as they went for touchdowns of 12 and 17 yards. Gavin Dykema added three grabs for 61 yards, including a leaping reception for a 21-yard touchdown in the third quarter.

"For the longest time, Marina football [had] been the floor mat of the Sunset League," Miller said. "My first year, as a sophomore, we went 3-7 and we finished third [in the Big 4] League, and to just bounce back and to grow at the same time has been a blessing. All these guys are my family, so just to do this with them, it means the world to me."

Facing a run-heavy offense against Segerstrom (2-1), the Vi-



Photos by Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

**MARINA HIGH'S** Brantt Riederich attempts to avoid a tackle from Segerstrom's Erik Martinez on Friday night.

kings got downhill and made a handful of plays in the backfield.

Micah Asato had 1½ sacks, and Owen Strampello and Riederich each recorded one full sack. Alfonso Vega and Simon Tsu also had solo tackles for a loss.

There were three touchdowns scored within 26 seconds in the fourth quarter, beginning with Riederich's 65-yard run. During the stretch, Segerstrom scored its lone touchdown on a kickoff return by Allan Serrano.

The Jaguars attempted to execute a pooch kick right after, but it was taken back for a touchdown by Marina's Luke Lastra.

"It's a ton of adrenaline," Asato said of the defensive performance. "It's a blast."

In a fast-moving first half, Marina did just enough offensively to keep the Segerstrom running game from controlling the clock and keeping the game close.

The Vikings worked their way out of a second-down-and-30 hole from their own 35-yard-line. Passes from Miller to McClour and Dykema helped move the sticks, and Riederich found the end zone from 10 yards out to open the scoring with 2:42 left in the first quarter.

Segerstrom had to wait even longer than most teams to get its season started, as a positive COVID-19 test within the program resulted in the cancellation of two games.

The Jaguars, however, earned

wins against Garden Grove and Westminster to earn the right to play for the league title on Friday night.

"I can't tell you how proud I am of these kids, their resiliency, just continually taking adversity one step at a time and just constantly moving forward," Segerstrom coach Joe Tagaloa said before the game.

"Nobody has hung their head, nobody has pointed fingers, nobody feels sorry for themselves. These kids are mentally tough, and they just keep working out here, and they're here to compete."

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## HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

# Estancia wins seventh Battle for the Bell game in a row over Costa Mesa

BY MATT SZABO

Estancia High School senior Lucas Pacheco took pictures after Friday night's game with not only his teammates, but his older brothers Trevor and Nathan and his parents.

Trevor graduated in 2019, and Nathan a year after. This unique season has given Lucas a chance to shine in his senior year as well.

The brothers' father, Jack Pacheco, also played football at Estancia, but the window closed on the family's football legacy at the school after this year's Eagles ended the season in the Battle for the Bell game against rival Costa Mesa.

That is, unless another generation of Pachecos comes walking through that door.

"It's been an amazing ride," Estancia football coach Mike Bargas said. "I hope they have another one hiding someplace. We've gotten our money's worth out of the Pachecos. They've been a wonderful football family for us, and they're going to be dearly missed. Somebody else has got to pick up the pace now."

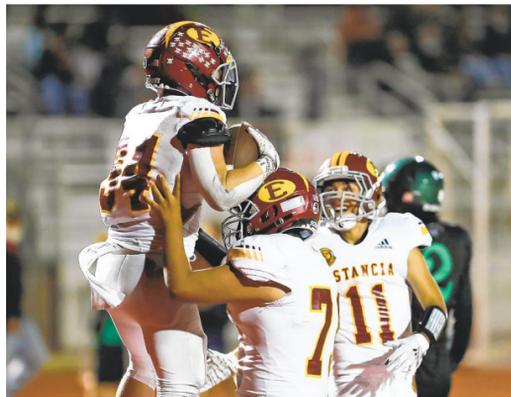
The Eagles rode Lucas Pacheco to another impressive win against their crosstown rivals. Estancia routed Costa Mesa 42-3 at Jim Scott Stadium, earning its seventh straight Battle for the Bell win and 10th in its last 11 tries.

