# Daily Pilot

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2023 /// dailypilot.com

### Duck mutilations blamed on snapping turtles

ROBERT
DI MASSA,
a bird
watcher and
photographer
visits "duck
hill" at Mile
Square
Regional Park
in Fountain
Valley Oct.

20.

James Carbone



Some animal advocates express skepticism over official explanation of injured birds at Mile Square Regional Park.

### **BY SARA CARDINE**

State wildlife officials investigating the cause of waterfowl found at Mile Square Regional Park with mutilated bills say the injuries appear to be the work of snapping turtles, though some animal advocates are doubtful.

Tim Daly, a regional informa-

tion officer for California's Department of Fish & Wildlife, confirmed Wednesday the department's Law Enforcement Division collected five ducks and geese from the Fountain Valley park over a one-year period and sent them to a wildlife health laboratory in Sacramento.

Three of the birds were collected in July and August of 2022, while the remaining waterfowl were transported to the lab this summer for necrospies. All of the animals had either died from their injuries or been previously euthanized.

"There were enough reports coming in, whether from the public or the media, that the injuries seemed odd enough that it might be concluded that it was a person harming these ducks," Daly said. "It appears the cause of injuries to the birds' beaks were most likely a snapping turtle."

Illegal in California without a permit, snapping turtles are native to North America's East Coast. They can grow upward of 200 pounds and are known for strong, triangular-shaped jaws that snap

See **Duck,** page A3

# Patriots Day Parade names 2024 honorees

Laguna Beach resident Rick Shoemaker, one of a handful of names on the exclusive list, will serve as grand marshal.

### BY ANDREW TURNER

The Laguna Beach Patriots Day Parade is among the grandest traditions in town, and those who have found themselves selected to be recognized in the upcoming rendition certainly know it.

Honorees were recently announced by the parade committee. Held annually on the first Saturday in March, the theme for the next parade will be "Laguna Heritage."

Karyn Philippsen, who has been named the Citizen of the Year, said she is humbled by the honor. She added she remains a "bit in shock" after learning of it.

"When I look at this award, the parade is celebrating 57 years next year, whether it stopped once for rain or COVID, it's 57 years of celebration," Philippsen said. "I'm just thrilled to share the day with the selected honorees.

"It isn't just about next year, 2024. I'm being included in a legacy and an example of honor of people that gave their service with what appeared to be ease. I know and remember some of these people, and they all came before me, and they were outstanding, and I was in awe of them."

Philippsen was heavily involved in the tourism industry as a founding member of Visit Laguna Beach. She is also the founding president of Laguna Beach Sister Cities, the president of the Laguna Beach Library, and she has been a board member for the Laguna

The honor of grand marshal will go to Rick Shoemaker, a 54-year resident and a 45-year member of Laguna Presbyterian Church.

"The community of the town and of the church are people that

See **Parade,** page A5



Photos by Susan Hoffman

**ANTHONY GUTIERREZ** stands with his "sunset orange" 1955 Chevy Apache truck during the Newport Beach Classic Car-Truck Festival Saturday, Oct. 28 on the Balboa Peninsula. The event hosted by Knights of Columbus #15083 Balboa Council raised money for a number of charities.

# Classic cars and trucks shine at beachside charity event



**GARY BOLER** polishes his 1932 Ford Roadster, which he takes on road trips, during the Newport Beach Classic Car-Truck Festival.

### BY SUSAN HOFFMAN

About 150 cars and trucks shimmered against the sparkling expanse of the Pacific Ocean, which served as a backdrop last weekend for the fifth annual Newport Beach Classic Car-Truck Festival.

The charity event was hosted by Knights of Columbus #15083 Balboa Council and drew between 2,000 and 3,000 people to the Newport Elementary School playground on the sands of the Balboa Peninsula, according to event organizer Mark O'Ravitz. The group raised \$50,000 for its efforts.

"Now with the city into it, and quality sponsorships, [the show] has grown legs, " said O'Ravitz. "Until now, the city of Newport Beach was the only local city that

didn't have a car show. Now they're doing this for us."

Hoping to appeal to a younger demographic, the show included a kids' activity area with storytelling, face painting and a costume bike parade. A surf and snow expo was also added to bring in younger families, along with musical entertainment.

"Our [Knights of Columbus] organization has always been been a charitable organization, and along with Meals On Wheels, Share Our Selves and Be Well, for example, we're very involved in the Maui Relief effort, with donation 'Jars for Maui' available," said O'Ravitz.

Among the vehicles showcased at the festival was a 1966 Volkswagen double-cab pickup

See **Classic,** page A4

### COMMENTARY | DAVID HANSEN

### Laguna's youngest politician survives first year

early a year ago, Alex Rounaghi arrived in the Laguna Beach City Council chambers as its youngest member in history, believing he could revitalize a moribund, bickering group of elected leaders more than twice his age.

Now that his first-year honeymoon is ending, is he still the happy-go-lucky kid who wants to change the world?

"Yes,  $\bar{I}$  am. I don't regret it," he said, smiling. "It's a lot of work, but we're here to solve problems."

And in Laguna, there are always problems — real or imagined. The city is known for its entrenched, educated factions who know how to fight.

tions who know how to fight. So for Rounaghi, 25, it's been a lesson in diplomacy, and his

efforts have not gone unnoticed.
"One of the many reasons I
supported Alex for City Council

was that he connects well with

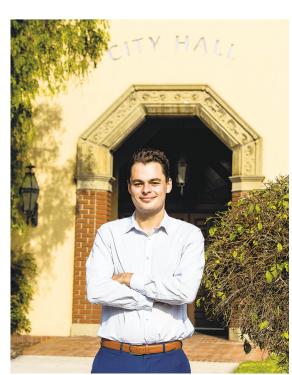
people — due to his optimistic and generally good nature and his ability to grasp the issues with a healthy dose of pragmatism," said one of his colleagues on the dais, Councilwoman Sue Kempf.

Kempf said Rounaghi is unafraid to volunteer for some of the city's most difficult projects, such as the undergrounding of Laguna Canyon Road.

"I have also witnessed him pressing for nuanced solutions, often begun through a thoughtful series of questions," she said. "Like most of us serving on the council, he is about the work versus sideshows. Make no mistake about it, the guy works.

