Daily Pilot

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21, 2021 /// Now including Coastline Pilot and Huntington Beach Independent /// dailypilot.com



Kevin Chang | *Staff Photographer*

TRAINER RYAN RUSTAN and his dog Sugar walk along the Huntington Beach Pier on Friday. Sugar was one of three Orange County winners in the 24th annual Purina Pro Plan Incredible Dog Challenge Western Regional off Brookhurst Street on July 17, winning in the large surf dog category.

Huntington Beach surf dog Sugar wins another title

BY MATT SZABO

the untington Beach resident Ryan Rustan bursts with pride as he talks about his 10-year-old female surfing dog, Sugar.

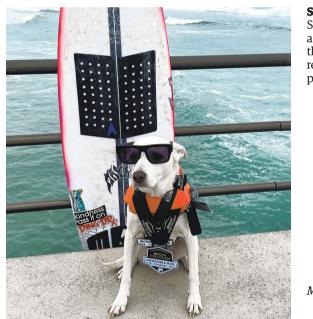
He said Sugar has shot the Huntington Beach Pier — surfing slang for going between the pilings without falling off — five different times.

There is something innately cute about a dog on a surfboard,

putting on a show in her home-town.

Sugar won the large surf dog category in the 24th annual Purina Pro Plan Incredible Dog Challenge Western Regional off Brookhurst Street. Wearing a life vest and with the help of Rustan, she rode waves during a 10minute session.

The canine competition will air in the Los Angeles metro area on KCAL 9 at 6 a.m. on Sept. 4, and 4 p.m. on Sept. 5. Sugar, who has her own Instagram account and was rescued from the streets of Oakland at 7 months old, won the invitationonly Purina Pro Plan for the third straight time. All she seems to do is win. This was her 18th first-place finish in a competi-



SUGAR THE Surfing Dog is a 10-year-old that was rescued as a pup.

O.C. gets \$7M to fund mental health support

Some of the money will be allocated toward the construction of an Irvine campus for Be Well OC.

BY LILLY NGUYEN

Orange County officials announced Friday \$7 million in state funding has been secured to support county mental health initiatives namely, Be Well OC, which provides mental health support to residents and runs the first mental health and wellness campus countywide.

Officials held a news conference at its Orange location, which opened its doors in January of this year. Another will be located in Irvine.

"The commitment at Anita [Drive, where the Orange campus is located] and Irvine shows that the county of Orange has made a large commitment to mental health and we believe that Be Well OC will not only be a great resource for the county, but in fact will be seen as a model for the entire country," said Orange County Board of Supervisors Chairman Andrew Do.

"For the first time, we will have an integrated and wellcoordinated infrastructure for mental health at the county level," Do said.

About \$5 million will be allocated toward the construction of an additional Irvine campus and the remaining \$2 million will be put toward a data integration system that officials are currently building. That system is proposed to help aggregate data between various county healthcare programs to essentially work

but Rustan wants the world to know that Sugar has a competitive edge. She is there to win.

"Sugar wins every time," Rustan said. "We have three or four other organizations that we surf in as well, but she's on a whole another gear. We surf up and down the coast."

She did it again on July 17,

See **Sugar,** page A4

Matt Szabo

See Mental, page A4

ATHLETICS Laguna Beach school district hires Selbe to administrative position

BY ANDREW TURNER

The Laguna Beach Unified School District announced Friday that Denise Selbe has been brought in to serve in the position of district athletics administrator.

Selbe brings to the role 34 years of experience as an educator, including as a physical education teacher and a coach.

She was selected as head coach of the North roster in the Orange County Girls' Basketball All-Star Game in 1991. That season, Selbe led Cypress High School to the Empire League title and a quarterfinals appearance in the CIF Southern Section Division II-A playoffs.

"I'm very excited about the opportunity to serve the Laguna Beach Unified School District as district athletics administrator," Selbe said in a news release. "I look forward to working with coaches and student-athletes to provide them with the best opportunities to compete at a high level and enjoy all the positive experiences that are possible through athletics.

"Working with Thurston Middle School staff to develop an intramural sports program for students is an exciting aspect of this position. I am grateful to [District Supt.] Dr. [Jason] Viloria and the LBUSD Board of Education for the op-



Courtesy of Laguna Beach Unified **DENISE SELBE** has 34 years of experience as an educator, including as a physical education teacher and a coach.

portunity to be part of a very special community. I can't wait to get to work."

