Daily Pilot Times OC

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2024 /// Serving the coastal cities of Orange County and beyond /// dailypilot.com

Marking a century of spooky fun

As Anaheim Halloween Parade turns 100, event organizers are preparing for enthusiastic crowds at the milestone.

BY GABRIEL SAN ROMÁN

In a warehouse behind Boysen Park, Jody Daily painted a coffin for a "Spider Hearse" float that will debut at the Anaheim Halloween Parade. Volunteers, giving up another Sunday afternoon, affixed lights to it.

The following day, Kevin Kidney built a little dead fly to rest peacefully inside the hearse as part of a creepy caravan that will snake its way down Center Street Promenade in downtown Anaheim.

"We want the parade to be so unique that it doesn't look like it came from a store," Kidney said. "The floats are handmade and are all built with wood, paper and fabric."

The Anaheim Halloween Parade, which takes place on Oct. 26, is also set to be unlike any other as it prepares for a centennial celebration this fall.

City leaders, in wanting to give youth an alternative to a night of mischievous Halloween pranks, first organized the downtown



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

See **Spooky.** page A2

KEVIN KINDNEY puts the finishing touches on a revamped haunted house float at an Anaheim warehouse.



Walking vigil shines a light on domestic violence

BY ERIC LICAS

Civic leaders and about two dozen community members reflected on the stories of domestic violence survivors as they followed a lavender-lit path at Lions Park in Costa Mesa Wednesday evening during the Shine the Light walking vigil.

Light walking vigil.

To kick off the event, Mayor
John Stephens, Councilwoman
Arlis Reynolds and Police Chief
Ron Lawrence issued a procla-

mation marking October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month alongside Maricela Rios-Faust, chief executive officer of Human Options. The nonprofit began hosting the vigil in 2022 and provides financial and legal aid, access to shelter and other forms of support to people who have endured domestic violence.

They joined attendees bearing purple LED candles as they

See **Vigil**, page A2



survivors.





Photos by Eric Licas

VOLUNTEERS HAND candles to attendees of the Shine the Light walking vigil to mark Domestic Violence Awareness Month.



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

LOCAL ARTIST Christiana Lewis Ulwelling stands next to her painting, "Elevate," which was stolen from an underground parking garage after a show at the Laguna Gallery of Contemporary Art in 2014 in Laguna Beach.

Artist hopes to 'elevate' others after her stolen painting returns

BY ANDREW TURNER

The sudden disappearance of an enormous painting roughly a decade ago had both its creator and police speculating on what might have happened to it.

Christiana Lewis Ulwelling, then the art director and event coordinator at the Laguna Gallery of Contemporary Art, had developed theories about how "Elevate" — a 14-foot-by-6-foot piece weighing approximately 40 pounds — could go missing from a garage beneath the gallery.

A police report of the theft was filed in February 2014. The paint-

ing, which had been wrapped in plastic, had been stationed in the garage for five months, placed against a wall among parked vehi-

There was no surveillance footage available, but Lewis Ul-

See **Artist,** page A6

ALSO FROM THE DAILY PILOT:

HAUNTING ORCHESTRAL MUSIC TO BE PLAYED BY CANDLELIGHT IN YORBA LINDA PAGE A4

FULLERTON TO EXPLORE MAKING A STREET CLOSURE FOR OUTDOOR DINING PERMANENT PAGE A2

FILM HIGHLIGHTS FAMILY'S PHILANTHROPY THROUGH SERVINGS OF 'ROCK SOUP' PAGE A7



Photos courtesy of Fever

Fullerton City Council candidate arrested on felony perjury charges

BY GABRIEL SAN ROMÁN

Scott Markowitz allegedly falsified nomination paperwork in his campaign to represent District 4 in southwest Fullerton, the Orange County district attorney's office announced Tuesday.

He faces two felony charges after signing a document on Aug. 9 that stated he personally circulated 30 signatures from registered voters in order to qualify for the November

"American democracy relies on the absolute integrity of the electoral process,' O.C. Dist. Atty. Todd Spitzer said in a press statement. "Voters must have total confidence that every election is being carried out in a fair and unbiased manner."

O.C. district attorney investigators arrested Markowitz on Monday night and booked him at Santa Ana Jail.

Under election law, anyone of voting age can help circulate nomination papers so long as the person signing off on the documents is the same person who witnessed the voter signatures.

Markowitz, under the penalty of perjury, attested that he had.

But a number of voters investigators Markowitz didn't circulate the nomination papers they signed nor did he witness them signing them.

As a result of the investi-

gation, Markowitz charged with one felony count of perjury by declaration and another felony count of record of a forged or false instrument. He faces a maximum sentence of three years and eight months in state prison, if convicted of both counts.

With Election Day nearing on Nov. 4, Markowitz will still appear on the ballot for Fullerton's District 4 City Council race. Mail-in ballots have already gone out to voters in the district.

But the O.C. district attorney's office stated that Markowitz will be ineligible to take office if voters elect him to the seat. A special election would have to be called to fill the vacancy.

According to campaign documents, finance Markowitz hadn't reported any funds raised for the race. He did note his party affiliation as Republican for the nonpartisan race and issued a candidate state-ment calling on "America First patriots to step up and get our city government out of the way of our citizens."

The Republican Party of Orange County released a statement alleging election

"Markowitz was a registered Democrat, switched parties before submitting fraudulent nomination documents hours before filing then proceeded to campaign as a 'MAGA Republican' to split the vote away from our only endorsed Republican and help the lone Democrat in the race," it read. Linda Whitaker, wife of current council member Bruce Whitaker, is the candidate in the race endorsed by the party.

Far from a lifelong Markowitz Democrat. switched his partisan affiliation from Democrat to Republican in November 2000 with the Orange County Registrar of Voters. He remained with the party through at least the 2020 primary election.

His District 4 opponents have already publicly responded on social media to news of the arrest.

Jamie Valencia thanked Spitzer's office on Facebook for its "efforts to keep local honest elections American democracy in-

Candidate Vivian "Kitty" Jaramillo expressed a similar sentiment on her Facebook page.

"I agree with DA Spitzer that voters must have total confidence that every election is being carried out in a fair and unbiased manner,' she said in a statement. "I welcome their investigation into the alleged actions of my opponent and we will continue to run a positive campaign focused on the issues that matter to South Fullerton residents.

Markowitz was released early Tuesday morning after posting \$25,000 bail.

gabriel.sanroman @latimes.com Twitter: @gsanroman2



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

DIA DE LOS MUERTOS is represented in the Anaheim Halloween Parade.

SPOOKY

Continued from page A1

parade on Oct. 30, 1924, to join a fall festival that began the year before.

Back then, decorated cars, costumed marchers and a fleet of floats animated the 2-mile nighttime procession.