And he is a breath of fresh air."
Laguna's problems might be good problems to have for most cities, but there are some significant challenges ahead.

See **Survives**, page A5



WITH A "Mr. Alex Goes to Washington" smile, Laguna Beach Councilman Alex Rounaghi has embraced his first year on the dais.

David Hansen

### ALSO FROM THE DAILY PILOT:



James Carbone

CDM FOOTBALL RIDES SECOND-HALF MOMENTUM TO FIRST-ROUND WIN OVER PARACLETE PAGE A5

NEWPORT-MESA UNIFIED TRUSTEE ANNOUNCES RUN FOR CITY COUNCIL PAGE A3 THE CROWD | B.W. COOK

# 'Mystical Black Tie' gala brings \$2 million to OCMA, fetes artist

he importance of the Orange County Museum of Art in relation to the people, culture and legacy of the community cannot be understated.

When historians and archaeologists excavate and examine our ancestral ancient civiliza-

tions, the artistic expression uncovered reveals more truth about the people than science can interpret.

Of course, we do not expect the modernist concrete and steel museum edifice in Costa Mesa designed by Morphosis Architects to be in a timeline for excavation and study at this moment in history. It is rather our community purpose, and perhaps even obligation, to support, embrace, and use this artistic vault to elevate culture and inspire ideas in this 21st century former bean field, now a major center of life on the Pacific

To this end, OCMA celebrated its third annual Art Sense Gala last month hosted by Heidi Zuckerman, the museum's chief executive and director.

The director has been the recipient of significant national press associated with the evolution of the museum and its artistic outreach. For the fall gala, billed as "Mystical Black Tie," event co-chairs Alexandra Airth and Reesa

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Photos by Reza Allah-Bakashi / Capture Imaging

**OCMA CEO** and director Heidi Zuckerman, center, with Art Sense co-chairs Alexandra Airth, left, and Reesa Emadi. More than \$2 million was raised for OCMA programs at a recent gala.

**Emadi** welcomed some 300 arts patrons dressed to impress. Mystical was in the eye of the beholder. Of most importance, the crowd raised \$2 million in support of museum programs.

Not only was the dress code "mystical," the setting of the outdoor fall evening was appropriate to the billing. Party décor and design by Leproux Collective was created to reflect the image of the honored guest artist, Jennifer Guidi.

Arriving with respectable fanfare, Guidi shared embraces with museum donors and board president Lucy Sun with husband Warren Felson, Barbara and Alex Bowie, Lauren and Trace Chalmers,

Carol Choi, Semira Darisushnia and her husband Mark Moshayed, Lisa and Richard Merage and Lilly and Paul Merage.

Zuckerman introduced the guest of honor Guidi to many in attendance, also welcoming additional artists in the crowd, Rebecca Morris, Peter Shelton and Mary Weatherford.

This has been one moment of significant reflection as I witnessed the coming together of this exhibition," Guidi said. "I was surprised how emotional it made me feel to see a decade of work in one place."

She attended the party and exhibition in her honor with her husband and fellow artist **Brooklin** 

Post a standing ovation in her honor, Zuckerman proudly shared news on the museum's successful first year since its debut in

"In the first year we have welcomed over 263,000 visitors to the museum we could not have done that without the support of everyone here," Zuckerman said. "I believe the access to art is a basic human right and not a privilege. I have learned everything I know about how to be a human from art. I've learned how to see, how to think, how to speak and how to live. I've even learned how to love.

Her fiancé IP McNeill smiled.



**GUESTS CELEBRATE** at the Orange County Museum of Art's gala, Art Sense III, last month.



**ART PATRONS** attending the Art Sense III gala at OCMA: Erica Fink, Jennifer Duran and Susan Etchandy.

Art lovers mingled in the mystical setting of soft lavender fabrics draped on outdoor tables and lounges festooned with verdant pale pink, lavender and white orchids abloom everywhere along with roses, zinnias and vines of ivy wrapping around tables amid hundreds of flickering candles.

Wine flowed curated by sommelier Jay Fletcher in coordination with cuisine by Chef Ross Pangilian of Mix Mix Terrace, joining associate Chef Nick Weber of Populaire Modern Bistro creating specialty hamachi roll appetizers.

Spotted among the glit-terati were **Holly** and **Mark** Kerslake, David Horowitz, Marta and Raj Bhathal, Shanaz and Jack Langson, Britt Meyer, Ling and Charles Zhang and Jacqueline Mars.

The Art Sense Gala was presented by Comerica Bank with media partner Cultured Magazine.

**B.W. COOK** is editor of the Bay Window, the official publication of the Balboa Bay Club in Newport Beach.

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### THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Mathews

#### ----

**ACROSS** 1 Depressed 4 Colorful parrot 9 Driving hazard 13 Piggyback ride giver 14 Dwelling 15 Singer Perry 16 Dutch \_; cast-iron kettle 17 Alamo's location 19 Rather, for one 20 Tribal pole 21 Alex Haley's famous book 22 "The Pine Tree State" 24 Gullible fool 25 Unethical payoffs 27 Lifts with effort 30 Solitude lover 31 Lunch in the sty

31 Lunch in the sty
33 \_ Tin Tin
35 \_ and ends
36 Shaver's target
37 Finish \_; racer's
goal
38 Classroom
contest
39 Angry look

39 Angry look 40 Cheek coloring 41 Hateful 43 Ill-fated 44 Wish undone 45 Drifter

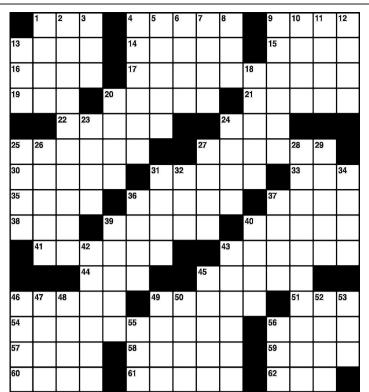
46 Detest 49 Exposed 51 Busy airport 54 Outer limits 56 Not in danger 57 Encourage

56 Not in dange 57 Encourage 58 Irritates 59 Shoelace problem 60 \_ off; angry 61 Cluttered

62 Part of TGIF

#### **DOWN**

1\_lamps; 1960s fad 2 Receptive to new ideas 3 Pallid; sickly 4 Bricklayers 5 Decrease in force



#### **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*.

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

For answers to the crossword and Sudoku puzzles, see page A5.