The position of district athletics administrator will take the place of the high school athletic director. Lance Neal, who previously served as athletic director at Laguna Beach, is now the head football coach at Loara.

"We are looking forward to having Dr. Selbe as part of the Laguna Beach High School and Laguna Beach Unified School

See **Selbe,** page A4



IT'S BUSINESS as usual on a hot August day south of the Huntington Beach Pier coastline on Thursday.



A HUNTINGTON BEACH lifeguard outraces a wave as he trains on a rescue ski in huge waves south of the Huntington Beach Pier coastline.

Bidding summer goodbye

Irvine gets funding to finish open space trail that will connect coastline to mountains

Irvine received \$14.5 million recently to complete the Jeffrey Open Space Trail, which will connect the coastline to the Santa Ana Mountains and the Cleveland National Forest.

The trail is currently 3.5 miles long, spanning east to west along Jeffrey Road from Portola Parkway to the 5 Freeway. That portion of the trail cost \$30 million and was formally dedicated in 2015. With the new funding, the last 1.5 miles can now be developed.

State Sen. Dave Min (D-Irvine) presented city leaders with the check recently during a news conference. Work is expected to begin next summer on the trail.

"I'm thrilled this year's state budget designates \$14.5 million to fund the completion of JOST," Min said in a statement.

"Open space preservation is smart policy, which not only supports our sustainability efforts but also improves the quality of life for our residents and brings our community together. Thank you to my hometown, the city of Irvine, for being a fantastic partner in this endeavor! I'm excited about the possibilities for hikers, bikers and other outdoors enthusiasts once the Jeffrey Trail is completed."

The Jeffrey Open Space Trail is used by hikers, bikers, runners and families. The trail pays homage to 500 years of local history, with displays along the trail providing a timeline back to 1510, when the first Spanish explorers arrived — though native tribes were already here.

"Continuing to enhance our great city's open space areas is something I couldn't be more proud of accomplishing," Mayor Farrah Khan said.

"Our community thrives on being healthy and enjoying our master-planned community, and I'm so grateful for the partnership with Sen. Min.'

– From staff reports



'Rockin' Fig' paddle out set for Aug. 28 in Huntington Beach

A paddle out in honor of the late surfing icon Rick 'Rockin' Fig' Fignetti will be



BIKERS PEDAL along on the Jeffrey Open Space Trail at Trabuco Road in Irvine. Work is expected to begin next summer on extending the trail.



THE JEFFREY Open Space Trail foot bridge at Trabuco Road in Irvine. The trail is currently 3.5 miles long and will extend another 1.5 miles.



IRVINE RECEIVED \$14.5 million to complete the Jeffrey Open Space Trail at Trabuco Road that will connect coastline to the mountains.

able to members of the Knight, Kate Linder, Gia public to submit their recall and Joe Mantegna, Donna ballot within the city of La-Mills and Caryn Richman.

The concert will feature a performance by Grammywinning jazz musician Poncho Sanchez.

There will also be an appearance by photographer artist.

Laguna Beach Live! Concert

A Laguna Beach Live! concert will feature the Hot Club of Los Angeles on the grounds at the Festival of



held on Aug. 28 in Huntington Beach.

The paddle out is scheduled for 9 a.m. at the north side of the pier, depending on surf conditions. It will be followed by a celebration from noon to 4 p.m. in Pier Plaza, featuring live music.

Fignetti, who owned Rockin' Fig Surf Headquarters on Main Street and was a longtime surf announcer, died at the age of 64 on July 16 after suffering a heart attack.

Feedback session scheduled for O.C. Power Authority

A feedback session for the Orange County Power Authority will be held Thursday at 4 p.m. in the Huntington Beach City Council chambers. It will also be available on Zoom.

Huntington Beach is one of four county cities in the Power Authority, a commu-

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Photo by Spencer Grant

ANNOUNCER RICK "Rockin' Fig' Fignetti conducts a costume contest in this file photo. Fignetti, a prominent voice and face in the surfing culture of Huntington Beach, died July 16 of a heart attack. A paddle out in his memory is set for Aug. 28 at 9 a.m., followed by a celebration of his life.

nity choice energy program designed to increase local use of energy and lower costs for residents. The other cities include Buena Park, Lake Forest and Irvine.

Those invited to Thursday's meeting include businesses, residents and environmental groups interested in energy efficient programs.

For more information, email info@ocpower.org.

Planners to review Laguna Safety Element

An update to the safety

element of Laguna Beach will be reviewed by the Planning Commission at a meeting at 6 p.m. on Sept. 1.