Baseball legends Babe Ruth and Walter Johnson, friendly foes for a charity game in Brea the following morning, led the parade that drew thousands and was hailed afterward by the Anaheim Gazette as a "howling success" before it became an annual event.

The media accolades continued. Just in time for its 30th anniversary, the Los Angeles Times lauded the parade as the "biggest Halloween party in the nation" with an expected turnout of 125,000 people.

The event attracted celebrity grand marshals, Disney-designed floats

and was even locally televised on KTLA in a continuous run that lasted for decades before a hiatus halted the streak in the early '90s.

Daily and Kidney, who both work as Disney art directors, first encountered the city's Halloween history after moving to a Victorian home in its Colony district.

That's when they looked through a box full of archived photos of past parades at the Anaheim Public Library and soon learned that community members had revived it.

Before long, Daily and Kidney enlisted as volunteers in 2012 and have never looked back.

"It's a community coming together with a lot of really good ideas," Kidney said. "Their floats were so sincere, charming and sweet. We fell in love.'

In tandem with frightful floats, the parade route last year made way for marching bands, mariachi

youth groups, baile folklórico dancers, classic cars and local politicians.

It has evolved to now also include Día de los Muertos entertainment.

Bob Sanchez, the parade's Spanish announcer and volunteer, recalled first watching the floats pass by the old Fox Theater in Anaheim's historic downtown as a child 55 years ago.

For the past decade, the Anaheim resident has helped build the newer fleet, including a revamped haunted house float where lighting is made to look like eyeballs peeking out of its slats.

"We made it so that it is more whimsical," Sanchez said. "It's very attractive and we're very proud of

Prep work on parade floats starts as early as May. Volunteers head to the warehouse on Sundays where they help craft

See **Spooky**, page A8

The Chao Digestive Health Institute delivers advanced care for the region.

ucihealth.org/ChaoDHI



Fullerton weighs making street closure permanent

BY GABRIEL SAN ROMÁN

A street closure that first began as a response to the pandemic four years ago may become a lasting outdoor dining fixture in downtown Fullerton.

The Fullerton City Council voted to extend "Walk on Wilshire," a 200-foot stretch of Wilshire Avenue that is closed to car traffic, until Jan. 31, 2025 while the city studies a plan to expand and make it permanent. Residents and communi-

ty members concerned about Walk on Wilshire's future packed council chambers on Tuesday, many in support of continuing the walkway.

James Kim, donning a green "Save Wow" shirt, claimed that the uncertainty surrounding the street has undercut its full potential as the sole outdoor dining area in downtown.

"Dismantling Walk on Wilshire in January would directly go against the wishes of the public and most local businesses," Kim



Gabriel San Román

WALK ON WILSHIRE in downtown Fullerton has been extended through Jan. 31, 2025.

said. "There are multiple businesses that have been waiting to build parklets for over a year and a half because this council has not yet made Walk on Wilshire permanent."

The walkway's supporters circulated an online petition that gathered nearly 2,000 signatures.

Councilman Fred Jung has been critical of how Walk on Wilshire has rolled out in the past four years and cited a \$30,000 deficit.

"If we're going to look at a

closure of any street, close the entire street," he said. "Why a quarter of it? Why not the entire street? Make it so there's a legitimate in-

vestment that we make." Mulberry St. Ristorante is the only business that has built a permitted parklet for outdoor dining since the street closure began. Other businesses, like Fullerton Brew Co. and SomiSomi, have obtained permits but have been reluctant to invest in parklet construction given the walkway's uncer-

A trio of restaurants have declined to participate in outdoor dining altogether.

Council members considered three options for Walk on Wilshire's future, including a parklet program for downtown that would allow for event-specific closures of the street.

Reopening the street to car traffic was estimated to incur a minimal \$2,000 cost to the city.

Tony Bushala, a longtime Fullerton resident who owns property on Wilshire Avenue, spoke in support of bringing in bollards to seal the street off from car traffic, but only temporarily for special events.

"We need to open that street up," he said. "Let the businesses continue and, if there's an event, close it off."

Even though Walk on Wilshire supporters presented council members with 65 small business owners backing the walkway, not every downtown entrepreneur was on board.

Chris Presta, the owner of the Back Alley Bar & Grill, didn't report any positive impact from Walk on Wilshire on downtown when he spoke before council.

"I've got hours of video and [photos] of that street being empty," Presta said. "There's more people in this room than Walk on Wilshire."

In 2023, Huntington Beach City opened up a second block of Main Street to car traffic and gave restaurateurs a deadline to scale back outdoor dining operations to make space for metered parking again.

Cal State Fullerton Professor Karen Stocker argued that scholarly research backs the benefits of curbing car-centric culture in favor of walkable cities and invited Fullerton to stroll down a more permanent path on Wilshire Avenue.

"There are multiple and interconnected benefits to community, economy, health, the arts, environmental stewardship and civic engagement," she said. "Far from eradicating the Walk on Wilshire, we ought

to extend it to the remaining block, if not more."

With pandemic restrictions on restaurants long gone, Councilwoman Shana Charles saw a silver lining in the form of Walk on Wilshire and wanted to expand the closure for another 400 feet.

"We have something extraordinary here, we really do," she said. "We need to give the people what they

Councilman Fred Whitaker was the sole vote against the extension and study.

Mayor Nick Dunlap recused himself during the discussion, as he has done previous extension votes.

Three council members agreed to extend Walk on Wilshire's lifeline while leaving the question of its permanency to a possible January vote when a new council is seated after the elections.

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VIGIL

Continued from page A1

meditated on experiences shared by relationship violence survivors. Their stories were posted on boards arranged on a path surrounding the lawn in front of the Donald Dungan Library. A soft lavender glow from paper luminaries lit the path before them.

"That's the most important thing we could do tonight, is shine the light on an issue that really does thrive in silence," Rios-Faust said. "And although many know that it's not OK to harm, it continues to happen. Because what we need

to do is make sure that people have access to resources.'

One of the accounts came from a therapist who struggled to understand how she wound up in an abusive relationship despite her education. Several survivors shared how the violence targeting them went on to emotionally scar the children who had to witness it.

Survivors also explained how their lives changed for the better after getting in touch with people who could help them. That's why speakers at Wednesday's vigil urged attendees to watch out for signs of abuse among the people around them and asked them to be ready to guide survivors to resources available from police, Human Options or other support organiza-

"It's an issue that has affected my family," Stephens said, "and I am so grateful that my parents who were as children victims of violence and abuse broke that cycle when it came to my family. That's hard to do. That's really hard to do. What you see is generational violence."

Stephens cited statistics revealing that domestic violence appears to be more prevalent in California than in the rest of the U.S. He said 43% of women and 42% of men in the state

have experienced some form of physical harm from an intimate partner. The mayor added that abuse in the household is the third leading cause of homelessness among families across the country.