6 Funnel's shape 7 Early man 8 Actress Ming-Na 9 Ice cream portions 10 Toddler's taboo 11 Fail to include 12 Courts 13 Like two peas in a \_\_ 18 Mountain road 20 Stadium level 23 Lincoln & others 24 Auctioneer's cry 25 Gooey lump

26 Cowboy's

victory 29 Burn the edges 31 Black and Red 32 Military conflict 34 "\_ I say more?" 36 Sapphire's color 37 Weaving frame 39 Melon or squash 40 "Abbey \_"; Beatles album 42 Pressed flat 43 Like formal attire 45 Kilmer's famous poem 46 Share a border with 47 Dull speaker 48 Enormous 49 Cheese good with fruit 50 Has poor

competition

28 Rejoicing in

27 Employ

Tribune Media Services

transport

to chair or pit

56 \_ lift; uphill

52 Eerie saucers

53 Play the ponies

55 Word attached

health

### NMUSD trustee plans run for Newport Beach council

#### BY LILLY NGUYEN

A second competitor has entered the race for the Newport Beach City Coun-

On Friday, Newport-Mesa Unified School District trustee Michelle Barto announced her bid for District 2, which represents Newport Heights, Westcliff, Newport Shores and West Newport. Barto will run for election against community activist Nancy Scarbrough. Both will run to succeed Councilman Brad Avery, who will finish his second term next fall.

The election will be held Nov. 5, 2024, and will include Districts 2, 5 and 7.

It is so far unclear who will run in District 7. Mayor Noah Blom is expected to run for reelection in District 5, which represents Balboa Island.

Barto was first elected to the school board in 2018 and served as its president last year. She is a small business owner and has been involved with the Assistance League of Newport-Mesa, the Pretend City Children's Museum, the Harbor Council PTA, Project Hope Alliance, the Newport Beach Foundation's Distinguished Citizens program and a trustee and president on the Coastline Regional Occupational Program Board.

Barto was born and raised in east-side Costa Mesa and moved to Newport Beach in 2008. She has lived in her district since 2012.

"When I ran for school board, the systems for educational development, achievement and facilities weren't in place. We didn't have really strong leaders seeing this through at a staff level, but we do now, and we have a lot of great things that we've been able to accomplish in a short amount of time," Barto said.

She said the school district faces the same challenges as the city, such as speeding e-bikes, traffic and homelessness, but notes they are community issues.

"A key component of that comes down to supporting our law enforcement, but I ... [may look] at the problem a different way than other people might have because of my time with working with youth and families on the school board," Barto said.

Her main focuses are on public safety and quality of life, protecting Newport Harbor and continuing fiscal responsibility within the city. She said she announced early because of encouragement from her supporters.

"I think I make the best candidate for District 2 because of the experience I bring in working on community solutions with [the City Council], the school district and local law enforcement," Barto said.

lilly.nguyen@latimes.com Twitter: @lillibirds

### **DUCK**

Continued from page A1

shut like a spring-loaded

trap.
Alligator snapping turtles are ambush predators who lie on the bottom of a lake and lure prey into their open, waiting maws, while smaller common snapping turtles walk on land and can aggressively lunge and snip at prey. Females get especially combative in summer when looking to lay eggs.

"They are voracious, aggressive eaters that have been known to eat baby alligators. They also eat other turtles," said Fullerton resident John Kim, who heads the California Turtle & Tortoise Club and its Orange County chapter.

"They will eat anything that crosses their path, which is why they're illegal in California."

Kim further said snappers are known for going after a bird's feet, although residents who watch the Mile Square Park birds say they've never seen those sorts of injuries.

Fountain Valley bird enthusiast and hobbyist wildlife photographer Robert Di Massa, who visits the park daily and was on site Wednesday evening, said he's never seen snapping turtles there.

"That's what I've been told a dozen times from every other person, because that's what someone told them. Someone at the top put that down the chain, and then that's what everyone goes with,"

he said by phone. "[But] I haven't seen one yet. and I've looked low down under the brush with binoculars and a scope."

Debbie McGuire, executive director of the Wetlands & Wildlife Care Center in Huntington Beach, has treated several Mile Square ducks and says there are two distinct types of injuries — bills are either ripped or cut off, or the top or bottom half of a bill is broken on both sides near the jawline.

"How would a turtle bite make it break like that without part of the beak being missing?" she posed.

McGuire recalled an incident about a year ago, when workers were repairing the lake at Mile Square

See **Duck,** page A5



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### **CLASSIC**

Continued from page A1

bus that's been nicknamed Tank by its owner, Robin Lewis of Placentia.

"He's my best friend and takes me wherever I want to go," said Lewis, who had it restored in 2018. "He also has a really cute butt, which is a 2054 Stroker motor."

Costa Mesa resident Gary Boler spent seven years on his weekend project rebuilding his 1932 Ford Roadster including adding a 1955 Chrysler Hemi engine. "I finished it nine years ago at a cost of \$70,000, and if I'm lucky my wife will go on road trips with me," said Boyer. "We've been to Victoria, Canada, three times.'

A few spaces away it was hard to miss the sunset orange 1955 Chevy Apache truck glistening in the sun. "This was my brother's truck and he passed away, so I finished [restoring it] for him," explained firsttime show exhibitor An-



**ROBIN LEWIS** takes the wheel of her best friend, Tank, a 1966 Volkswagen double-cab pickup, during the Newport Beach Classic Car-Truck Festival Saturday in Balboa.

thony Gutierrez, of Long Beach. "I've been working on it for about nine years, and it's almost finished, I'm just waiting to do the interior.'

Similarly, Jeff Tibbets of Costa Mesa pursued his restoration project as a tribute to his dad's memory. Tibbets has participated in a half dozen car shows with his eye-catching 1937 Ford Slantback with a turquoise and black

paint job completed in 2008.