The safety element assists in the development of policies and programs that protect the city from a variety of risks, including seismic events, floods and wildfires.

The safety element was previously updated in 1995. That followed the loss of 441 homes and structures in the community due to wildfire in 1993.

How to cast your recall election vote in Laguna

Several options are avail-

hours. There is also an official drop box located in front of the Laguna Beach Library.

Ballots can be delivered

in person to the Laguna

Beach city clerk's office at

City Hall during business

guna Beach.

In addition, voters can fill out their ballots and hand them in at voting centers or vote on site.

The Susi Q and Community Center will be opened as a voting center beginning Sept. 11.

Laguna Beach FD pancake breakfast is called off

A Laguna Beach Fire Department pancake breakfast previously scheduled for Labor Day has been canceled due to COVID-19 concerns.

Festival of Arts **Celebrity Benefit** Concert, Pageant

The Festival of Arts and the Pageant of the Masters will host a red-carpet event in the form of the Celebrity Benefit Concert and Pageant on Aug. 28 from 5 to 8:30 p.m.

The event will be hosted by actor and comedian Dave Foley and producer and musician Tony Guerrero.

Celebrities expected to attend include Christopher

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CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS

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Matthew Rolston, who currently has an exhibit on display at the Laguna Art Museum, "Art People: The Pageant Portraits."

The night will also include a raffle for a 2021 Volvo XC40.

Laguna museum to host public interview with Matthew Rolston

As his work is being shown at the Laguna Art Museum, photographer Matthew Rolston will be on site on Thursday at 6 p.m. for a public interview with journalist Christina Binkley.

Rolston's exhibit at the museum includes largerthan-life portraits of volunteers who participate in the living picture show at the Pageant of the Masters.

Rolston will discuss how the project was conceptualized, its connection to the community and his personal experiences that inspired the work.

Advance tickets are \$13 for adults and \$11 for seniors and students. The event is free for Laguna Art Museum members.

An exhibition catalog at the museum store will be available for signing by the

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Arts on Wednesday from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

The concert will be held on the green without intermission.

The show is free to Laguna Beach residents, while others wishing to attend and view the performance will be able to do so with admission to the festival.

Laguna Beach Live! is currently celebrating its 20th anniversary.

Six charities get donations from Roberts estate

Longtime Laguna Beach resident Al Roberts passed away in February, but his impact is being felt by six local organizations this month.

Ken Jillson, who was Al's partner for 50 years, announced that Roberts had left estate gifts in the amount of \$105,000 each to some of his favorite local charities.

Those receiving the donations were the Laguna Beach Community Clinic, the Laguna Beach Seniors at the Susi Q, the Laguna Art Museum, the Pacific Marine Mammal Center, Men Alive — the Orange County gay men's chorus, and the LGBTQ Center O.C.

"Human beings are the authors of their own acts, with responsibility for their honorable values," Nadia Babayi, executive director of Laguna Beach Seniors at the Susi Q, said in a statement.

"Having his heart in the community, Al Roberts through his philanthropic deeds gave aesthetic form to ideas and dreams conceived in this community in order to make this a better place for all of us. Laguna Beach Seniors is grateful to Al's legacy gift, which will support our hybrid technology upgrades at the Susi Q."

— From staff reports

A WORD, PLEASE | JUNE CASAGRANDE Some words that haven't survived the test of time

he people who make dictionaries have a tough job. The hardest part: figuring out which new words have gained enough of a foothold in the language to earn a place in the dictionary.

It's hard because they're not calling the shots. You are. Lexicographers spend all day looking for new words and new ways people are using old words. They search different "corpora," or language databases, to see how often the terms show up. Then they try to gauge whether the word has become entrenched enough to warrant a spot in the dictionary.

Often, they get it right. Other times, words don't have quite the staying power lexicographers anticipated. Here are a few dictionary additions that flopped.

Crisphead (1966): In a year when "acidhead," "blitzed," "quaalude," "druggie," "headshop," "meth" and "mind-blowing" first made their way into Merriam-Webster's, "crisphead" probably sounded like a groovy new addition to the English language. But did we really need another word for iceberg lettuce? Apparently not.

According to Google's Ngram Viewer tool, which counts how often words appear in books, "crisphead" peaked (if you will) in the late 1980s and its use is down about 85% since that time.

