

Daily Pilot & Times OC

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2023 /// Serving the coastal cities of Orange County and beyond /// dailypilot.com



Photos by Eric Licas

COSTA MESA surfer Quaid Fahrion flies over the lip of a small wave while training at the south side of the Huntington Beach Pier on Nov. 3.

O.C.'s best junior surfers off to Rio with Team USA

BY MATT SZABO

Sara Freyre did not have to travel far to practice with the USA Surfing Junior National Team earlier this month.

The travel team gathered on the south side of the Huntington Beach Pier, a place that Freyre knows like the back of her hand.

The accomplishments keep building like a big wave for Freyre, 16, a junior at Huntington Beach High School. She's a two-time NSSA national women's open champion and two-time state champion as well.

Suiting up for the red, white and blue is an added privilege, however.

"It's super-cool just to be part of a team, especially Team USA," said Freyre, who competed for the team last year in El Salvador. "Surfing's kind of an individual sport, but it's cool to bring it together and be on a team full of



AVERY MCDONALD of the USA Surfing Junior National Team, left, reaches to tag teammate Mia McLeish, top center right, while running a relay drill in Huntington Beach on Nov. 3.

See *Surfers*, page A10

A rising phoenix for a family business

Mercado González, a 70,000-square-foot Harbor Boulevard space, may not have happened but for the pandemic.

BY SARA CARDINE

Don Miguel González Jiménez was the proud owner of a shoe factory in a small town near Mexico's Guadalajara in 1952 when fire consumed the building, forcing him to find a way to pay back his creditors.

After traveling the country for many years, looking for ways to sustain the growing family he was raising with wife Doña Teresa Reynoso de González, the proprietor decided to immigrate to the United States, a place where fortune still favored the brave.

For years, the family was separated as González worked to secure green cards so they could join him — a feat he accomplished in 1976. A few years later, the family took over a liquor store in Anaheim called Northgate Market, eventually replacing its bottles and cans with fresh fruits and vegetables.

The family couldn't afford a

See *Rising*, page A2

ALSO FROM THE DAILY PILOT:



File Photo

VISIT NEWPORT BEACH LAUNCHES '50 DAYS OF FESTIVE FUN' TOURISM CAMPAIGN PAGE A2

'ADVENTURE WAITING': OC PARKS OPENS GYPSUM CANYON WILDERNESS PAGE A9

Home for Thanksgiving? Try these to-go dinners in O.C.

BY SARAH MOSQUEDA

There's no place like home for the holidays, but staying home means being in charge of cooking your own Thanksgiving dinner, unless, of course, you order from one of the many Orange County restaurants offering them to go.

Leaving the cooking to the experts means more time spent with family, friends or football instead of wrestling the bird. If you're just looking to source a portion of your Thanksgiving table, Rye Goods in Tustin has sweets like caramel apple oat crumble pie and pumpkin basque cheesecake (order by noon on Nov. 19.) If you call Mastro's Restaurants during regular business hours on Nov. 22 or 23, you can order specialty sides like gar-

lic mashed potatoes and creamed spinach to enhance your dinner. But if you're looking for turkey complete with trimmings, here's a list of nine places you can order from this Thanksgiving.

BOSSCAT KITCHEN & LIBATIONS

118 W Chapman Ave., Orange (714) 716-1599
bosscatkitchen.com

Bosscat Kitchen & Libations is known for its impressive whiskey stash, and you'll see it reflected on its Thanksgiving feast menu, which offers the choice of a maple-bourbon brined turkey or brown-sugar baked ham. The \$199 dinner is designed to feed a family of four generously and includes mashed potatoes or sweet potatoes, green bean casserole,

cornbread stuffing, macaroni and cheese, winter-spiced cranberry sauce, skillet gravy, dinner rolls and choice of apple or pumpkin pie. Add wine or champagne bottles for an additional \$25. Orders can be placed online for pickup on Nov. 23 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

SOLSTICE SEASONAL KITCHEN & BAR

18555 Jamboree Road, Irvine (949) 241-7088
dineatsolstice.com

Solstice is offering a complete heat-and-serve meal designed to feed four to five people with 3.5 pounds of herb-roasted boneless turkey breast and 1-quart sides of pomme puree, sage and walnut

See *Home*, page A2



Courtesy of Seasons 52

SEASONS 52'S Thanksgiving takeout boxes come with pumpkin pie mini-indulgences.

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N.B. strives to be a holiday destination

BY LILLY NGUYEN

So many holiday events are planned in Newport Beach over the coming weeks that the city's tourism arm has curated them into a "50 Days of Festive Fun" campaign to attract travelers.

The nonprofit Visit Newport Beach kicked the marketing effort off Friday with the annual lighting of the 90-foot tree in the Neiman Marcus - Bloomingdale's courtyard at Fashion Island.

"Whether it's the tree lighting at Fashion Island, or the hotels and the events that take place at the Newport Dunes or the

Corona del Mar Christmas Walk, Sherman Gardens, [Newport Beach has] all these events and have never pulled them together in a cohesive fashion," Gary Sherwin, chief executive and president of Visit Newport, said in an interview this week.

"We have so many things, and of course, the crown jewel is the Newport Beach Christmas Boat Parade," he continued. "So, we said, 'Let's work together to take all of these assets, which we think have great appeal, and create a longstanding holiday-based program that lever-

See *Destination*, page A3



File Photo

BOATS ARE SEEN from the Balboa Island Bridge during opening day of the Newport Beach Christmas Boat Parade in 2022. The parade is one of a number of events that the "50 Days of Festive Fun" campaign seeks to highlight this holiday season.



Courtesy of Greenleaf

GREENLEAF'S Thanksgiving feast includes roasted sliced turkey breast and a wide variety of side dishes.