"It's got all the creature comforts, all modern suspension, air-conditioning, power steering," said Tibbets. "The car was originally built in Detroit and I'm only the fourth owner."

Timothy Kosharnyi came all the way from Russia — via Simi Valley to show off his 1970 Plymouth Superbird for



Photos by Susan Hoffman

**THE 1929 DODGE** Brothers Hearse with a mortician skeleton and casket was a hit at the Newport Beach Classic Car-Truck Festival held Saturday in Balboa.

the first time in the USA.

The car was imported to [the] U.S .three weeks ago from Russia," said Kosharnyi. "It was built 15 years ago as a tribute to Richard Petty because he had signed the car, and

there is a photo in a Russian museum of Petty signing the fin."

In keeping with the event's proximity to Halloween, attendees Marlita Patriquin of Irvine and Sharon Seal of Newport

CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Thursday, November

16, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. or soon thereafter as the matter

shall be heard, a public hearing will be conducted online via Zoom. The Zoning Administrator of the City of Newport

Mariman Residence - A coastal development permit (CDP)

to allow the demolition of an existing single-unit dwelling and construction of a new 3,991 square-foot two-story

single-unit dwelling and an attached 712 square-foot two-car garage. The project includes raising the height of the existing bulkhead using a cap. The project also includes

landscaping, hardscaping, and site walls. The project complies with all applicable development standards and

no deviations are requested. All improvements authorized

The project is categorically exempt under Section 15303 under Class 3 (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures) of the State CEQA (California Environmental

All interested parties may appear and present testimony regarding 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 or before the public hearing. The

application may be continued to a specific future meeting date; if such an action occurs, additional public notice of

the continuance will not be provided. Administrative

procedures for appeals are provided in the Newport Beach Municipal Code Chapter 21.64. A fee is not required to

appeal any final action on a coastal development permit to the Planning Commission. A fee is required to appeal any

final action on a coastal development permit to the City

Council. The project site is located within the appeal area of

the coastal zone; therefore, final action by the City may be

The agenda, staff report, and corresponding documents

will be available by end of business day on the Friday

preceding the public hearing and may be reviewed at the

Community Development Department Permit Center (Bay

C-1st Floor), at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA

92660 or the City of Newport Beach website at

www.newportbeachca.gov/zoningadministrator. Please review the Zoning Administrator Agenda for Zoom

participation instructions. Individuals not able to attend

the meeting may contact the Planning Division or access

the City's website after the meeting to review the action on

this application. All mail or written communications (including email) from the public, residents, or applicants

regarding an agenda item must be submitted by 12:00 p.m.

on the business day immediately before the meeting. This

allows time for the Zoning Administrator to adequately

For questions regarding this public hearing item please

contact Jenny Tran, Assistant Planner, at 949-644-3212 or

itran@newportbeachca.gov. at 100 Civic Center Drive.

Activity:

Permit

Coastal Development

appealed to the California Coastal Commission

Beach will consider the following application

by this CDP will be located on private property

Beach said they especially enjoyed the 1929 Dodge Brothers hearse, decked out with a mortician skeleton riding with a casket.

Susan Hoffman is a contributor to the Daily Pilot.

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CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Thursday, November **16, 2023**, at **10:00 a.m.** or soon thereafter as the matter shall be heard, a public hearing will be conducted in the Corona del Mar Conference Room (Bay E-1st Floor) at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach. The Hearing Officer of the City of Newport Beach will consider the following

4615 BRIGHTON ROAD - Request for an extension of a three-year construction limit for **Building Permit No. X2015-3753** and related permits outlined in Newport Beach Municipal Code (NBMC) Section 15.02.095 (Administrative Code - Addition of Sections 105.3.3, 105.3.4, and 105.3.5). The scope of work for the permit NEW SINGLE-FAMILY DWELLING WITH TWO LEVELS OF BASEMENT CONSISTING OF 19,322 SF OF HABITABLE SPACE, 2,514 SF STORAGE, 2,241 SF OPEN COVERED SPACE AND 1,101 SF GARAGE. The applicant intends to request an extension until September 2, 2024, to complete the onstruction

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

All interested parties may appear and present testimony regarding 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 before, the public hearing. Administrative procedures for appeals are provided in the Newport Beach Municipal Code Chapter 20.64 (Appeals) The application may be continued to a specific future meeting date; if such an action occurs, additional public notice of the continuance will not be provided.

The agenda, staff report, and corresponding documents will be available by end of business day on the Friday preceding the public hearing and may be reviewed at the Community Development Department Permit Center (Bay C-1st Floor), at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660 or the City of Newport Beach website at www.newportbeachca.gov/hearingofficer. Individuals not able to attend the meeting may contact the Planning Division or access the City's website after the meeting to review the action on this application. All mail or written communications (including email) from the public, residents, or applicants regarding an agenda item must be submitted by 12:00 p.m. on the business day immediately before the meeting. This allows time for the Hearing Officer to adequately consider the submitted correspondence.

For questions regarding this public hearing item please contact Debi Schank, at 949-644-3284, at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660.

Permit No.:

**Activity:** Three-Year Construction Limit Extension

**General Plan:** RS-D (Single Unit Residential Detached) R-1-6000 - Single-Unit Residential (6000 indicates minimum lot area)

4615 Brighton Road

Applicant: Scott DeMarois



#### CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Thursday, November shall be heard, a public hearing will be conducted online via Zoom. The Zoning Administrator of the City of Newport Beach will consider the following application:

Lewis Residence - A request for a coastal development permit (CDP) to allow the removal of an existing singlestory, single-family manufactured home and accessory structures and the installation of a new single story, singlefamily manufactured home in compliance with state law The development also includes a driveway, patio, walkways and entry stairs.