Hahnium (1970): Four years later, it seems that the English language had come down from its trip. "Clonazepam," "clotrimazole," "clozapine," "cognitive therapy" and "comorbid," along with "medicalize," "miconazole," "microaggression," "obesogenic" and "T cell," took their places in the dictionary to reflect the language's weighty new sense of sobriety. Also in Merriam's class of 1970 was a new synonym for dubnium, a short-lived radioactive element that apparently didn't need another name. "Hahnium," a word for dubnium, grew in popularity for a while but plummeted in the 1990s.

Axion (1978): By the late '70s, science was still making a splash in Americans' speech. "Bioenergy," "bitmapped," "campylobacteriosis," "free-electron laser," "gene-splicing" "information technology" and "nanostructure" took places in Merriam-Webster's. But not every scientific concept had staying power. "Axion," meaning "a hypothetical subatomic particle of low mass and energy that is postulated to exist because of certain properties of the strong force," hit peak popularity in 1988, then crashed 76% by 2019.

Buppie: (1986): Hey, remember the '80s - a time when people thought that jeans should be washed in acid and that Eddie Murphy was a singer? Shallowness and



Luis Sinco | Los Angeles Times

A YOUNG lettuce plant will grow into a crisphead, though few people will call it that, according to columnist June Casagrande.

self-indulgence came roaring back, bringing dictionary entries like "golden parachute," "infomercial" and "crony capitalism" (1981) and "blush wine," "spendy" and "horndog" (1984), followed by "stress ball," "stair-stepper" and "unibrow" (1988). But unlike the 1981 hit "yuppie," the 1984 follow-up, "buppie," meaning a yuppie who was also Black, didn't take off in the language, showing up just 1% as often as "yuppie" at its peak.

Digerati (1992): Think the '90s were just "meh"? In fact, the decade's new words show this was a far more transformative time than your Macarena memories sug-gest. "Augmented reality," "hacktivism," "EVOO" (for extra virgin olive oil)," "cytokine storm" and "meh" itself, which were all added in 1992, seem downright prescient today. Even the 1991 "zoodle," meaning a zucchini noodle, keeps getting more popular every year. Back then, it must have seemed a safe bet that "digerati" had a bright future. But no, this noun meaning a person well versed in computers, peaked in popularity right before the turn of the century, at which point it fell off a cliff.

The new millennium: A lot of words have been added since the year 2000 and there's no telling which ones will fade into obscurity. "Bromance" and "twerking" (2001), "borked" (2002), "sapiosexual" (2004), "copypasta" (2006), "fatberg" (2008), "jegging" (2009), "escape room" (2012), "manspreading" (2014) and "nonfungible token" (2017) all seem headed for the chopping block. But only time will tell.

JUNE CASAGRANDE is the author of "The Joy of Syntax: A Simple Guide to All the Grammar You Know You Should Know." She can be reached at JuneTCN@aol.com.

THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Mathews

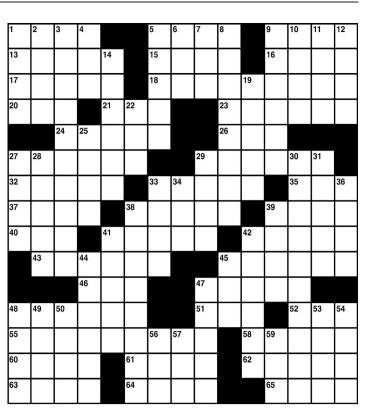
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SUDOKU

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.

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For answers to the crossword and Sudoku puzzles, see page A2.

1 Musical symbol 2 Sentry's cry 3 Not enough 4 Man's nickname 5 Singers in a loft 6 _ Gatos, CA 7 Curved band of sparks 8 One who gets

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19 Jumps 22 "_ Just Not That Into You"; 2009 film 25 No longer valid 27 _ Place; Monopoly property 28 Perfect 29 Aggravate 30 Ethiopia's capital 31 Live's partner, in phrase 33 In just a bit 34 Took first prize 36 Abnormal sac 38 Agreeable 39 Proof of ownership 41 __ as the hills 42 On the level 44 Spirited stallions 45 Night's follower 47 Nuisances 48 Paper bag 49 _ up; accumulate 50 Remove wrinkles 53 Actress Sheedy 54 Golfer's pocketful 56 Late July baby 57 Cook's advice 59 Coolidge, to friends Tribune Media

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The state of what's next. Los Angeles Times