With no playoffs in this delayed and abbreviated season, things ended for both Estancia (3-3, 1-2 in league) and Costa Mesa (0-5, 0-2) on Friday night.

Lucas Pacheco scored a touchdown on both his first carry of the night and his last. In between, he was impressive, too. He finished with 22 carries for 250 yards and a career-high five touchdowns.

"I think we really deserve that win," said Pacheco, headed for Marian University in Indiana to play rugby. "We've been practicing all year long, waiting for it, hoping for that 1% chance of having a season and it finally came. We worked our butts off for it."

"It's not just me, it's the whole team. They're just



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

**ESTANCIA'S LUCAS PACHECO** (34) celebrates with teammates after scoring against Costa Mesa during Friday's game at Estancia. The Eagles rolled to a 42-3 victory.

pushing me during the off-season to get stronger, get faster, get better. They really made me want to stand out even more, to be the best I can for this team."

The offensive line — senior left tackle Ethan Jones, senior left guard Ethan Rodriguez, senior center Bryan Agustin, junior right guard Misael Sandoval and senior right tackle Freddy Guzman — opened up holes for Pacheco all night, as did sophomore tight end Oswaldo Sanchez.

Jones, a transfer from Costa Mesa, had the unique ability to say he has seen both sides of the rivalry game.

"We had a short season, but we had a long time to get prepared," he said. "We might not have been able to practice together like that, but we still put in our work at the gym, at a park or something. We all made sure that we paid what we owed."

Estancia scored touchdowns on four of its five possessions in the first half, grabbing a 28-3 half-time lead. Senior quarterback Luke Hutchinson also had a passing touchdown, finding Jack Burns in the back right corner of the end zone.

Hutchinson, who started the year at wide receiver, played his second game at quarterback for the Eagles. They tried several players at the position this season, including Pacheco for a game, after starter Cameron Knickerbocker got hurt.

"It means everything, coming back here and playing in this game," Hutchinson said. "I've been going and watching this game since I was in second grade, and being able to play in it and being able to fight for my school is just unreal."

Costa Mesa got its only points when Dylan Oliver made a 33-yard field goal attempt on the Mustangs' second drive of the game.

The Mustangs used a varied passing attack, and quarterback Nick Burton completed his first eight passes of the game. But the Estancia defense, led by senior defensive end Cameron Ruehling (four sacks), was too much.

Chris Pacheco and Noah Aires combined to sack Burton in the end zone in the first half for a safety.

For Costa Mesa, Oliver had an interception on defense. He and Joe Paxson led Mustang receivers with six catches each for 65 and 58 yards, respectively.

Regardless of the final score, both teams could appreciate the fact that they were able to have the Battle for the Bell game in the first place.

Bargas said his returning players get two weeks off, then it's time to prepare for the fall season.

"Sometimes we're the only continuity and hope for these guys," he said. "Luckily for us, we had a football season, and I think we made the most of it."

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## GIRLS' LACROSSE



Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

**EDISON'S ALEXANDRA BRYANT** scores against Santa Margarita's Brooke Cressy, left, and Caroline Sanders, right, during the first half in Huntington Beach on Saturday.

## Edison beaten by Santa Margarita in overtime

BY ANTHONY CIARDELLI

A lot has happened since Edison High School defeated Santa Margarita in girls' lacrosse more than a year ago, but the Eagles didn't forget that loss.

That was apparent by the intensity that the Santa Margarita players exhibited throughout their 10-9 overtime victory over the host Chargers.

Heading into the game, the CIF Southern Section Division 1 poll ranked Edison fourth, one spot above Santa Margarita.

Junior midfielder Molly Jacobson scored the game-winner with 21 seconds remaining in overtime for the win. Jacobson relished the opportunity to beat Edison with one shot.

"When I went [to the] goal, all I was thinking about was winning and that I wanted to win it for us," she said. "It lit a fire under me."

Junior midfielder Caroline Sanders also performed well for Santa Margarita (5-1), leading all scorers with four goals.