The project is categorically exempt pursuant to Section 15303 under Class 3 (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structurers) of the State CEQA (California **Environmental Quality Act) Guidelines** 

All interested parties may appear and present testimony regarding 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 or before the public hearing. The application may be continued to a specific future meeting date; if such an action occurs, additional public notice of the continuance will not be provided. Administrative procedures for appeals are provided in the Newport Beach Municipal Code Chapter 21.64. A fee is not required to appeal any final action on a coastal development permit to the Planning Commission. The project site is located within the appeal area of the coastal zone; therefore, final action by the City may be appealed to the California Coastal

The agenda, staff report, and corresponding documents will be available by end of business day on the Friday preceding the public hearing and may be reviewed at the Community Development Department Permit Center (Bay C-1st Floor), at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660 or the City of Newport Beach website at www.newportbeachca.gov/zoningadministrator. review the Zoning Administrator Agenda for Zoom participation instructions. Individuals not able to attend the meeting may contact the Planning Division or access the City's website after the meeting to review the action on application. All mail or written communications (including email) from the public, residents, or applicants regarding an agenda item must be submitted by 12:00 p.m. on the business day immediately before the meeting. This allows time for the Zoning Administrator to adequately consider the submitted correspondence

For questions regarding this public hearing item please contact Jerry Arregui, Planning Technician, jarregui@newportbeachca.gov, 949-644-3249 or at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660.

Project File No.:

Activity

**General Plan:** 

Bayside Village Mobile

Home Park (PC1)

Coastal Land Use Plan: Multiple Unit Residential

- (10.0 – 19.9 DU/AC) (RM-C)

Applicant:

Location: 212 Tremont Drive Coastal Development Permit

Multiple Residential (RM)

Filing Date: September 6, 2023

Residential Detached) Steve Almquist, (6.0 - 9.9 DU/AC) Coastline Construction

Location 54 Linda Isle

Newport Beach, CA 92660.

**Project File No.:** 

consider the submitted correspondence

General Plan: R-1 (Single-Unit Residential) RS-D (Single Unit

Coastal Land Use Plan: Filing Date: RSD-B (Single Unit

July 17, 2023

Applicant:

Laidlaw Schultz Architects

Location:

R-2 (Two-Unit Residential)

**General Plan:** RT (Two Unit Residential)

**Coastal Land Use Plan:** RT-E Two Unit Residential

June 15, 2022 Applicant:

3405 and 3405 ½ Seashore Drive

**LEGAL NOTICE** 

### **LEGAL NOTICE**



**CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING** 

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Tuesday, November 14, 2023, at 4:00 p.m., or soon thereafter as the matter shall be heard, 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 consider the following application:

Municipal Code Amendments – The City Council established the Ad Hoc Municipal Code and Council Policy Review Committee to comprehensively review and amend the Newport Beach Municipal Code (NBMC) to reduce regulations, streamline processes, and generally eliminate outdated information. The City Council directed boards and commissions, including the Planning Commission, to establish an ad hoc committee to review the NBMC and City Council Policies within that particular body's area of expertise with recommended revisions. At its August 3, 2023, meeting, the Planning Commission recommended revisions to Title 19 (Subdivisions), Title 20 (Planning and Zoning) and Title 21 (Local Coastal Program Implementation Plan) of the NBMC in accordance with the Council's direction which include:

- Report of Residential Building Records Make the existing mandatory process voluntary.

  Tentative Parcel Map Review Eliminate the public hearing requirements for parcel maps for condo
- Bluff Overlay District Eliminate conflicting code provisions by deleting the bluff overlay areas in Title
- 20 that are included in Title 21.

  Take-Out Service—Fast-Casual Change threshold for when a fast-casual take-out restaurant with no late hours requires a minor use permit (discretionary review). Conversion or Demolition of Affordable Housing - Eliminate Chapters 20.34 and 21.34 as they are

At the October 19, 2023, meeting, the Planning Commission recommended approval of the above amendments as incorporated into Titles 19, 20 and 21. Additionally, the Planning Commission also considered amendments to eliminate a conflicting provision for reasonable accommodations review authority and elevate review authority to Planning Commission (MUP to CUP) for alcohol sales with late hours.

The project is exempt from environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) ant to Section 15060(c)(2) and Section 15060(c)(3) of the State CEQA (California Environmental Qualit

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that on October 19, 2023, by a vote of (5-0), the Planning Commissio of the City of Newport Beach recommended that the City Council approve the Municipal Code Ar All interested parties may appear and present testimony regarding 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 writ-ten 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 public hearing 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. Prior to the public hearing the agenda, staff report, and documents may be reviewed at the City Clerk's Office, 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, California, 92660 or at the City of Newport Beach website at www.newportbeachca.gov. Individuals not able to attend the meeting may contact the Planning Division or access the City's website after the meeting to review the action

For questions regarding details of the project please contact Jaime Murillo, AICP, Planning Manager, at (949) 644-3209 or jmurillo@newportbeachca.gov.

Project File No.: (PA2022-0219)

Activity No.: Code Amendment and Local Coastal Program **Applicant: City of Newport Beach** 

Location: Citywide /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 November 14, 2023, at 4:00 p.m., or soon thereafter as the matter shall be heard, 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 consider the following applications. Housing Element Implementation, Noise-Related Amendments

- Amendments to the Noise and Land Use Elements of the Newport Beach General Plan, Title 20 (Planning and Zoning) of the Newport Beach Municipal Code, the Newport Place Planned Community Development Plan (PC-11), and the Newport Airport Village Planned Community Development Plan (PC-60) ("Amendments") to establish the following:Adopting updated noise contours (Noise Element Figures N4 and N5) to reflect the noise contours identified by the 2014 John Wayne Airport Settlement Agreement (JWA Settlement Agreement) Amendment Environmental Impact Report No. 617

(EIR No. 617);Updating Land Use and Noise Element Policies, Land Use Element Figures LU11, LU22, and LU23, Title 20, PC-11, and