HOME

Continued from page A1

stuffing and brussels sprouts. The \$195 meal also includes cranberry-orange relish, turkey gravy and six Parker House rolls. Order online or by phone, while supplies last. Orders must be placed no later than 12 p.m. on Nov. 22 and can only be picked up the day before Thanksgiving on Nov. 22 between 3 and 7 p.m. You can also add items from the kitchen's regular dinner menu, like beet hummus, a cheese and charcuterie board or the signature deviled egg jar, to round out your Thanksgiving table.

GREENLEAF KITCHEN & COCKTAILS

3321 Hyland Ave., Costa Mesa (714) 862-2480 eatdrinkgreenleaf.com

Greenleaf at SOCO + the OC Mix in Costa Mesa is a favorite for a healthy lunch or casual dinner, but it is also the secret hero this holiday season, offering a Thanksgiving feast for pickup or delivery. The \$250 dinner feeds six to eight guests and includes roasted sliced turkey breast, old-fashioned herb stuffing, mashed potatoes, green beans almondine, dinner rolls, traditional gravy and a choice of salad. Add wine for \$25 to \$36 a bottle or batched seasonal cocktails like a pomegranate margarita or blackberry mule for \$75 that will make approximately 12 drinks. To make hosting even easier, add a

hot kit for \$25 that includes a wire rack, pan and sternos with matches. To order, email catering@eatdrinkgreenleaf.com at least 48 hours in advance of delivery or pickup. For Thanksgiving, orders must be placed by Nov. 20.

SEASONS 52

3333 Bristol St., Ste. 2802, Costa Mesa (714) 437-5252 seasons52.com

Seasons 52 at South Coast Plaza is known for its fresh, seasonal menu and 52 wines by the glass. The concept's warm-and-serve family Thanksgiving Green Box lets you raise a glass at home this year. Priced at \$225 to serve four to six guests, the dinner is designed to be refrigerated at home until you're ready to serve and can all be reheated in less than an hour (instructions online). Each Thanksgiving dinner box includes field greens salad, roasted turkey, savory pan gravy, Yukon mashed potatoes, brioche and sage stuffing, green beans, mashed butternut squash, cranberry relish and six pumpkin pie mini-indulgences. The last day to pre-order is Nov. 20 for pickup Nov. 22 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

MARIO'S BUTCHER SHOP

1000 Bristol St. N., Newport Beach (949) 316-4318 mariosbutchershopdeli.com

Mario's Butcher Shop in Newport Beach specializes in high-end cuts, house-

See *Home*, page A3

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RISING

Continued from page A1

new sign, the story goes, so they kept the name.

"It was a 2,000-square-foot store on Anaheim Boulevard," recalled 36-year-old grandson Joshua González of the first location. "Now, we have 13 brothers and sisters who are owners of the company. We are now in the third generation — there are 53 of us, and 30 of us work in the family business."

The Orange County-based company comprises dozens of markets extending into Los Angeles County still largely run by González's children, their spouses, offspring and numerous family friends and associates.

Members of the enormous family on Tuesday gathered with Costa Mesa city officials and community business leaders to celebrate the 45th installment in the Northgate Market empire — Mercado



Photos by Don Leach | Staff Photographer

DANCERS PERFORM a traditional Mexican dance Tuesday during the grand-opening celebration of Costa Mesa's Mercado González, the 45th Northgate Market location.

González.

The sprawling 70,000-square-foot storefront, located at 2300 Harbor Blvd., bills itself as a "gastronomic

adventure that takes foodies on a journey through the heart and soul of Mexican cuisine" via curated food offerings, vibrant art

and rich in-store experiences.

Weighing in at nearly twice the size of the family's typical stores, Mercado



GUESTS GATHER

around the produce floor during the grand opening of Mercado González in Costa Mesa Tuesday.

González evokes the feeling of being in a Mexican bazaar where shoppers travel among different "puestos," or stalls, learning about specialty foods and beverages that define a particular geographic region.

"[We're] showcasing ingredients, prepared foods and traditions of Mexico, both Old World and contemporary," Joshua González explained of the concept. "There are many Mexicos we want to share here."

And similar to Don Miguel González Jiménez's unfortunate 1952 shoe factory fire, the creation of

Mercado González is another rising phoenix in the family's ever-evolving story.

Tom Herman, who heads Northgate Market's strategic efforts, said he initially worked with Joshua González and a handful of third-generation cohorts on a proposal to fill a portion of the 70,000-square-foot commercial area with a more traditional market and to lease out the remaining space, possibly for dining.

But then COVID-19 hit, tossing a monkey wrench into those plans. Pandemic

See *Rising*, page A3

Min secures \$250,000 for OCMA's educational programs

BY SARAH MOSQUEDA

This summer, State Sen. Dave Min (D-Irvine) secured nearly \$10 million for local priorities in the 2023-24 state budget, which includes disbursements for 10 projects in the 37th Senate District. The Orange County Museum of Art in Costa Mesa is among the projects to secure funding.

"Sen. Min is a true champion of art and culture in Orange County, who understands that a world-class art museum is greatly needed here and deserves support from the state," said OCMA's president of the board of trustees, Lucy Sun.

A sum of \$250,000 will go to the museum for public educational programs. Min presented the disbursement in a ceremony on Saturday, Nov. 11, where he addressed a small crowd of OCMA board members on



Ryan Miller | Capture Imaging

STATE SEN. Dave Min tours the Orange County Museum of Art's Jennifer Guidi exhibition, "And so it is," on Nov. 11.

the Chalmers Pavilion, in front of Jennifer Guidi's outdoor installation, "Kundalini Rising."