Chief Lawrence said domestic violence's reach is not restricted by wealth or social standing. The victims his officers encounter come from all walks of life, he said. And regardless of their backgrounds, many of the same issues keep them from speaking out: concerns over the shelter and well-being of their children as well as fear of judgment from anyone who might find out about their situa-



OPTIONS CEO Maricela

HUMAN

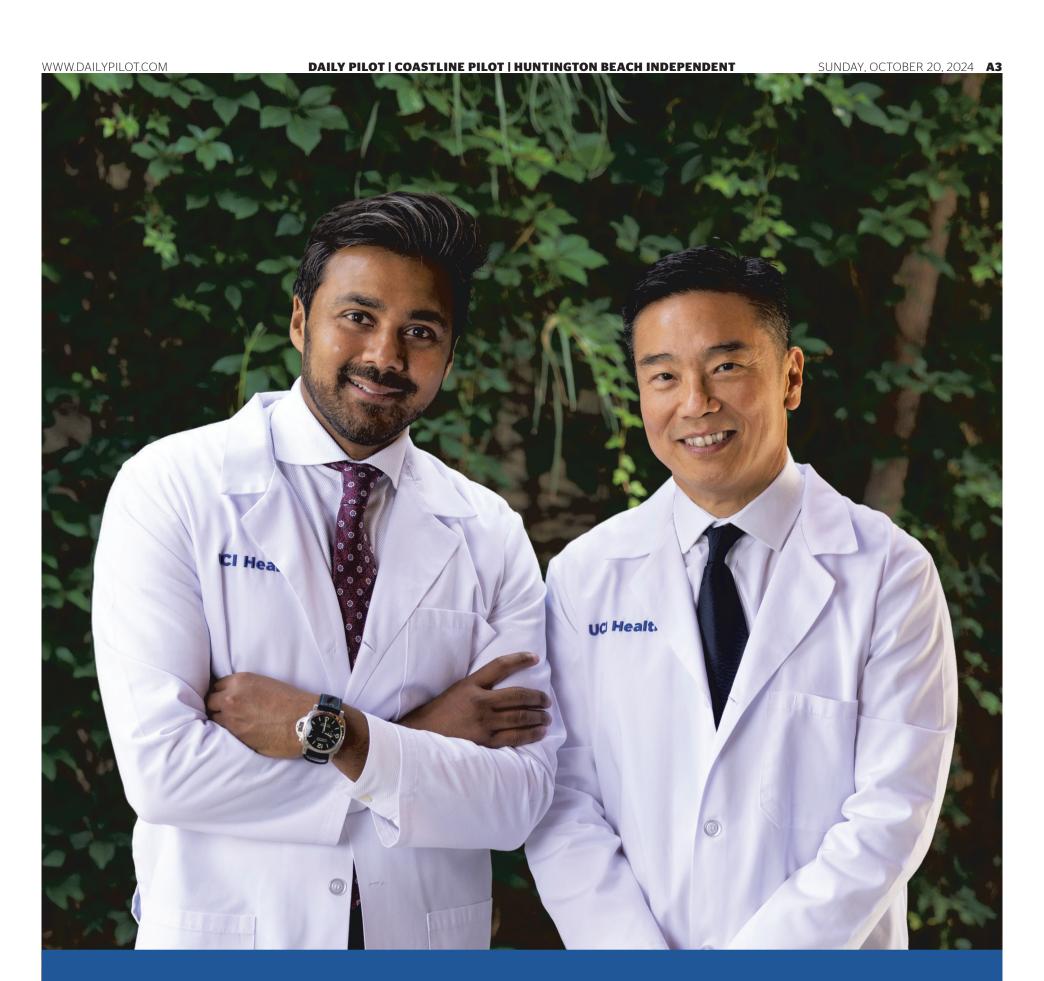
Rios-Faust addresses attendees of the Shine the Light vigil.

Eric Licas

"Today as you walk around, you'll see the stories of many victims who have been part of our program and part of our city who found a way to get to our doors and get the support they needed," Rios-

Faust said. "They did that because one person came forward. One person took that step to make it safe for them. Each of you here can be that one person."

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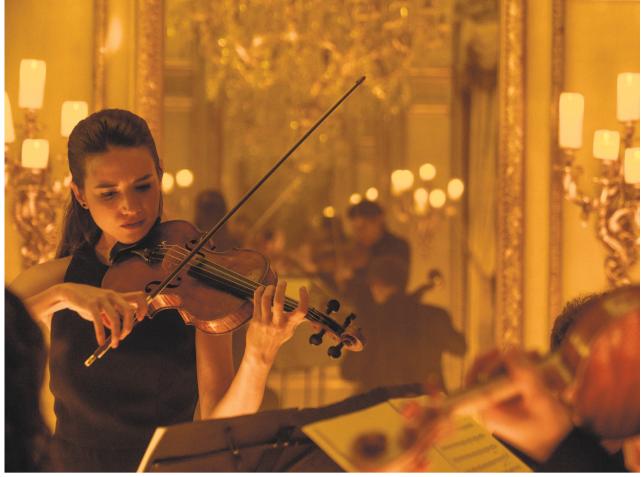
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Haunting music comes to Yorba Linda

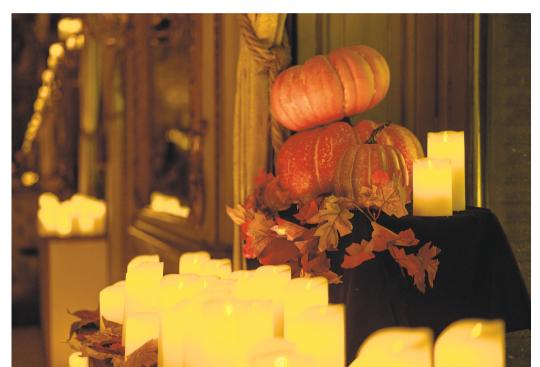


Photos courtesy of Fever

FEVER'S CANDLELIGHT concert series will come to the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum for Halloween.

A HALLOWEENTHEMED classical music performance at the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum will feature songs like "Funeral March of a Marionette" and Danny Elfman's theme from

"Beetlejuice."



BY SARAH MOSQUEDA

s there an cinematic instrumental song more iconic — or more unsettling — than the theme to John Carpenter's 1978 horror classic "Halloween?" The synthesizers pulse in five-quarter time rather than the more common three-quarter time, letting the listener know that something is amiss. The piercing notes of the theme from "Psycho" are similarly unnerving, the sharp string sounds calling to mind the plunging knife in the 1960 Alfred Hitchcock film. The haunting "Danse Macabre," by French composer Camille Saint-Saëns, is a classical take on the spooky song, inspired by a poem from Henri Cazalis about an ancient superstition involving Death playing a fiddle to inspire the dead to dance up from their graves.