Element Figures LU11, "LU22, and LU23, Title 20, PC-11, and PC-60 to modify and incorporate the updated noise contours identified by EIR No. 617 and to implement additional noise attenuation measures for future housing units proximate to John Wayne Airport; andThe Amendments support future residential development identified by the certified 2021-2029 Sixth Cycle Newport Beach General Plan Housing Element located within the 55 dBA CNEL noise contour area as identified in the updated noise contour maps from EIR No. 617, Parcels bisected by the updated 65 dBA CNEL noise contour maps from EIR No. 617, Parcels bisected by the updated 65 dBA CNEL noise contour maps from EIR No. 617, Parcels bisected by the updated 65 dBA CNEL noise contour maps from EIR No. 617, Parcels bisected by the updated 65 dBA CNEL noise contour maps from EIR No. 617, Parcels bisected by the updated 65 dBA CNEL noise contour maps from EIR No. 617, Parcels bisected by the updated 65 dBA CNEL noise contour maps from EIR No. 617, Parcels bisected by the updated 65 dBA CNEL noise contour maps from EIR No. 617, Parcels bisected by the updated 65 dBA CNEL noise contour maps from EIR No. 617, Parcels bisected by the updated 65 dBA CNEL noise contour maps from EIR No. 617, Parcels bisected by the updated 65 dBA CNEL noise contour maps from EIR No. 617, Parcels bisected by the updated 65 dBA CNEL noise contour maps from EIR No. 617, Parcels bisected by the updated 65 dBA CNEL noise contour maps from EIR No. 617, Parcels bisected by the updated 65 dBA CNEL noise contour maps from EIR No. 617, Parcels bisected by the updated 65 dBA CNEL noise contour maps from EIR No. 617, Parcels bisected by the updated 65 dBA CNEL noise contour maps from EIR No. 617, Parcels bisected by the updated 65 dBA CNEL noise contour maps from EIR No. 617, Parcels bisected by the updated 65 dBA CNEL noise contour maps from EIR No. 617, Parcels bisected by the updated 65 dBA CNEL noise contour maps from EIR No. 617, Parcels bisected by the updated 65 dBA CNEL noise contour maps f

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the City Council finds the Amendments are exempt and n subject to further environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) purs and to CEQA Guidelines Section 15183 because the Amendments would not allow development of year alter to the Council of the Council

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that on August 3, 2023, by a vote of 4 ayes and 3 recused, the Planning Commission of the City of Newbort Beach recommended that the City Council approve the proposed

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 (Appeals). The request 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. Prior to the public hearing the agenda, staff report, and documents may be reviewed at the City Cork Soffice, 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, California, 29660 or at the City of Newport Beach website at www.newportbeachca.gov, Individuals not able to attend the meeting may contact the Planning Division or access the City's website after the meeting to review the action on this application.

For questions regarding details of the project please contact Rosalinh Ung, Principal Planner, at 949-644 3208 or rung@newportbeachca.gov. Project File No.: PA2022-0201

Activity No.: General Plan Land Use Amendment, General Plan Noise Element Amendment, Title 20 Planning & Zoning Code Amendment, Newport Place Planned Community Amendment, & Newport Airport Village Planned Community Amendment Newport Airport Village Planned Ct
Location: Various sites in the Newport
Applicant: City of Newport Beach
licetided map

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



#### CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Thursday, November 16, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. or soon thereafter as the matter shall be heard, a public hearing will be conducted online via Zoom. The Zoning Administrator of the City of Newport Beach will consider the following application:

Harmon Residence - A coastal development permit (CDP) to allow for the demolition of an existing two-story, twounit dwelling with attached garages, and construction of a new 3,221-square-foot, three-story, two-unit dwelling with a 426-square-foot two-car garage. The project includes hardscape, drainage, and accessory structures all within the confines of the property. The project is located in the VE Special Flood Hazard Area, and includes a raised foundation supported by caissons to meet the minimum finished floor requirements of the Special Flood Hazard Area. The project complies with all development standards and no deviations are requested. All improvements authorized by this CDP will be located on private property.

The project is categorically exempt under Section 15303 under Class 3 (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures) of the State CEQA (California Environmental

All interested parties may appear and present testimony regarding 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 or before the public hearing. The application may be continued to a specific future meeting date; if such an action occurs, additional public notice of the continuance will not be provided. Administrative procedures for appeals are provided in the Newport Beach Municipal Code Chapters 21.64. A fee is not required to appeal any final action on a coastal development permit to the Planning Commission. The project site is located within the appeal area of the coastal zone: therefore, final action by the City may be appealed to the California Coastal

The agenda, staff report, and corresponding documents will be available by end of business day on the Friday preceding the public hearing and may be reviewed at the Community Development Department Permit Center (Bay C-1st Floor), at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660 or the City of Newport Beach website at www.newportbeachca.gov/zoningadministrator. review the Zoning Administrator Agenda for Zoom participation instructions. Individuals not able to attend the meeting may contact the Planning Division or access the City's website after the meeting to review the action on this application. All mail or written communications (including email) from the public, residents, or applicants regarding an agenda item must be submitted by 12:00 p.m. on the business day immediately before the meeting. This allows time for the Zoning Administrator to adequately consider the submitted correspondence.

For questions regarding this public hearing item please contact Liz Westmoreland, Senior Planner lwestmoreland@newportbeachca.gov or 949-644-3234, at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660.

Project File No.:

Activity: Coastal Development

Filing Date:

- (30.0-39.9 DU/AC)



**CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING** 

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Tuesday, November 14, 2023, at 4:00 p.m., or soon thereafter as the matter shall be heard, ublic hearing will be conducted in the City Council Chambers at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach. The City Council of the City f Newport Beach will consider the following application:
ennis and Pickleball Club at Newport Beach Project Amendment – A legislative amendment to the 2012-approved Tennis Clut

Newport Beach project to: 1) reduce the number of future tennis courts from seven to four courts and add 14 pickleball courts, 2) crease the number of future hotel rooms from 27 to 41 rooms, 3) increase the gross floor area of the ancillary hotel uses by 4,686 square feet, and 4) provide three attached condominium units and two detached single-family residences in-lieu of five detached single-family residences. The proposed changes to the 2012-approved project requires the considerations of the following:

General Plan Amendment: An amendment to Anomaly No. 46 of Table LU2 of the 2006 Newport Beach General Plan Land Use Element to amend the allowable development limits for the tennis club site; Local Coastal Program Amendment: An amendment to Local Coastal Program Implementation Plan Section 21.26.055.S.2 (Newport Beach Country Club Planned Community Coastal Zoning District Development Standards) to amend land use regulations for the tennis club site; Planned Community Development Plan Amendment: An amendment to Planned Community Development Plan No. 47 (Newport Beach Country Club Planned Community) to amend land use regulations and development standards on the tennis club site:

club site;