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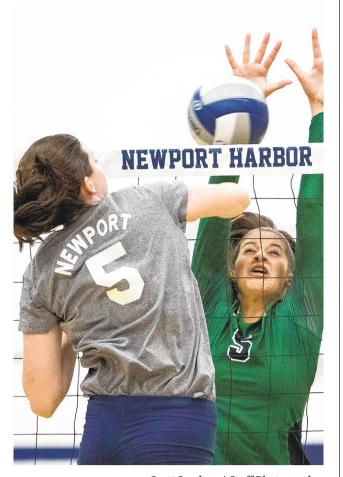
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HIGH SCHOOL ROUNDUP



Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

NEWPORT HARBOR'S Anne O'Brien hits into Sage Hill's Zoe Mazakas during a nonleague match in August 2019.

Newport Harbor girls' volleyball wins opener

The Newport Harbor High School girls' volleyball team defeated Trabuco Hills 25-11, 25-10, 25-27, 25-20 on the road Thursday in a nonleague season opener.

Quinn Perry paced the Sailors with 10 kills to go with eight digs and four service aces.

Anne O'Brien contributed nine kills and 41/2 blocks, and Emma Fults added eight kills and five aces.

Newport Harbor travels to take on Woodbridge on Tuesday.

Ocean View 3, Pacifica Christian 1: Freshman opposite Chara Wondercheck had a team-high 11 kills, but the host Tritons fell to the Seahawks 26-24, 25-21, 14-25, 25-21 on Thursday in a nonleague match.

Senior setter Logan Bray

dished out 45 assists. Freshman outside hitter Julia Hanson had nine kills, and junior outside hitter Ava Loritz chipped in with seven kills.

Pacifica Christian (0-2) dropped its opener to Capistrano Valley Christian on Tuesday. Junior middle blocker Rebecca Penjoyan led the Tritons with seven kills.

Ocean View (1-0) visits Marina on Tuesday.

Estancia 3, Los Amigos **0:** The visiting Eagles earned a 25-21, 25-17, 25-20 sweep of the Lobos on Thursday in their nonleague season opener.

Los Amigos dropped to 1-1. The Lobos opened the season with a straight-sets victory over Orange on Tuesday.

—From staff reports

MAILBAG TIME FOR THE NEWPORT BEACH CITY COUNCIL TO STEP UP

On July 27, the Newport Beach City Council approved the 2510 West Coast Highway project in the Mariners Mile area on West Coast Highway

The project has 36 apartments, three of which are affordable and 33 of which are market rate. Newport Beach has a state-mandated requirement to plan for 1,918 additional low and very low-income apartments during the next housing cycle, referred to as the Regional Housing Needs Allocation. A housing cycle is eight years. The 1,918 number does not include a few projects in the pipeline or already planned from the last housing cycle.

We can lop off 1,000 units if we can develop 1,000 accessory dwelling units (granny flats), either by homeowners building new ones or by bringing some of the hundreds we have existing in the city into compliance with current building codes.

That leaves 918 low and very low apartments needed to meet our RHNA allocation. Any sixth-grader can do the math: 918 units minus three units in the 2510 West Coast Highway project leaves 915 units. Meanwhile, we have added another 33 market rate units to get the three affordable units.

The formula used for the Housing Element gets complicated. Developers can get density bonuses based on a sliding scale, so the more affordable units they include in their projects, the more units they can build at market rate, but in the simplest terms, we need to add 10,000plus apartments. For context, we currently have about 45,000 residential units in Newport Beach. That's nearly impossible to imagine!

The state does allow cities to have an "inclusionary ordinance" that requires a developer to include a certain percentage of affordable units in their project. This is less profitable than including 5% or 10% but is still common. For example, a 30% inclusionary ordinance would



Don Leach / Staff Photographer

A VIEW OF Mariners Mile looking south along Pacific Coast Highway. A reader writes to express her thoughts about the 2510 West Coast Highway project, which the Newport Beach City Council has approved.

mean that in a project with 100 apartments, a developer would be required to include 30 affordable units, and 70 units would be allowed at market rate. The rent charged for the market rate apartments helps offset the loss the developer has on the reduced-rate affordable units.

Everyone can see we need to have some amount of affordable housing in our city for our seniors, young adult children and restaurant, hospitality and healthcare workers who are not yet able to afford housing in our city. It is to our benefit to let these folks live near the places they work.

But that's not my point. My point is that the Newport Beach City Council could develop and approve an inclusionary ordinance in pretty short order, maybe within a few months. Instead, members spent a lot of time in the meeting last week blaming the state for the new housing laws that tied their hands.