Those recognizable horror anthems are part of the program macabre music lovers will hear at "Candlelight Yorba Linda: A Haunted Evening of Halloween Classics." Hosted at the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum in Yorba Linda, the event from global entertainment company Fever will present a live musical performance of Halloweenthemed music in a candlelit setting on Oct. 30 and 31. The show is part of a series of Candlelight Concerts Fever is bringing Orange County.

"Candlelight reimagines the orchestral concert experience to attract a broader audience, including those new to classical music," said Wyatt McNeil, project manager at Fever.

In November, Fever will bring a "Tribute to Metallica," a "Tribute to Coldplay" and "the Best of the Beatles" to the same venue. The concerts are designed to make orchestral music more accessible to wider audiences, which McNeil

said the company achieves with a few accommoda-

"We shorten performances to a more accessible 60 minutes, host them in unique venues beyond traditional concert halls and offer a diverse repertoire, from classical masterpieces to themed shows like Halloween and tributes to contemporary artists," McNeil said. "There's a show for everyone."

The added element of candlelight isn't just for the spooky season. The soft lighting makes the cinematic music even more moving and sets the mood for a variety of music types. A show planned for early November at the Neighborhood Congregational Church in Laguna Beach will highlight the compositions of German film score composer and music producer Hans Zimmer.

"The ambiance of Candlelight, coupled with our talented local musicians who engage directly with the audience and share insights about the music, creates an intimate and immersive experience," said McNeil.

The performance will include the aforementioned tunes as well as "Funeral March of a Marionette" by Charles Gounod, the theme from Netflix's "Stranger Things" and a medley from "The Nightmare Before Christmas."

The Oct. 30 performance of the show is already sold out, but tickets for two Oct. 31 performances, one at 6:30 p.m. and another at 9 p.m., are still available. Attendees must be 8 years old or older, and anyone under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult

Tickets are priced between \$42 and \$76 and can be found at *feverup.com*.

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THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Stella Zawistowski

ACROSS 1 Church table 6 '90s music media: Abbr. 9 Gets ready 14 "Cool!" 15 Very popular 16 Caramel candies 17 Atlanta-based airline 18 Santa _ winds 19 "Challenge accepted!": 2 wds. 20 Checkout counter machine: 2 wds. 23 Bit of skin art, for short 24 Edgar Allan _ 25 Was disrespectful to 29 Datebooks 34 For all to hear 35 DEA busts 36 _ and vigor 37 Cultural legends 38 "_ you for real?" 39 Scotch mixer 40 "Soldier" insect 41 Flaws in fenders 43 Cake maker 44 Cakes and pies 46 Short version of a book 47 Charitable ad: Abbr. 48 Sibling nickname 49 December 25 entree: 2 wds. 55 Church singers 56 Beanie or boater 57 Atlantic or Pacific 60 Moisten, as a

turkey

61 Pub serving

63 Go very fast

64 Actor Danson

62 Snapshot

65 Drainage

system part

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 14 15 15 16 19 10 11 12 13 17 20 21 22 24 22 24 22 24 22 24 22 33 33 34 35 36 33 36 33 36 33 36 33 36 33 36 33 36 33 39 39 30 36 36 37 38 39 43 43 43 43 44 45 46 48 48 48 48 48 48 48 48 49 50 50 56 57 58 59 59 60 61 62 62 62 62 62 63 64 64 65 65 65 65 65 65 65 65 65 65 65 65 65 65 65 65 65</td

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*.

Sudoku, Visit <i>Sudoku.org.uk</i> .													
	8	7					3						
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	7					5	8						

For answers to the crossword and Sudoku puzzles, see page A8.

Sudoku puzzles,

DOWN

1 "Also..."

2 Gymnast Sunisa

3 Soft mineral

4 "__ boy!" ("Great job!")

5 Cooked in an oven

6 Map out

7 Finished

8 Deer with

antlers
9 Jails
10 Gone bad
11 "What _ is new?"
12 Financially
needy
13 ID since 1936:
Abbr.
21 Owned
22 Apple tablet
25 Leafy dish

26 Solo 27 Alphabetizes, e.g. 28 Take to court 29 Sections 30 Bears false witness 31 Call forth, as memories 32 Car trips 33 Brainy 35 Angry tirade 39 Droop down 41 Had a craving 42 Taylor Swift's _ Tour 43 Chess pieces that move diagonally 45 Lemon-lime soda brand 46 Trash-talk 48 Fully filled 49 Gentleman 50 Stockings or tights

Tribune Media Services

51 "_ does it!"

53 Feel sore

network

there

52 Drake or tom

54 Cat's sound

55 "Big Brother"

58 Had some food

59 Neither here _

A 'Monument' to presidential hopefuls who came in second

BY SARAH MOSQUEDA

As the upcoming election nears, TV viewers are being inundated with campaign ads. The carousel of ads for congressional candidates cycles through every commercial break to make sure people know their names, and nearly every lawn has a sign firmly planted in the soil with a candidate's name and slogan. In the city of Orange though, one yard displays signs for candidates passersby may not have heard of.

Winfield Scott. Rufus King. Barry Goldwater.

These names, unfamiliar to many modern-day voters, will not appear on the ballot this election season, but they can be found in artist Nina Katchadourian's free public art installation "Monument to the Unelected."

Presented by the Grand Central Art Center, in collaboration with Community Engagement, Katchadourian's temporary installation at 896 S. Oakwood St. through Nov. 17 consists of 59 signs bearing the names of losing candidates from every presidential election in American history.

The project began during the 2008 presidential election when Katchadourian was commissioned by the Scottsdale Museum of Art to create new work for the museum's 10th anniversary under the theme of humor.

"Although I think I am known as an artist who works with a lot of humor, who uses humor as a strategy, it was actually the first time I had ever been asked to make something funny purposely," said Katchadourian, "which is of

course a great way to make sure you are not going to have a funny idea at all."

Katchadourian said she spent time exploring many unfunny ideas, but the narratives around that year's presidential election got her asking some serious questions about American history.

"I stood looking at a va-

"I stood looking at a vacant lot on a street corner seeing all these campaign signs for all these people and thinking, this is history about to be made, and some of these names will continue forward in our knowledge of our country's history and other will just kind of disappear," said Katchadourian.

She was inspired to create a work that would use election signs to help viewers think about the past and the roads not taken. The result is a thought-provoking public artwork that as a bonus is a bit of a home owners association nightmare. The signs are not historically accurate in terms of style, Katchadourian consulted with a couple historians to create a list of losing candidates. She worked with graphic designer Evan Gaffney to design signs that would adopt a contemporary style to make it look as if all the candidates were running for office today.

"I based these designs on actual signs that I had seen, sort of cribbing from the feel and the look of those real election signs," said Katchadourian. "They are all corrugated plastic with commercial inks on top."

Of course, elections didn't always work the way they work now, and before the 12th amendment in



Photos courtesy of Grand Central Art Center

THE NAMES of "unelected candidates" appear in Nina Katchadourian's public art installation.