Development Agreement: A Development Agreement between the applicant and the City pursuant to Section 15.45 of the Municipal Code, which would provide vested right to develop the proposed project while also providing negotiated public benefits for a term of 15 years; and Addendum to the 2010 Mitigated Negative Declaration; Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"), the addendum to the 2010 Mitigated Negative Declaration; Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"), the addendum addresses reasonably foreseeable environmental impacts resulting from the proposed development. Addendum to the 2010 Mitigated Negative Declaration, Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CECA"), the addendum addresses reasonably foreseeable environmental impacts resulting from the proposed development.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the City has prepared the Tennis Club at Newport Beach Negative Declaration Addendum to the previously adopted Mitigated Negative Declaration No. ND2010-008 (SCH 2010091052). To address reasonably foreseeable environmental impacts resulting from the proposed project, the City has determined that an addendum to the previously adopted Mitigated Negative Declaration No. ND2010-008 is warranted pursuant to the California Environmental Quality

Act (CEQA). Once completed, the document will be made at the Planning Division or at the City of Newport Beach website www.newportbeachca.gov/ceqa.
NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that on March 23, 2023, by a vote of 5 ayes, 1 absent, and 1 recused, the Planning ommission of the City of Newport Beach recommended that the City Council approve the Tennis and Pickleball Club at Newport

leach Project Amendment. 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 prio to, the public hearing. Administrative procedures for appeals are provided in the Newport Beach Municipal Cockpaters 20.6-8 and 21.6-4. The application may be continued to a specific future meeting date, and if such an action cocurs additional public notices of the continuance will not be provided. Prior to the public hearing the agenda, staff report, and documents may be reviewed at the City Clerk's Office, 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, California, 92680 or at the City of Newport Beach website at <a href="https://www.newportbeachca.gov">www.newportbeachca.gov</a> individuals not able to attend the meeting may contact the Planning Division or access the City's website after the province of the province

the meeting to review the action on this application.

For questions regarding details of the project please contact David Lee, Senior Planner, at 949-644-3225 or diee@newport gov, 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660.

Project File No.: PA2021-260

Activity No.: General Plan Amendment,

Local Coastal Program Amendment, Planned Community Development Plan Amendment, Development Agreement General Plan: MU-H3/PR (Mixed-Use Horizontal 3/Parks and Recreation) one: PC-47 (Newport Beach Country Club Planned Community)



Location: 1602 East Coast Highway Applicant: Golf Realty Fund, Managing Owr

### **HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL**

### **CdM claims first-round win over Paraclete**

#### BY ANDREW TURNER

Momentum is a fickle component of competition, and for much of this season, it has proven elusive to the Corona del Mar football team.

The Sea Kings hope the tide has turned, as a 40-21 win over visiting Lancaster Paraclete Thursday to open the CIF Southern Section Division 4 playoffs gave CdM its first set of back-to-back victories since the second week of the sea-

Senior quarterback Kaleb Annett, a Boise State commit, accounted for five total touchdowns. The Sea Kings took the lead twice on his touchdown passes in the first half — on a redzone toss to Breck Clemmer in the first quarter and then a deep ball to Russell Weir in the second quarter.

Annett tallied his third and final passing touchdown on a screen pass to halfback Wyatt Lucas on the opening drive of the second half, extending the CdM advantage to 20-7. A personal foul on the extra-point try was assessed on the kickoff, leading to an onside kick by the Sea Kings that was recovered by Michael Lynch at the Paraclete 32.

"We caught some momentum early second half with the touchdown, then their personal foul, then our onside kick," CdM coach Kevin Hettig said.

A mobile quarterback, Annett did not take off beyond the line of



James Carbone

CORONA DEL MAR quarterback Kaleb Annett (II) runs in for a touchdown in the fourth quarter against Paraclete in the CIF Southern Section Division 4 playoffs on Thursday at Davidson Field.

scrimmage in the first half. He was effective as a runner after halftime, his first three carries resulting in two first downs and a touchdown. Annett converted the extra possession into a 20-yard

rushing score inside the right py-

"I just try to let the game come to me, not force everything, especially when we're in a pass situation, try to get my guys the ball, make the right read," Annett said. "But if it's there, using my legs, that's something I can do, so just keep trying to play good football."

Corona del Mar (6-5) turned in two defensive stops thereafter, with Christian Brooks and Thomas Telesco often finding themselves around the ball. Damian Zeno-Herrera also recorded a

Annett added a goal-line run to make it 33-7 early in the fourth quarter. When quarterback Tyler Soles answered with a 20-yard rushing touchdown five plays later for Paraclete (7-4), it took CdM six plays to respond with a 24yard rushing score by Owen Sand-

"We played clean tonight," Hettig said. "Our big focus this week was connecting all three phases. We played excellent in special teams tonight. We played excellent defense tonight. We played very good offense tonight."

A budding group of junior tight ends has helped give CdM options beyond wide receiver Weir and slot receiver Dorsett Stecker. Zach Giuliano, Sebastien Boydell and Clemmer have all made key contributions.

"We all push each other in practice, and it's great competition," Clemmer said. "We all compete for that spot, and all three of us, I think, can go out there and make some plays, so it's great to have three guys like that for our offense."

Corona del Mar will be on the road in the quarterfinals against the winner of Santa Fe Springs St. Paul and Santa Barbara.

THE LAGUNA

marching band

proceeds down

Forest Avenue

during the 56th

annual Patriots Day

Parade in Laguna

Beach earlier this

held on the first

will be "Laguna

Heritage."

year. The parade is

Saturday of March.

In 2024, the theme

**BEACH** High

andrew.turner@latimes.com Twitter: @AndrewTurnerTCN

### **DUCK**

Continued from page A3

Park with a backhoe and dredged up a snapping turtle and a soft-shelled turtle from the muddy bottom. But she still disputes CDFW's recent find-

"I totally disagree, but I do think it's a plausible explanation for some of the injuries," she said.

Equally troubling about the possibility of snappers at Mile Square Park is the iurisdictional quagmire they present.

Just like waterfowl, which don't technically belong to the park, there is no one agency responsible for the care and keeping, or removal, of wildlife at the park.