The disbursement comes after a tour Min took of the museum in

early June, accompanied by members of the staff, Sun and museum director Heidi Zuckerman.

"A few weeks later my cellphone rang, and it was Sen. Min, telling me of the

opportunity to obtain funding in the California state budget and giving us an hour to put together a proposal," recounted Sun. "Two weeks later, OCMA receives its first-ever gift from the state of California."

This is also the first time OCMA has been recognized as a line item in the state budget in the museum's 61-year history.

OCMA hosts many first-time museumgoers, said Sun, and it also has the distinction of being the only institution on the Segerstrom Center for the Arts campus that offers free admission.

Min emphasized the work the museum does to make art accessible to all.

"I have always felt that art can be intimidating, particularly for minorities and low-income people," said Min. "The mission of what OCMA is trying to do

here, expanding contemporary art and art generally to everybody is one I really feel strongly about as a child of immigrants myself."

Sun said the money will be put to good use, rounding out OCMA's Learning and Engagement programs, which include lectures, workshops, school tours, screenings and more.

"In the last year we have really changed the dynamics of who goes to museums in Orange County and who has access to art. Here, our motto is everybody is welcome," said Sun. "We call it the democratization of art and that is very much what we are trying to do here."

In September, Zuckerman spoke to TimesOC about the staggering attendance the museum has seen in its first year at its new location.

"On Sept. 8, we were open for 11 months, and on that day we welcomed our 250,000th visitor," said Zuckerman. "We have served more than a quarter million people in 11 months."

Since September, the number of visitors has climbed to 263,000, 13 times the attendance OMCA saw at its former location. More than 17,000 of those guests participated in public programming this year at the museum.

"We did more than 300 public programs, more than one for each day that we were open," Sun said. "Some 70% have told us in surveys that they could not come without free admission. This is what Sen. Min's efforts have and continue to support."

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UCI Health



Courtesy of Hendrix

HENDRIX IN Laguna Niguel is known for its in-house rotisserie, which makes the restaurant a natural choice for a Thanksgiving feast to go.

HOME

Continued from page A2

made charcuterie and wood-grilled and smoked meats. On any given day you can find a crowd at lunch ordering its famous smash burger or corned beef Reuben. On Thanksgiving, however, the delicatessen gives the sandwiches a rest and offers a special Thanksgiving menu. Uncooked proteins sold by the pound include leg of lamb, spiced, seasoned and dressed, or rib roast dressed and seasoned. Whole duck, smoked or natural, whole smoked brisket and whole goose are other options. Specialty sides serve about four people and are priced at \$20 to \$25. Choose from sausage stuffing, macaroni and cheese, cranberry-orange sauce, creamed corn, creamy mashed potatoes, barbecue baked beans and brown turkey gravy. Pinwheel lasagna for two is priced at \$40 and can be assembled by the shop for an additional charge, and Di-estal smoked turkey legs (cooked) are priced at \$10 each. Preorder proteins by Nov. 20. Call the shop to order.

LEMONADE

21016 Pacific Coast Hwy., Huntington Beach
(714) 604-1072
lemonadela.com

California-focused and seasonally driven fast casual concept Lemonade is offering holiday packages this year that include 5 pounds of turkey breast, turkey gravy, apple-cranberry

sauce and a whole pumpkin pie. Designed to feed eight to 10 guests and priced at \$260, the packages also give you a choice of four of the eatery's large marketplace sides (two hot and two cold). Choose from selections like white truffle macaroni and cheese, rosemary sweet potato hash and curried cauliflower. You also have the option of picking up your holiday package hot and ready to serve or cold with reheating instructions upon request. Holiday packages are available to order online while supplies last.

HENDRIX RESTAURANT & BAR

32431 Golden Lantern, Laguna Niguel
(949) 248-1912
hendrixoc.com

Hendrix in Laguna Niguel works with poultry on its in-house rotisserie all year round, which makes the restaurant a natural choice for a Thanksgiving feast to go. For turkey day though, Chef Rainer Schwarz gives the bird the roasted treatment. Thanksgiving meals to take home are priced at \$350 and meant to feed eight to 10. The dinner includes a whole roasted turkey, little gem salad with goat cheese and beets, Yukon gold mashed potatoes, apple-fennel stuffing, green beans and heirloom carrots, cranberry sauce, turkey gravy, choice of apple or pumpkin pie and even Parker House rolls. Call the restaurant to place your order and coordinate.

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RISING

Continued from page A2

closures caused a significant delay to the Costa Mesa project but also provided an opportunity for the family to reconsider the best use of the site and craft a bigger, better vision.

"We had plans, building permits — everything. We threw it all away and started over again," Herman recalled. "We thought, why don't we do something that's never been done before?"

During Tuesday's ribbon-cutting ceremony, VIP guests toured the mercado's many food stalls, where employees passed out churros, carnitas, birria and other delectable offerings.

Costa Mesa Councilwoman Andrea Marr enthused about having a warm tortilla with butter, fresh from the on-site tortilleria, placed into her waiting hands.

"In so many of our cultures food is a part of joy," she said. "So being here and having the chance to experience all the different regional cuisines, it just brings a smile to your face."

Speaking to a crowded house, Costa Mesa Mayor John Stephens



Sara Cardine

A COLORFUL MURAL AT Mercado González features founder Don Miguel González Jiménez, right, with a heart representing his wife, Doña Teresa Reynoso de González, and representational images of the generations of family that have succeeded them.

recalled learning more about Northgate and the family behind it during a visit last year with Councilman Manuel Chavez to the company's Anaheim headquarters.

There, leaders explained their vision for the Costa Mesa storefront, a dream Stephens described as perfectly executed.

"You hear about dreams, and you hear about opportunities. But what I feel this place is founded

on is love — you see it everywhere in every detail," Stephens said.