1804 the person who got the most votes became president, and the person who came in second became vice president. For the purposes of this projects, Katchadourian said she thinks of the "losers" as whoever came in second.

"No matter what the system might of been, for this project it was whoever wasn't quite president," said Katchadourian.

There are also some candidates who were president but who maybe didn't win a bid for a second term like Jimmy Carter, who lost the 1980 presidential race to Ronald Reagan.

Katchadourian never thought she would show "Monument to the Unelected" beyond 2008 but has shown it in every presidential election since, adding the latest loser each time.

This election cycle, the work is also being shown in Scottsdale, Ariz., as well as in Oakland, Napa, San Francisco, Madison, Wis., and Northfield, Minn., simultaneously. "Monument to the Unelected" was featured on a segment on Spectrum News 1 and included in Forbes Magazine as one of "6 Exceptional Art Exhibits to Redeem 2020."

In the time since she first showed the work, Katchadourian said she learned that "Monument to the Unelected" can be a measuring stick for our current culture. She finds she can gauge the nation's mood based on how people react to the piece each election.

"Some elections in recent years have been so tense, and I think we are up against another nail-biter this time, and people's mindset is very attuned to questions of politics," said Katchadourian.

One point Katchadourian is careful to make is that while the subject matter in this artwork is politics, the piece isn't political.



"The piece, although about politics, it is actually apolitical. It is curiously neutral, and people often look to the piece to display a kind of politics, to take a side, and it doesn't do that," said Katchadourian. "Sometimes I think that is surprising and even confusing for people."

This year, when election results are official, a 60th sign with the name of the losing candidate for the 2024 Presidential Election will be added, giving the loser, so to speak, a chance to be considered, which Katchadourian said is part of her intention.

"I am eager to make something that makes people look twice, think twice and consider what they are seeing."

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All dates, times, artists, programs, and prices are subject to change



Remedy and it is a legal weapon that allows devel-

opers to build certain

ing or general plan re-

an approved Housing

not have an approved

Housing Element, so if

Measure U passes, voters will have to approve this

complicated document. If

voters deny the Housing Element, then developers

will invoke the Builder's

being used by developers

against communities like Huntington Beach up and

down the state. The Build-

er's Remedy will not only

bypass local zoning rules

Measure U does not protect our beaches, li-

braries or parks. The peo-

placed protections for our

ple of the city already

your participation.

like height restrictions and density, but it will bypass

Remedy. This "tool" is

Element.

housing projects without

complying with local zon-

quirements if a city lacks

Huntington Beach does

Sunset Bridge was worth the wait

hen I walked across the new Sunset Bridge in Newport Beach connecting a brand-new 129 space parking lot with Sunset Ridge Park, I was reminded of the old TV series, "Fantasy Island" where Tattoo, Mr. Roarke's right-hand man, yells to everyone within ear shot, "The plane ... the plane." Well now we can make our own shouts with, "The bridge ... the bridge.'

I live near the intersection of Superior Avenue and Hospital Road so it's a short walk to the new bridge. It's been a while since they first started building the bridge followed by the huge parking area with landscaping consisting of bushes, small trees and of course the latest high-tech machines to gently relieve us of our money for parking. Hey, it's worth a few bucks to park and make the very short trek across Superior Avenue to an open area especially made for having

There were only a few cars in the new parking lot today when I saw it, but I suspect that soon there will be a plethora of cars, people, picnic baskets and anything else that requires an open air venue to unwind and enjoy. My son and his 6- and 9-year-old daughters will no doubt put this place to good use in short order now that there is ample parking and safe passage across a very busy Superior Avenue.

> **Bill Spitalnick** Newport Beach



Susan Hoffman

A DAILY PILOT reader praises the new Sunset Bridge at Superior Avenue and Pacific Coast Highway.

A new face brings excitement

Several of my neighbors and I could not be more optimistic about the candidacy of a young man named Miles Patricola who would bring new vitality to a city council that could benefit from some idealistic approaches to old and new issues. A local who was born in Laguna Beach and grew up in Newport Beach with a desire to enter public service, Patricola is

a product of local schools and Orange Coast College. He worked in his family's famous local restaurant Rothschild's, doing public relations for the restaurant as he grew older. He has also worked for nonprofits. Patricola has a desire to go into politics as a career and likes to quote one of his local role models, Keith Curry, who has been known to say, "There is no Democratic or Republican way to pave a road." Patricola's campaign focuses on local issues expressed in detail

on his website.

Patricola is brave to run alone for his first foray into politics. It shows character and independence, something the Newport Beach City Council could use an infusion of. Hopefully, the community will appreciate his positive attributes and idealism.

Also running independently, rather than on a slate, are the two stellar candidates, Jeff Herdman and Nancy Scarborough, whose many contributions to the city of Newport Beach were discussed in last week's

Daily Pilot Mailbag.

Lynn Lorenz Newport Beach

Measure U is bad for H.B.

Huntington Beach voters must say no to Measure U. It pretends to give the voters control over changes to zoning regulations in an attempt to bypass state housing mandates but it will actually result in less citizen participation. Here is the reason; it's called the Builder's

beaches and parks into our Charter in 1990. Residents are gathering signatures on petitions right now to protect our libraries, but that issue is not on the November ballot. Measure U will signifi-

cantly increase costs to the

city of approving devel-

opment projects that re-

quire votes. For example, the election in March of 2024, with three ballot measures cost the city \$395,047. These costs are borne by all of us.

Measure U is a misguided attempt at local control. It risks hindering

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COMMENTARY | MATTHEW ARMSTRONG, ET AL

Beware of 'parental rights' candidates

n 2014, a student's father contacted me with a concern about "In Cold Blood," a book in the Newport Harbor AP Language curriculum. Dad recognized the merit of the Pulitzer-nominated novel but expressed dismay that his daughter had to read a harrowing scene describing the murders at the heart of the story.

The AP Lang teachers worked in collaboration with this parent on a common-sense revision to how we teach the book: Give the students a heads-up about the content of that chapter and make it optional. A decade later, this is still our practice at Newport Harbor. Now, that very parent's wife is campaigning for a

seat on the NMUSD school board with a promise "to restore the partnership between parents and edu-

That partnership still exists. There's nothing to restore here.

We understand that it's fashionable in some circles to criticize public institutions and vilify teachers. With that in mind, the undersigned teachers and I want to make clear that proclaiming "parental rights" is code for two goals: to lord over our community's teachers and to censor materials available to students.

A campaign pledge to "protect parental rights" sounds good on the stump. After all, who argues

against the right to raise one's own child? Certainly no candidate, parent or educator. But those who make "parental rights"

the parent community: Please encourage your children to do their best on state tests. This message went out through direct

Teachers and school staff are part of the village it takes to raise a child.

central to their platforms are not to be trusted.