It is true a lot of recent housing laws restrict or remove a city's right to control its zoning. However, given that there is something they can do

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to help reduce the overall massive numbers of residential units that are required to comply with our RHNA allocation, you would think that the council would get to work on an inclusionary ordinance immediately.

Instead, the council majority has kicked the can down the road for a year. It's time they get to work instead of muttering about being handcuffed and helpless.

> **Nancy Scarbrough** Newport Beach

SUGAR

Continued from page A1

tion overall, Rustan said. She loves surfing at the pier and gets plenty of opportunities to do so, as Rustan lives within walking distance on 10th Street. She loves riding in his electric bike.

But it's bigger than here in Huntington Beach," he said. "She's not just a local Huntington Beach dog, but she's a worldwide champion. We're maxing out her dog surfing career ... and she comes up with amazing stuff every time."

trainer, Alecia Nelson, of winning the Purina Pro Plan. "It's a pretty cool

Nelson said that Gidget winning this particular title was rewarding, after two second-place and one third-place finish in the event in the past.



thing ... A lot of dogs are bounced off that surfboard. I think what makes Gidget unique is that she turns, does the 360s, the 180s, and she rides backwards a lot. She's very confident, so it's cool to see.'

"The conditions were

the Huntington Beach Independent, Coastline Pilot, Orange Coast Daily Pilot and the Newport Harbor News Press combined with Daily Pilot

A Times Community News publication incorporating

Daily Pilot

CONTACT US

Carol Cormaci Managing Editor carol.cormaci@latimes.com

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Two other winners from Orange County also emerged at the Purina Pro Plan Incredible Dog Challenge Western Regional. Gidget, an 8-yearold female pug from San Clemente, won in the small surf dog category. And Zuma, a 4-year-old Belgian Malinois rescue dog from Orange, won the diving dog competition.

Gidget, who is also Instagram famous, weighs about 15 pounds. She is known for standing on all fours when surfing, which earns her plenty of style points.

"This is the dog Olympics," said her

crazy," Nelson said. "It was nuts. It was a washing machine, as they like to say ... and for her to hang onto the surfboard and get all the way to shore in those conditions was crazy."

Zuma's trainer is Tyler Weinstein, who got her as a medical alert dog after battling peripheral T-cell lymphoma. He said he named her after Zuma Beach, in Malibu.

Weinstein said that Zuma's win at the Western Regional qualified her to go to St. Louis in early October for the national final at Purina Farms. At the Western Regional, she had a jump of 29 feet, six inches on her last jump to claim first place.

She jumped off a 40-

Matt Szabo

TRAINER RYAN RUSTAN sits with Sugar the Surfing Dog on the Huntington Beach Pier on Friday.

foot dock into a pool, in order to catch a toy.

'This was Zuma's first time [competing]," Weinstein said. "She's kind of a character ... Her win was

just typical Zuma. Her goal in life is to impress me and make me happy."

matthew.szabo@latimes.com Twitter: @mjszabo

MENTAL

Continued from page A1

out better programming and services for people in need of assistance, particularly those that are heavy users of county programs.

It will later incorporate service providers and the community.

"[Heavy users] travel across many of these systems of care without any coordination and so it makes it very difficult for us to be able to provide the wraparound services that they need in order to ad-

SELBE

Continued from page A1

District team as our new athletic administrator," Laguna Beach Principal Dr. Jason Allemann said in statement. "Denise brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in her work as an educator, most importantly in her work

dress the underlying issues that they have," Do said. "Because of that lack of

coordination, those high utilizers become the most vulnerable to not getting the help that they need."

State officials, including state Sen. Tom Umberg, state Sen. Pat Bates and Assemblywoman Cottie Petrie-Norris offered their congratulations and support of the county's efforts to boost mental health, the beginnings of which date back to at least

> ditionally, she has been an assistant superintendent of human resources and a school counselor.

ORANGE COUNTY Board

Andrew Do speaks during a

of Supervisors Chairman

news conference Friday.

Lilly Nguyen

As district athletics administrator, Selbe will take the lead on guidelines, policies and regulations related to high school interscholastic athletics.

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lilly.nguyen@latimes.com Twitter: @lillibirds

with people across a varietv of roles and responsibilities in education. I can't wait to team up with her on the important work ahead in the district and

high school athletics." Selbe started out as an elementary school teacher in the Centralia School District. She has been a principal at the middle and high school levels. Ad-