"On behalf of the entire community, I want to thank you for bringing your love and your kindness and investment into our great city," he said to the company's officials. "This place will be packed forever with people coming to enjoy it."

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DESTINATION

Continued from page A2

ages these events and allows them to play off one another."

Some research revealed that local hotels see business slow down during the late fall and early winter in the beach town, Sherwin said, and they told Visit Newport they could use a boost in guests through the first week of January. He and his team also learned that Puerto Rico has a similar holiday marketing campaign, "la Navidad," which lasts around 45 days.

The decision was made to run the Newport Beach campaign for a full 50 days, Sherwin said.

"Every single day, there will be different programming that has a holiday theme. Depending on when you come to Newport Beach, you will see some aspect of Christmas or the holidays in general."

The hope is, as the campaign continues, that Visit Newport Beach will be able to fill any gaps in programming, he explained. That might include things like sessions at Fashion

Island, where experts may talk about the newest, trending items or what people seem to be interested in for the holiday season.

The campaign also includes a mapped out "holiday trail" for visitors and residents to follow.

"For the most part, these events already exist, and they've all existed independently, and we think that by bringing them together and creating critical mass, we have a better story to tell and greater appeal," Sherwin said.

"I don't know if the world at large knows the level of commitment we make to the holiday season. They know about the Christmas boat parade, but we have so many things beyond that," he added. "We really want to make ourselves the epicenter for all Christmas and holiday activities in the United States."

The "50 Days of Festive Fun" calendar, including everything from ice skating to toy drives to photos with Santa, can be found at visitnewportbeach.com/50daysoffestivefun.

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PATRONS EAT in a parklet in downtown Laguna Beach in January 2022. The Laguna Beach City Council this month extended the outdoor dining and parklet program for two years.



Don Leach Staff Photographer

Laguna Beach's outdoor dining and parklet program gets 2-year extension

BY ANDREW TURNER

Laguna Beach has extended the life of its outdoor dining and parklet program for an additional two years.

A majority of the Laguna Beach City Council supported the item, by a 4-1 vote, during the Nov. 7 meeting to extend the program through 2025.

"I think it's a good program, something we should continue to encourage," Mayor Bob Whalen said ahead of the vote.

The extension represents a stop-gap measure, as city staff continue to mull permanent changes for outdoor dining that will be brought back to the council at a later date.

Laguna Beach introduced the program in May 2020 to help businesses during the coronavirus pandemic. While discussions continue around the idea of turning the Promenade on Forest into a permanent pedestrian plaza, the program extension addressed the

temporary use permits that were issued separate from the Promenade.

A fee structure was implemented for providing outdoor dining on public property in May.

Fifteen restaurants citywide continue to participate in the outdoor dining and parklet program. A total of 68 parking spaces have been allocated for use as parklets.

Approximately 93% of the dedicated parking spaces are currently accounted for. Four local restaurants — Hapi Sushi of Laguna, Slice Pizza, Sushi Laguna and the Wharf — did not renew their outdoor dining permits, according to a staff report. The parklets used by those restaurants were removed, leaving five available spaces for new applications to be considered.

Councilman George Weiss inquired as to why Las Brisas needed 28 parking spaces to accommodate its outdoor dining availability. He suggested a reduction in parking space use should be sought, particularly considering the

restaurant's outdoor patio space on site and its proximity to Heisler Park.

Community Development Director Marc Wiener acknowledged Las Brisas' parking space allocation as being "fairly substantial."

"They really have the lion's share of the parking spaces under this program," Wiener said. "That is something that we are intending to look at when we take this back to the Planning Commission for the [temporary use permit]. I do want to see if we can get that footprint reduced a little bit more and get some of those parking spaces open."

Council members added a Planning Commission review of the parking spaces used by Las Brisas to the vote. While he expressed his support for outdoor dining, Councilman Alex Rounaghi indicated the added action was the reason behind his dissenting vote.

Public input on the item varied. Some called for the end of the outdoor dining and parklet program

as an emergency measure that was no longer necessary, while others viewed it as an enjoyable experience that should be made more permanent.

Councilman Mark Orgill asked if the city could explore widening sidewalks to eliminate the need for parklets to facilitate outdoor dining.

"I personally am not a big fan of the visual impact of the parklets, and I'm hoping that when we do ... the implementation of the downtown action plan that we look for opportunities that could accommodate outdoor dining without the parklets," he said.

Orgill also followed up on a public concern that the parklets were leading to lost parking revenue.

"We have the analysis, and [the sales tax generated by outdoor dining] does offset the parking," Assistant City Manager Gavin Curran said.

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Bad to the Bone BBQ

BAD TO THE BONE BBQ offers a whole smoked Mary's turkey, pit-smoked ham or both for your table.

HOME

Continued from page A3

dinate your preferred pickup time between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Nov. 23. Orders must be placed by Nov. 20.

BAD TO THE BONE BBQ
31738 Rancho Viejo Road,
San Juan Capistrano
(949) 218-0227
badtothebone-bbq.com

Bad to the Bone BBQ's Holiday Gathering Feast makes smoked meat the star of the Thanksgiving table. Choose from about 4 pounds of smoked turkey breast (\$250), a 14- to 16-pound whole smoked turkey (\$275), 4- to 5-pound pit ham (\$225) or a pit ham and turkey breast combo (\$295). Designed to serve six to eight people, the feast includes cornbread stuffing, garlic mashed potatoes, macaroni and cheese, candied yams, turkey gravy, cranberry sauce, Southern cornbread and choice of apple or pumpkin pie. Upgrade to a Kurobota pit ham for \$50 or level up the feast to a Mary's Farm whole-smoked turkey with all the sides and trimmings for \$375. Sides and pies are also available a la carte. Orders must be placed online or by phone by today (or until sold out.) Pickups are Nov. 21 and 22.