Here's why: Parents have not been deprived of any rights. The partnership between schools and parents is strong.

As evidence, look no further than our 2024 state tests scores. Last year, administration at NHHS made a simple appeal to

communication, the PTA, school site council, ELAC, and other school-connected organizations. Without any academic intervention, test scores shot up 16%, and are now above pre-pandemic levels — our second-best performance ever on this test.

Now these candidates claim some crisis of trust? They're either uninformed or disingenuous, each of which is a red flag for a candidate.

Teachers and school staff are part of the village it takes to raise a child. This push to protect "parental rights" is nothing more than the manufactured drama of politicians. Don't elect such candidates to local office.

Educators who have dedicated their professional lives to our community youth should be trusted to manage our schools and classrooms, period. Those educators should listen to parents with open ears and respond with open minds, period. By and large, this describes Newport-Mesa

Unified under its current leadership. No one's rights have been

violated by our schools. Still, if we take the bait and engage the debate (say, for argument's sake), then

sure ... Let's talk about

"parental rights." For these candidates, pandemic restrictions destroyed their trust in schools. Like many baseless arguments, it's a seductive one: Parents wanted schools to reopen, but they didn't. Thus, teachers can't be trusted. Parents must take

over. Simple as that. Only one problem: That's not what happened.

Here's the truth. NMUSD elementary campuses were

See Commentary, page A8

ARTIST

Continued from page A1

welling was sure that more than one person would have had to contribute to the theft, given the scale of the painting. She surmised at the time that a vehicle capable of transporting the piece would have had to wait outside the garage for it to be carried out.

The mystery still piqued her curiosity, but for all intents and purposes, Lewis Ulwelling had resigned herself to the probability the artwork would be lost to

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her forever. The large-scale painting, once a commissioned piece for a spec home in Beverly Hills that didn't wind up there, had become a memory she was ready to leave behind.

"I thought that something would happen a lot sooner, and when it didn't, I was just kind of like, 'Well, I could put my effort into doing good works and doing good things, or I can put my effort in like revenge and obsession over this painting of what happened," Lewis Ulwelling said. "I chose to go the other route."

Lewis Ulwelling had also begun to see the irony in the situation.

"The piece is about elevating as a human, becoming the best version of yourself that you can by basically checking in with yourself every day, several times a day," Lewis Ulwelling said. "The funny thing about this piece is because it was stolen, which is definitely not elevating, ... I was kind of like, 'Well, whoever has this, I guess they need to have it because maybe they need to elevate themselves."

"Elevate" was brought back into her life a couple months ago after she received an unexpected call from a man in the neighboring city of Laguna Niguel. When she told him that the painting had been stolen several years ago, she was able to arrange to get it

Lewis Ulwelling told the Daily Pilot shortly after the artwork first disappeared that the painting was valued at \$60,000. She described the undertone of

the work.

"Honestly, I was looking at it in a practical way, going, 'Well, I am a very curious person,' so to find out the mystery of 'who done it,' if you will, is really interesting to me and fascinating," Lewis Ulwelling said when asked why she took it back if she was ready to move on. "The other part of



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

CHRISTIANA LEWIS Ulwelling stands with three of her paintings in her home studio.

it is [that] it's a very expenhow she views it now as sive frame and canvas. I can "disturbing" that someone turn this around and make would steal it. it something really great. This week she said she is Why not? It's several thouconsidering painting over sand dollars for this frame and the canvas alone, so

let's do something with it." Lewis Ulwelling, who said she has struggled with alcoholism, is now sober after a stay at a Newport Beach rehab facility.

Her latest series is focused on facilitating conversations around addictive behaviors and mental health to help others im-

prove themselves. Many of the works include silhouettes of the body, with various elements within their interior, representing the various thoughts and feelings individuals carry with them and often choose to keep to themselves.

"What I'm working on is a series that really talks about [substance abuse] out in the open," Lewis Ul-welling said. "Let's talk about it, because if we can talk about it, then we can start to fix it. If we don't talk about it, we can't fix it, and

so I'm talking about it through my art.

She pointed out one of her artworks titled "Rumination," in which she incorporated equations.

"It's about standing there in yourself and not talking to anybody, and ruminating thoughts over and over. ... If we don't talk about it, and we stand there and ruminate, then we want to mask it with substances, so let's talk about it."

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'Rock Soup' highlights family's generosity

BY MATT SZABO

Leo and Teresa Razo have always tried to give

In his early days of being a restaurant owner, Leo would go down to the Santa Ana River near Angel Stadium and give food to homeless people there.

One night several years ago, he was returning from catering a wedding party in Yorba Linda. His truck broke down and he got off at the Katella Avenue exit, eventually getting stuck in the middle of the street.

"Two homeless [people] come walking to the side, like, 'What's going on?'" Razo remembered. "I told them that the transition broke down. One of them is like, 'Oh, you're the guy who gives us food. Hold on.'"

Razo started to tear up with emotion as he continued the story.

"They run down to the river, and they come back with a bunch of guys to push the truck," he said. "They take care of me. You can't forget those things. I give you something, and

you give me something. That's the way the world can grow."

The philanthropy of the Razo family is the subject of a new documentary, "Rock Soup." The family held a viewing party Oct. 13 at Villa Roma market and

restaurant in Laguna Hills, which they own along with Cambalache Grill in Fountain Valley.

The event also had a meet-and-great and a panel discussion featuring Leo, Teresa and filmmaker Tony Marino, as well as the

cook.

"Rock Soup" is a 29minute documentary that
debuted earlier this month
at the Awareness Film

couple's son, niece and a

Festival in Los Angeles.

Marino went the extra
mile, actually thousands of
them, traveling with the
family to Leo Razo's home-



Photos by Don Leach | Staff Photographer

TERESA AND Leo Razo stand inside their restaurant and market, Villa Roma in Laguna Hills.

EMPENADAS
MADE by
hand are
among the
offerings at
Leo and Teresa
Razo's Villa
Roma
restaurant and
market.



town in Jalisco, Mexico, to feed and help the people there.

The name of the documentary refers to the old Stone Soup folktale, in which everyone chips in something to make a meal.

Rocks are powerful in the life of the family, which lives in Laguna Hills. Teresa Razo said their sons Luis, 17, and Emiliano, 13, like to collect them.

"We truly feel that rocks

have energy, and they have meaning," Teresa Razo said. "I go a little bit beyond. I always feel that life throws rocks at you, but it's what you build with it."

The Razos started "Paella With a Purpose" in 2017 to support community and nonprofit organizations with the gift of food — namely paella, the popular rice dish that is one of the most famous in Spanish cuisine.



To date, they have raised more than \$1.5 million for nonprofits and helped feed more than 2.5 million people in need worldwide.

They built a water well in Uganda to provide clean water to more than 1,000 people, also providing more than 200 food boxes a week to neighbors during the coronavirus pandemic along with other philanthropic endeavors.