Alexa Pratt is a spokeswoman for Orange County's Community Resources Division, which oversees the county's parks and animal care efforts. Pratt said Tuesday snapping turtles aren't within the department's purview.

"We're glad that snapping turtles were the cause and not any foul play," she said. "But because they're an illegal species, [animal care officers] don't take in any snapping turtles. The officer would call Fish & Wildlife."

Daly said Friday while the department might get involved if someone were bitten by a snapping turtle, there are not enough officers on staff to handle local animal management

"We're happy to work with O.C. Parks on solutions, advice and safety tips, etc.," he said Friday. "But the message from us is the importance of not dumping an illegal, potentially harmful species into public lakes. Though it might seem harmless to you, it might present a harmful situation to animals or others, which appears to be the case

Anyone who discovers an injured animal at Mile Square Regional Park or any other county property is asked to call O.C. Animal Care's 24-hour line at (714) 935-6848.

sara.cardine@latimes.com Twitter: @SaraCardine



Don Leach Staff Photographer

### **PARADE**

Continued from page A1

I love to be with, and they're all giving people," said Shoemaker, who flew for the Air Force for five years before joining Continental Airlines in 1966. "That was what I love to do is just help other people. It's in my heart to help others. My friends from the church and those that I've met at the church and the city have the same feeling I do. I wanted to help the home-

less as best I could.' Shoemaker added that he has helped out with the Friendship Shelter and the Alternative Sleeping Location, as well as the Laguna Food Pantry.

When natural disaster struck, Shoemaker would avail himself in relief efforts, including after a tornado touched down in Joplin, Mo., and following Hurricane Katrina.

The Honored Patriot will be Vietnam War veteran Col. Richard Seitz. The Athlete of the Year will be Laguna Beach High junior Brayden Belden, who recently made waves by qualifying for a final in the Brooks Street Surfing Clas-

The Junior Citizens of the Year, yet to be announced, are chosen by staff at the high school.

Mike Tauber, who will be honored as the Artist of the Year, said he will be encouraging community organizations to participate as exhibitors in the parade. Some of his latest work is on display at the Taco Stand restaurant at South Coast Highway and Cleo Street. The pieces are called "Laguna Honors its Artists" and "Swimming in Sea Life."

"It's one of Laguna Beach's biggest community events downtown, if not the largest," Tauber said of the parade. "The far corners of all of Laguna participate, which is very exciting to me — everyone from the Gar-

den Club to the students. "Some of my favorite things are the marching bands that come down from as far away as Los Angeles, the Valley, Bakersfield, Temecula. It's amazing to me that these teenagers must get up at 5 a.m., put on their uniforms and come down to Laguna with their instruments and come out and perform for us."

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### Daily Pilot

A Times Community News publication. **CONTACT US** 

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### **SURVIVES**

Continued from page A1

For example, how will the city meet the relentless state mandates for affordable housing when the current median home listing price is in the \$4million range, according

to Realtor.com? It's these types of issues that worry Chris Quilter, an affordable housing and senior advocate in Laguna, who worked on Rounaghi's campaign and hopes he can follow through on his

"He was born in a town where he can barely afford to live, so it's no surprise that he is our most vocal advocate for affordable housing," Quilter said.

"Despite the state man-

dates that require us to act, building anything in Laguna is expensive and divisive. So any housing project Alex supports will be fiercely opposed by our many NIMBYs," Quilter noted, using the common acronym for Not in My Backyard. "It will be interesting to see how he navi-

gates this challenge." Rounaghi admits he feels like he has a long way to go. Nothing comes easy, and the machine of government bureaucracy sometimes weighs him down. He is, after all, a Gen Z with a blushing

Instagram account. "There should never be a six-hour meeting," he said. "Six-hour meetings are not a sustainable way of having 22,000 residents being able to get involved. Most people are working, they're raising their kids, they're paying their high property taxes to live in Laguna Beach. They don't have time to be involved in a six-hour meeting. I barely have enough time to do that."

If he could wave a magic wand, he would significantly streamline the city's byzantine regulations, starting with the Design Review Board processes.

"If you look at our design review process, that's what I get the most emails and calls about," he said. "It's like hell and back to go through a remodel on your house.'

So he's working on changing it, along with a laundry list of other issues:

• Village Entrance: "It's been debated for 30-plus years when really it's kind of a simple question: Is the surface parking lot there the highest and best use for that land? And I think most reasonable people would say, no, it's not."

• Second-story downtown housing: "It's going to bring our downtown alive, and it's going to create opportunity for our young people, artists, and seniors to be part of our community.'

• Restaurant closures: "I think it's a crisis. When you talk to residents, people are pissed off. They want to be able to go to restaurants. They want cool things. But if you want to open up a restaurant in the city of Laguna Beach, it's a hard process."

• Rethink rules: "We've been sort of complacent, saying, 'Oh, we have all these rules and we're just going to keep blindly following them.' Some of the rules make sense, but then others don't. I think more broadly, we need to be more intentional and ask, what do we want for this town?"

• Business vitality: "We can get out of the way but still regulate the things we want to regulate. Every month that a business is waiting to open, that's another month that they

have to pay rent and absorb costs. The big chains can handle that; the little guy can't. They're going to go to Costa Mesa and open up there instead — or

Dana Point." Take over PCH and Laguna Canyon Road: "It's dangerous. A lot of these cars don't even stop here. They use it as a freeway. If we could slow it down, it would make it a lot better for residents. I think we iust need to take it over from Caltrans. In the canyon, the question is not if a fire is going to start from an above-ground utility line but when. The cost of doing nothing is way higher than the cost of taking action."

You can't help but wonder how long Rounaghi will be content to fight the fight in Laguna. Will he move on once he gets bored or feels like he's done enough? Perhaps, but for now he's all in.

"I'm optimistic that for the next few years — or eight years if I'm reelected - I feel like we're going to be able to solve some of these big problems that we've been talking about for years. I think now is the time to take action. That's what makes me the most excited about being on the City Council."

**DAVID HANSEN** is editor of Under Laguna in Laguna Beach. He can be reached at david@underlaguna.com.

### **CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS**

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