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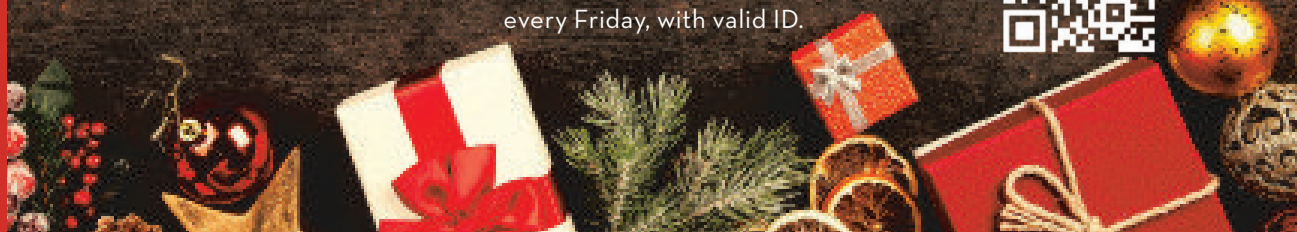
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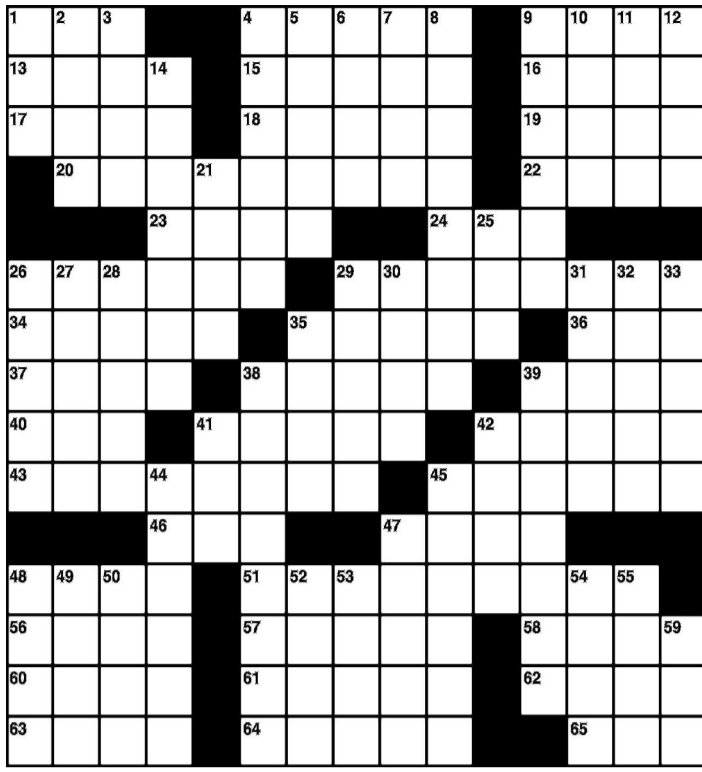


@SawdustArtFestival



THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Matthews

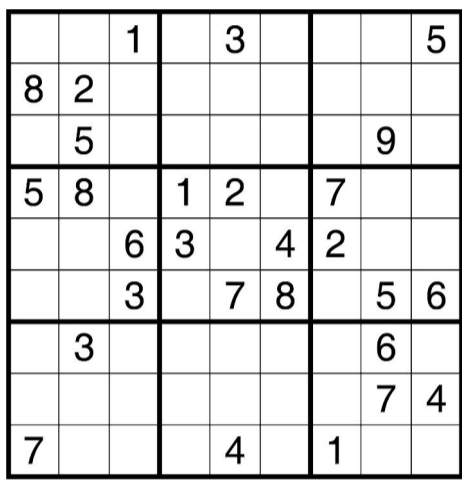


- ACROSS**
 1 eBay offer
 4 Immunizations
 9 BLT spread
 13 Large clubs
 15 Sudden fear
 16 October birthstone
 17 Profound
 18 Fall flower
 19 Spare in a trunk
 20 Pharmacy
 22 Bed-and-breakfasts
 23 "The Eternal City"
 24 "Much _ About Nothing"
 26 Verdi's works
 29 Nomadic tribe
 34 Peeved
 35 Blown away
 36 _ Majesty Queen Camilla
 37 Eager
 38 Skinned taters
 39 Listen
 40 Trike rider
 41 Smiles
 42 Sifting device
 43 Infinite time
 45 Holy
 46 Sing without words
 47 Unpleasantly moist
 48 "The Big One," to vets
 51 Hat or purse
 56 Press pants
 57 Rotates
 58 "As ye sow, so shall ye _"
 60 Intl. military alliance
 61 Saw-toothed
 62 Holler
 63 Whirlpools
 64 Stitched
 65 Very important
- DOWN**
 1 Wicked

SUDOKU

By the Mephram Group

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



For answers to the crossword and Sudoku puzzles, see page A6.