Leo sits on the board of

PASTAS and fine wine are in stock at Leo and Teresa Razo's Villa Roma in Laguna Hills.

IMPORTED

directors of the Illumination Foundation, which seeks to disrupt the cycle of homelessness in Southern California by providing housing and healthcare. Teresa is a past board member.

Illumination Foundation chief executive Pooja Bhalla said that both Teresa and Leo have made it their mission to serve the community at large.

She saw this firsthand

during the pandemic, when Illumination Foundation had to open sites and bring services online for COVID-19 patients countywide.

'We needed someone to help us with delivering food, bringing the food in for people that were sick," Bhalla said. "Without even being asked, Teresa and Leo stepped up and started to deliver meals to our clients at all our sites in Orange County. Not just us, they also brought these services to many others who needed them. I see them out in the community helping anybody and everybody who needs the help. They use their experience and their restaurants as a vehicle to make that happen."

A quote from civil rights activist Cesar Chavez begins the documentary: "If you really want to make a friend, go to someone's house and eat with him. The people who give you their food give you their heart."

Leo and Teresa Razo, who first met at her *quinceañera* in Mexico and have been married for 25 years, have always found that to be true.

Teresa said that things got tough for them during the pandemic, like many restaurant owners. They even considered closing one of their eateries.

Then she remembered something.

"The reason why we opened up the restaurant was not to serve food," she said. "The reason was to feed the soul. The pandemic just threw us to the floor and back to the beginning. I'm the type of person that when I'm in a situation that's not very favorable, I go back to my roots. Why did I start this?

"We just started giving, and God took care of the rest."

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Orange Coast Medical Center Recently Participated in a Clinical Trial for Metastatic Prostate Cancer Amol Rao, M.D.,

medical director,
Cancer Research,
MemorialCare Cancer Institute



Prostate cancer is a common disease that affects men, usually in middle age or later.

Prostate cancer is a common disease that affects men, usually in middle age or later. If cancer becomes metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer—meaning it has spread beyond the prostate gland—and hormone therapy is no longer effective, it poses a particularly challenging medical issue.

However, researchers are hoping that with the recent completion of the ECLIPSE study, a ground breaking clinical trial that took a novel approach to treating metastatic prostate cancer, will prove to be a viable treatment option in the future. Metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer (mCRPC) is a formidable adversary in the realm of oncology. This study addressed the challenge head-on by using a targeted treatment approach. Prostate-specific membrane antigen (PSMA) is a biomarker that sits on the outside of prostate cancer cells. If the prostate cancer cells have an abundance of PSMA, it means your mCRPC is PSMA+. PLUVICTO, or 177Lu-PSMA-18T, is a form of radiation treatment specifically targeting the PSMA+ marker.

"To administer the treatment, we first located the PSMA+ markers using a PET scan," says Amol Rao, M.D., medical director, Cancer Research, MemorialCare Cancer Institute. "If the patient had plenty of PSMA+ markers, they were considered good candidate for this treatment. The PLUVICTO treatment then gets absorbed into the PSMA biomarkers, and emits radiation that effectively breaks apart cancerous cells, limiting damage to surrounding healthy cells."

The findings that are to come from ECLIPSE Study hold great promise in advancing the treatment of metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer by potentially limiting side-effects and ultimately, not just improving the quality of life for patients, but potentially extending it.

"This precise approach can potentially offer for more effective and less harmful treatment for patients with metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer," said Dr. Rao. "As the study progresses, it brings us one step closer to more effective and less harmful treatments for this challenging disease."

The MemorialCare Research team, in partnership with the MemorialCare Cancer Institute at Orange Coast Medical Center, is committed to sustained investment in clinical research to continue improving the community's quality of life. By offering advanced technologies and innovative treatments in cancer screenings, targeted treatments, radiation therapy and surgery, the future of cancer care can be found at Orange Coast Medical Center.

Visit memorialcare.org/research to learn more about the 300+ research projects being conducted at MemorialCare.





SPOOKY

Continued from page A2

new floats or refurbish old ones.

"We had a family bring their two girls over one time," Sanchez recalled. "I offered to give them a ride on one of the floats. Later, the dad texted to tell me one of the girls said it was the best day ever! That warms your heart."

The whole production boasts a roster of more than 200 volunteers, half of whom sign up for the day of the festival and parade to help make it happen.

From the floats to the art to the merchandise, the parade opts for a vintage Halloween aesthetic inspired by the historical photos Daily and Kidney thumbed through several years ago. It's also a way to stand out amid a competitive field of Halloween events, which the parade can credibly lay claim to paving the path for.

"We're trying to attract a different crowd to come see us," said Daily, who is interim president of the Anaheim Fall Festival nonprofit. "We think there's a place for a charming, trick-ortreat, vintage-style Hallow-

With a handful of days before the parade, Daily plans to be at the warehouse every morning. The space is already bulging with floats raring to go.

"The event itself is only one day, but we spend months and months working together," he said. "That's the sweetness of it

All the hard work is set to pay off. A century later, the Anaheim Fall Festival and Halloween Parade is still expected to be a big draw.

"We're looking forward to having over 50,000 guests during the fall festival and parade," Sanchez said. "At the same time, we want to make sure that we maintain that unique charm, so that it has a small-town

For more information on the Anaheim Fall Festival and Halloween Parade, visit anaheimfallfestival.org.

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Don Leach | Staff Photographer

JANEY ELLIS paints a deceased fly's coffin for the Spider Hearse float for the Anaheim Halloween Parade.

COMMENTARY

Continued from page A6

in the *first* wave of Orange County public schools to reopen. In our high schools, principals and teachers went all-in on a modified schedule that meant in-seat learning on day one. At least it meant that until a small group of parents pressured the Board and killed the idea. Just like that, the return to campus was shut down — and high schools remained closed until November.

This is what their version of "parental rights" looks like. A loud, privileged minority wielding undue influence over your child's education.

If elected, these people will overrule the qualifications and experience of the educators in our schools by adopting policies intended to challenge California law. They would use their position of public trust on our nonpartisan local school board to pursue a partisan agenda to upend the California SAFETY Act. Such grandstanding will subject

our district to costly litigation on a losing case. This is where "defending parental rights" will lead

If we elect these people, it will no longer be enough for teachers to rely on extensive district, state and professional guidance when selecting reading materials. It won't be enough for parents and teachers to communicate directly about books available to students. These candidates will act to take direct control over what students read. Additionally, with the power entrusted to them,

they will facilitate frivolous book challenges and lower the bar for removing materials from school libraries and classrooms. This will limit the choices available to your child.

Those who "fight for parental rights" don't really care about your rights or your children. They want their way to be the only way; they want to dictate what's right for every child, including yours. This is their real agenda.