"The energy we have on our team was definitely carrying over from last year," Sanders said. "We wanted to get back at them, and we wanted to beat them. I've been scoring consistently this year, but I definitely came in fired up and ready to score more."

Santa Margarita head coach Katie Jasien saw her team as the underdog, a

role the Eagles took to happily.

"Edison has had some really great wins already this season," she said. "They have a really strong program from coaching down to their players on the field. We wanted it, we knew we were the underdogs coming in, and we fought the entire game."

Edison spread its offensive production throughout the lineup. Blakely Malpass, Anna Beachner, Gwen Ontiveros and Ali Bryant each scored two goals, while Bohuen Tong scored one.

Although the Eagles won the match, Edison (3-2) has compiled some impressive wins in the program's three-year history. That includes this year's season-opening win over St. Margaret's, ranked No. 2 in the CIF Southern Section poll at the time.

Perhaps that success stems from the fact that some of Edison's upperclassmen coached the underclassmen when they were in middle school.

"I saw these girls when they couldn't even hold a stick," Bryant said. "Now they're out here competing with some of the top talent in the O.C."

To Malpass, that former coach-to-player relationship has translated into excellent team chemistry.

"They also can ask us questions they are afraid to ask the real coach," she said.

"If you don't want to go

to Coach to ask us a question, you can ask a teammate who is not only a former coach but a friend. It makes it more of a family."

Bryant and Malpass continued to lead their younger teammates by example, battling Santa Margarita to the end.

Malpass played a significant role in helping Edison dig out of an early deficit, assisting on Beachner's early game-tying goal to make it 3-3 in the first half.

She then scored a go-ahead goal later in the half to bring the score to 5-4.

Bryant excelled in the clutch, scoring her second goal of the game, from the free position, with just under 90 seconds remaining to tie Santa Margarita at 9-9.

Unfortunately for Edison, the overtime period saw Santa Margarita win a long ground ball battle before Jacobson eventually beat Cailien Gorsuch to win it for the Eagles.

Edison coach Olivia Smart came out of the loss encouraged.

"I feel good," she said. "We had a lot of mistakes but nothing we can't improve on. They never give up. I've never coached a team with so much heart and desire to win."

Edison hosts Yorba Linda on Tuesday.

**ANTHONY CIARDELLI** is a contributor to Times Community News.

## A WORD

Continued from page A4

with "and." You can see the logic behind this one. "And" links things, so when you start a sentence with "and" you're bisecting an idea. But that's not quite how it works.

Yes, "and" can link things within sentences. But it can also link things between sentences. So it's fine to say, "Jane's a good worker. And she's punctu-

al, too." But here's something to consider: When I'm editing articles, I usually take out the "ands" at the heads of sentences. The reason? Unnecessary words are, well, unnecessary.

Lop off an "and" at the beginning of the sentence and you usually end up with a more efficient sentence.

**Don't use "healthy" to mean "healthful."** A while back, "healthful" was the favored term for

something that promotes good health: a healthful diet. "Healthy" was what you became when you ate a healthful diet. Check any dictionary and you'll see that's not the case. Healthy can mean healthful.

**Don't use "none" with a plural verb.** Some people insist that, because "none" means "not one," it requires a singular verb. "Of all these shirts, none is the right size," suggests "not one is the right size."

By this reasoning, you can't say "Of all these shirts, none are the right size." However, "none" doesn't only mean "not one." It also means "not any," which does take a plural verb. So just use your best judgment.

**JUNE CASAGRANDE** is the author of "The Joy of Syntax: A Simple Guide for All the Language You Know You Should Know." She can be reached at [JuneTCN@aol.com](mailto:JuneTCN@aol.com).

## APODACA

Continued from page A4

effort.

"The gut check isn't to say what's inevitable," he said. "The vaccine could really slam the brakes on this."

Despite his guarded optimism, Noymer's comments are sobering. They certainly offer a strong argument for all of us to do our part by continuing with recommended precautions and getting vaccinated as

soon as possible.

Then perhaps the next time I check in with him, Dr. Dark Cloud will have reason to report unequivocally a turn toward the clear skies and sunny days we've all been longing to see again.

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

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