- 2 Frosted
 3 Graceful runner
 4 Muscle contractions
 5 " _ makes waste"
 6 Hang _; keep
 7 Bleachers level
 8 Shrieked
- 9 Gesture
 10 Neat as _
 11 Story
 12 Flamenco shouts
 14 Urged on
 21 Prod into action
 25 Family member

- 26 Give a speech
 27 Swivel around
 28 Cream of the crop
 29 Like some jokes
 30 Hasn't paid yet
 31 Laundry soap
 32 Got the old _-ho; was fired
 33 Wasn't right
 35 Cool one's heels
 38 Monkeys
 39 Hardwood tree
 41 Safari sighting
 42 Without
 44 Horned animals
 45 Was impudent
 47 Stupid
 48 Takes the trophy
 49 Coat or shawl
 50 Greek letter
 52 Medical breakthrough
 53 Brag
 54 Stink
 55 Ivy League school
 59 Two-_; Charmin thickness
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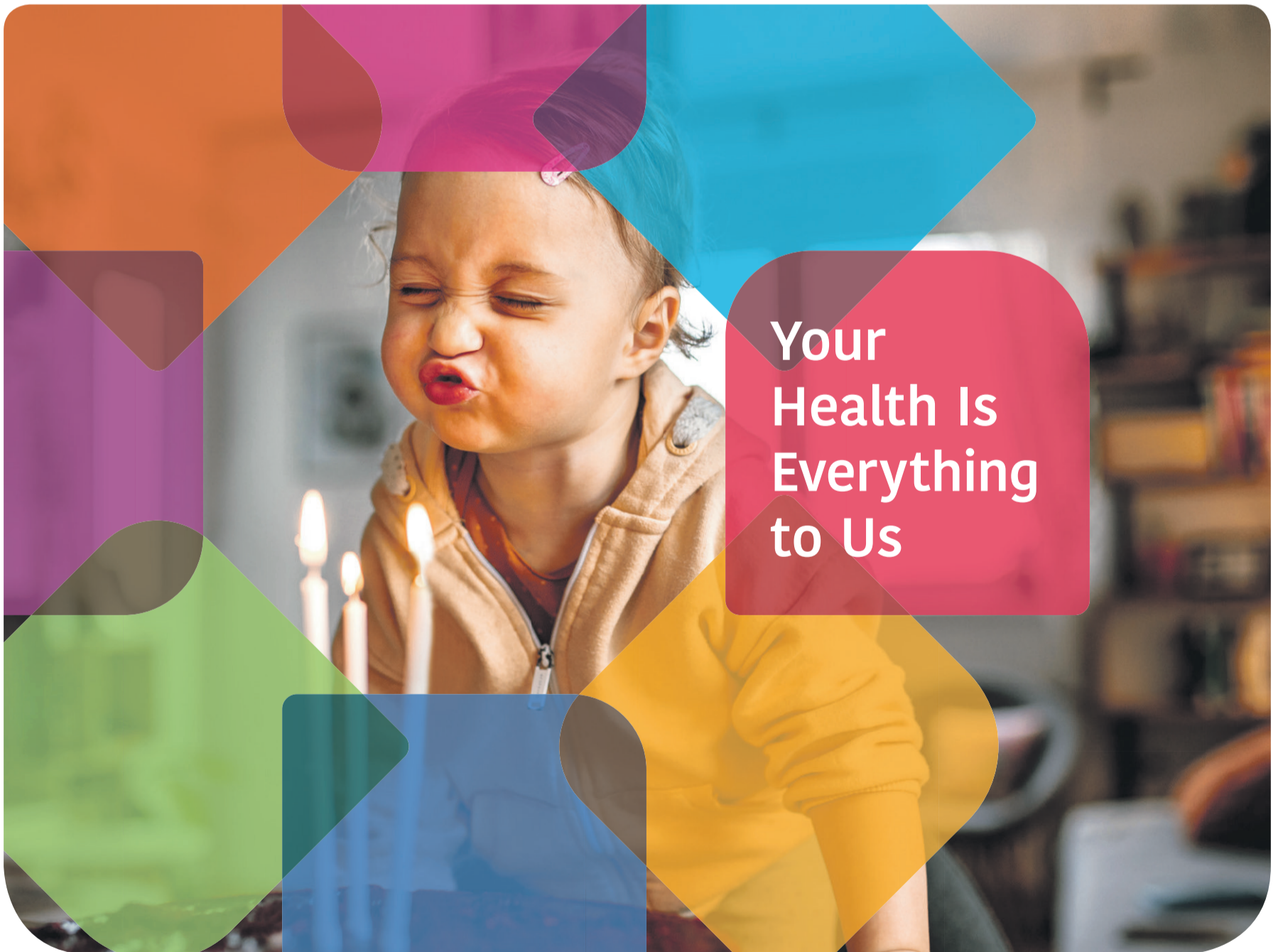
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forum

COLUMN | **PATRICE APODACA**

Thanksgiving, a time for family and reflection on the true past

I love Thanksgiving. A warm-hearted gathering of loved ones, piles of food and football. Few obligations aside from expressing gratitude and stuffing your face. Seriously, what's not to like?

But Thanksgiving is also evolving, and that's something we should recognize while we are giving thanks. Most of us are now aware that the true story of the holiday's origins is a far cry from the manipulative fairy tale that was peddled for decades. That growing awareness is a positive development, and we should be grateful that the distortions and omissions are now more widely acknowledged.

In recent years, historians have made it clear that the tale of a three-day, feel-good feast in the fall of 1621, which ostensibly brought together peace-loving native peoples and scrappy Pilgrim settlers to give thanks for a bountiful harvest, is largely a work of



"THE FIRST THANKSGIVING," by Jennie Augusta Brownscombe.

fiction built on kernels of truth.

The real story differs in small ways (no turkey); significant ways (the Wampanoag tribe's alliance with the European migrants was about survival, not a quest for harmony), and catastrophic ways (the era of colonization and conquest was marked by

stolen land, deadly disease, enslavement and massacres that devastated the indigenous population).

Yet, even though the broad strokes of this history are now largely understood, we still tend to gloss over many of the brutal details. Such as the fact that by the 1620s the Wampanoags had already experienced a

century of often violent interactions with Europeans. Or that in the decades following 1621 the relationship between the Wampanoags and the colonists deteriorated as the Europeans forced their will upon the natives, culminating in one of the most horrific colonial-Indian wars on record.