Of course, the politically ambitious are happy to spread mistruth if it means more votes, and

politicians have every right to make false claims. After all, speech is free.

But logic and reason come at a cost, and these candidates haven't done their homework. They are unfit to serve on the NMUSD Board of Trustees.

MATT ARMSTRONG is an English teacher at Newport Harbor High School. His commentary is co-signed by more than 25 NMUSD educators. For the full list of co-signatories, see the commentary online at dailypilot.com.

MAILBAG

Continued from page A6

essential development. It delays projects and puts us at greater risk of legal entanglement.

Our City Council must prioritize pragmatic approaches including meaningful community involvement that leads to responsible developments. Creating more conflict with the state is not a winning strategy. Please vote no on Measure U.

> Connie Boardman, former mayor: Patrick Brenden. former council member: former mayor; **Debbie Cook.** former mayor: **Linda Moulton-Patter**son, former mayor; Joe Shaw, former council member: Grace Winchell. former mayor Huntington Beach

Carol Crane is the better choice

As we approach election day, one candidate in the Newport-Mesa Unified School District Trustee Area 3 stands out above the rest. Carol Crane, the current board president, is the absolute best person to help continue to guide the district as she has so capably done for these past four

I have come to know Crane very well over the past 25 years. I have watched her year after year as she volunteered her time in positions of leadership at K-12 schools. As a former teacher herself, she knows the profession well and tirelessly advocates for children. She understands the functions and importance of local governance. We need someone who prioritizes involvement in the education process and who has deep ties to our community. She fosters and maintains partnerships with local businesses and nonprofit organizations that greatly support the district. I know her to be a dedicated, hard-working and intelligent person who does her homework. She is present at countless events throughout the district and community. In all she does, she always has students' and parents' best interests at heart.

Our five children attended NMUSD schools, K-12. Our family has greatly benefited from NMUSD education, and we hope future generations will also enjoy the same experiences and benefits.

As a recently retired NMUSD teacher and principal, I know the direct impact that school board members have on every student. I strongly encourage all Area 3 voters to reelect Carol Crane in November. Her experienced leadership makes her the best candidate to continue to represent us.

Julie McCormick

Working with Carol Crane has truly been an honor. As Corona del Mar's former ASB President for the 2023-24 school year, I had the chance to serve on the NMSUD school board as the student board member representing CdM. During these meetings, I got a glimpse into local governance first-hand. As a current political science and data science major undergraduate student at UCLA, I was very interested in watching how the leaders of our community work around the now polarizing political arena. Though politics have no place in our education system, it was inevitable in some of the decisions needed to be discussed. However, Crane navigated these difficult conversations with poise, keeping her decisions focused on what mattered most: the students. Crane never

failed to do what her job needed of her, which was to be the voice and guiding hand of the students. It is evident in her actions and votes that she does not let politics sway her votes. Crane goes straight to the source to make her decisions, asking students what they think of policies and what they need. She makes sure that the students are heard and feel safe with the policies put through. Crane fights for the students, not a political ideal. Furthermore, Carol

Crane, through and through, proves that she cares. She cares about her job, her community and most importantly the students she serves. During my time as ASB president, I attended most of my school's events to show my support and see how my peers were doing. And time and time again, Carol Crane was at every event I attended, cheering and actively engaging with the students. From our athletics to open mic nights, Crane shows up with a smile on her face, ready to see how the students of our district contribute to the community. She didn't just show up for my school but to every school in our district, from elementary to middle to high school. She truly cares about her job and shows it through her words and, more importantly, her actions. A board member must be involved in the community, and Crane does just that.

I hope that not only my account but also your experience or your child's interactions with Carol Crane will allow you to see how easy of a vote this should be in this coming election for the school board. Thank you!

> **Peyton Vovan** former ASB president CdMHS Class of 2024

As former principals of Eastbluff Elementary, we

can wholeheartedly affirm that no one understands and advocates for the Area 3 zone better than Carol Crane. Actively involved since 1998 with the Corona del Mar/NMUSD community, Crane has an extremely vested interest in the success of all students at NMUSD. As a member, officer, and president of the NMUSD board of education, Crane fought tirelessly for resources and support when her schools needed them the most. As a former teacher, she knows that student success results from a village of faculty and staff and parents,

working together. Crane is extremely dedicated to the children of NMUSD and values parent rights. She researches and surveys parents and community members as part of her decision-making process. She not only asks for input from parents, but she also constantly meets with and takes calls from community members. She attends PTA, foundation and homeowners meetings. A recent example is Crane started a working group to educate students and parents about the safe operations of e-bikes and has stayed active in implementing safety concerns.

Crane asks for feedback from faculty and staff. She wants to be informed to make the best decisions for all students and the community. Her transparency is evident since she can be seen all over NMUSD and is present for students, parents, and all stakeholders

For continued dedication and advocacy for educational best we strongly encourage you to vote for Carol Crane as Trustee for NMUSD Board of Education, Area 3.

Former Eastbluff Elementary Principals

Charlene Metoyer (2001-2007) and Cheryl Beck (2008-2023)

NMUSD trustee states her case

The state of our schools is strong and growing stronger. Four years ago, I was honored to be elected as Trustee for Area 6 of the Newport Mesa Unified School District (NMUSD). Today I serve as vice president of the board, and I am once again asking for your

I am running for reelection with the same commitment I had four years ago to maintain rigorous academic standards, fiscal responsibility, and open communication with par-

During the past four vears. I have worked tire lessly to ensure our schools provide the highest quality education for all students in a safe and enriched learning environment.

If reelected, I will continue my efforts to push for enhanced security features on campus to ensure student safety. I remain committed to ensuring Newport Beach and Costa Mesa police departments maintain their uniformed presence at our schools and fully fund the School Resource Officer (SRO) program. As a trustee, I have prioritized small class sizes, academic support and new curriculum for all students. As a parent of two NMUSD elementary students, I understand that knowing what's happening in the classroom and oncampus is a fundamental right of every parent. That's why I have focused on improving communication between parents and teachers and introduced transparency into our curriculum.

Under my stewardship, NMUSD's fiscal health has grown stronger. NMUSD is primarily funded by property taxes, so the strong increasing property values of Newport Beach and Costa Mesa provide the district a solid financial base. As a homeowner and taxpayer, I am particularly proud that NMUSD boasts one of the highest Moody's bond ratings of Aa1 on outstanding debt and has one of the lowest bond tax burdens of approximately \$16 per \$100,000 in comparison to the median debt burden for Orange County districts at \$50 per \$100,000.

It would be an honor to once again receive your vote for Trustee, Area 6 NMUSD and I look forward to continue making a dif-

ference for our community. Krista Weigand Newport Beach

Daily Pilot

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

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The Daily Pilot, established in 1907, is published Thursday through Sunday by Times Community News, a division of the Los Angeles Times. Subscriptions are available only by subscribing to The

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CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS

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