Painting a different, more benign picture proved useful. President Abraham Lincoln declared Thanksgiving a national holiday in 1863 in hopes of promoting unity in a nation riven by civil war. It didn't take long for the myth of Pilgrims and Native Americans feasting together as amicable equals to become incorporated into the holiday's lore. It was a good story, told to enhance the narrative of Manifest Destiny.

And for generations, that was the story we taught school kids, as if it was a sacred part of our national identity, not to be examined more closely. We fetishized the holiday, holding school events in which students pretended to be either welcoming native people or grateful Pilgrims. They crafted headwear out of colored construction paper, and played out a simplistic drama of friendly hands reaching across the dinner table.

Many schools have now ditched that kitschy exercise in favor of more nuanced celebrations. But we

still have a long way to go to provide a full accounting of the history surrounding the holiday, and even longer to go to make the histories of indigenous peoples from the precolonial era to the present a fundamental part of core educational curriculum.

We have only to consider the recently released film "Killers of the Flower Moon" to know that many stories have yet to be revealed to a broad audience. I haven't seen the movie yet, but I read the book, which details the shocking, greed-fueled murders of members of the Osage Nation in 1920s Oklahoma.

When I finished reading the book, I wondered why I had never before heard about this chapter in our nation's history. And I pondered the question of how many other important stories remain ignored by all except those who must live with their consequences.

I relate all this not because I think we should hang our heads in shame

See *Apodaca*, page A10

COMMENTARY | **ELIZABETH HANSBURG**

Costa Mesa has the right idea. Let's share its tenant advocacy with the rest of Orange County

On Tuesday, Nov. 7, the Costa Mesa City Council passed an urgency ordinance to protect renters through the local enforcement of AB 1482, the Tenant Protection Act of 2019 and SB 567. These state laws set down procedures landlords must follow when asking a resident to leave a rented housing unit they have occupied in good standing for 12 or more months, including providing relocation assistance and documenting the reasons the tenant is being asked to vacate.

Costa Mesa is a majority

renter city. According to a recent report by the O.C. United Way, 59% of Costa Mesa's households are renters, and the city has the 4th highest eviction rate in the county. Costa Mesa, like all cities in Orange County, is increasingly grappling with issues of housing insecurity amid rising rents and residents being priced out of neighborhoods and cities. The City Council's support for their residents is admirable. We need more cities to step up so we can have a unified and consistent response to housing insecurity across the

county. While AB 1482 granted new rights to renters and SB 567 delivered enhanced penalties to landlords who do not follow the law, there are no new agents for enforcement. There is no "California Department of Tenants Protections" to which a renter can appeal when their rights are violated. The only remedy a tenant has is to go to court. We already have an eviction crisis in an overburdened civil court system where tenants face Unlawful Detainers (the legal term for eviction) without legal representation. This crisis

led the United Way of OC to produce their report "Orange County Evictions." Most tenants, especially those whose first language is not English, do not know that they have the right to relocation assistance in the amount equal to one month's rent under AB 1482. Costa Mesa's ordinance expands this relocation assistance to a sum equal to two months of rent and requires landlords to notify the city within three days of notifying the resident that their tenancy is being involuntarily

See *Tenant*, page A8



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

A PHOTO OF a rendering of One Metro West, a 1,057-unit proposed residential development in Costa Mesa.

CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS

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MAILBAG



Barry Friedland

SCSA OCCUPIES the space next to MarVac off Harbor Boulevard in Costa Mesa. A letter writer says he can smell an odor in the area he believes comes from the cannabis dispensary.

What is that smell?

So where do you purchase your pot? Well, now there may be a new way to get high, and its 100% free. I have been going to MarVac Electronics on Harbor Boulevard for decades; it's one of my favorite stores, but that may change. Next to MarVac is a store called SCSA, which stands for South Coast Safe Access, and the name and logo sort of resemble a quasi-government agency. In reality it is just another pot shop. This shop comes equipped with a scary-looking armed guard and a reception area where you are required to give them your personal information should you go inside. On their website they claim to

be "Orange County's Best Marijuana Dispensary." So what makes this shop better than Stiizy or 420 Central Newport or Secret Garden or Off the Charts or People's Cannabis Dispensary or Coast Cannabis or High Tide Church or any of the other approved and planned pot shops for Costa Mesa? Who knows? Is there enough demand to support all these pot businesses? I don't know, and to be honest, I really don't care. On a recent morning I walked into MarVac Electronics and was immediately sickened by the smell of a skunk. I knew Pepé Le Pew had not paid a visit, so I believe the smell had to

be coming from SCSA. I immediately asked the person behind the cash register if they smelled it also and they said yes. One of the new and younger employees called me talking and called out, "It is a free high," and he began inhaling deeply while saying he liked the smell. He probably thought he was being funny. The store manager grumbled some negative remarks to himself about the stench but offered no excuses. If the smell is coming from next door, the owners of this building probably did not properly prepare it, as one of the requirements

See *Mailbag*, page A8

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A WORD, PLEASE | JUNE CASAGRANDE

Stay 'awhile' and learn how it differs from 'a while'

I'm often astounded by the way people use "awhile" and "a while." And, no, I'm not shocked by how badly they choose between these terms, but by how well.



To understand when "a while" is preferable to "awhile," you need a firm grasp on grammar concepts most of us are never taught: the true nature of adverbs, how adverbs differ from adverbials and how prepositions work with objects. Yet people who never learned those concepts often get "a while" and "awhile" right anyway.

For example, when I do a Google search for "Let's just wait for a while," which is correct, I get about 470,000 hits. But when I search for "Let's just wait for awhile," which is wrong, I get fewer than 16,000 hits.

Here's what most English speakers don't know they know about "a while" and "awhile."

For starters, we're talking about different parts of speech. "A while" is a noun. Well, technically it's a noun phrase because it has more than one word. But that's splitting hairs. A noun phrase works just like a noun.

"Awhile" is an adverb. Contrary to what your third-grade teacher may have led you to believe, adverbs aren't just those ly words that describe actions. Instead, an adverb answers the question "when?" "where?" or "in what manner?" Plus, sentence adverbs like "therefore" and "however" modify whole clauses or sentences. So if you look up "tomorrow" in a dictionary, you'll see that it's both a noun and an adverb. That makes



"STAY AWHILE" is the correct expression (versus "stay a while"), but many English speakers don't know why.

Brian van der Brug | L.A. Times

sense because it answers the question "when?" Another example: "There" is also an adverb because it answers the question "where?" Sometimes, these rules for adverbs are a less intuitive, which is why it's not completely clear that "awhile" answers the question "when?" But it deals with time the same way, so it's an adverb.

"For" is a preposition. Prepositions take objects, which are always either nouns, pronouns or whole phrases or clauses working as nouns. So when you buy a gift "for Walter," the noun "Walter" is the object of the preposition. If you'd rather say you're buying a gift "for him," the pronoun "him" is the object of the preposition.

Adverbs can't be objects of prepositions. You can't say "for quickly" or "at happily" or "with slowly." And because "awhile" is an adverb, you can't say "for awhile." Only the noun form can go there: for a while.

You might guess that, if "awhile" can't be used as a noun, then "a while" can't be used as an adverb. So you'd surmise that "stay awhile" is correct and "stay a while" is wrong. Not so. The reason: adverbials.

An adverbial is any part of speech that does the job of an adverb. That includes nouns. For example, according to dictionaries, "Tuesday" is a noun. But notice how you can use it

the same way you use the adverb "tomorrow." "He arrives Tuesday" works just as well as "He arrives tomorrow." So why isn't "Tuesday" considered an adverb? Because dictionary-makers have specific methods for categorizing words, which are based on frequency of usage. And "Tuesday," apparently, doesn't get used as an adverb as often as "tomorrow," perhaps because people often say "on Tuesday," instead of just "Tuesday," making it the object of the preposition "on" and thus a noun.

"On Tuesday" answers the question "when?" so it's a multi-word phrase doing the job of an adverb. That makes it an adverbial.

The same is true for "a while." When it's used like an adverb, it's an adverbial. That's why "a while" can work as an adverb even though "awhile" can't work as a noun.

It's usually best to use "awhile" whenever you need an adverb: Stay awhile. It's not wrong to use "a while" as an adverb, too: Stay a while. But after "for" or any other preposition, you need the two-word version: Stay for a while.

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.



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Traditional Holiday Fare | Mon - Fri 11:30am - 3pm
December 1st - 22nd



This Holiday Season, The Bungalow Restaurant Family is continuing the tradition of the Ritzy-style lunch that locals and visitors alike enjoy year after year!

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TRADITIONAL HOLIDAY FARE

Served Monday - Friday 11:30am - 3pm Dec 1st - Dec 22nd

The Bungalow restaurant family would like to thank you for joining us this holiday season to continue the tradition of the Ritzy-style lunch that locals and visitors alike enjoy year after year.

APPETIZERS

- THE BUNGALOW EGG**
Chive smoked salmon scrambled egg topped with caviar. Served with a shot of Grey Goose Vodka 20
- COLOSSAL PRAWN COCKTAIL**
Spicy cocktail sauce with fresh horseradish & Tabasco then mixed with diced celery 24
- BUTTERNUT SQUASH RAVIOLI**
Sage brown butter, shaved Manchego, pistachios 18
- SWEET CHILI CALAMARI**
Tender calamari fried golden brown, sweet chili, bean sprouts, daikon sprouts, peanuts, carrots, Japanese dressing 18
- GRILLED ARTICHOKE**
Quarters of grilled artichoke, garlic olive oil marinade, ginger aioli 18

SOUPS & SALADS

- CORN CHOWDER**
Fresh corn, Applewood smoked bacon 13
- MEATBALL SOUP**
Pork & beef meatballs, beef stock, sautéed spinach, penne pasta 13
- HOLIDAY SALAD**
Cut romaine, Belgian endive, chives, watercress, Canadian coral bay shrimp, hard-boiled egg, tomato, ciabatta crostons, tossed in an olive oil, tarragon apple cider vinaigrette & a touch of Dijon mustard 20
- DUNGENESS CRAB & BAY SHRIMP LOUIE**
Juliened iceberg lettuce, sliced egg, asparagus spears, roasted red pepper, 1000 island dressing 28
- LIME-MARINATED CHICKEN SALAD**
Mixed greens, lime marinated grilled chicken, avocado, chopped grilled vegetables, tarragon vinaigrette 20
- BUNGALOW COBB SALAD**
Diced chicken, bacon, hard-boiled egg, avocado, tomato, scallions, bleu cheese, red wine vinaigrette 20
- SEARED AHI SALAD**
Seared rare, field greens, sweet peppers, Portobello mushrooms, toasted sesame seeds, wasabi-ginger vinaigrette 28

SANDWICHES

- STEAK SANDWICH**
Six ounce sliced filet mignon, onion strings, French baguette, French fries 29
- BEEF DIP SANDWICH**
Sliced thin, au jus, Swiss cheese, caramelized onions on a French roll. Served with creamy horseradish & French fries 22
- FILET MIGNON BURGER**
Ground filet mignon, cheddar cheese, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, caramelized onions, 1000 island dressing & French fries 21

HOLIDAY FARE

- TRADITIONAL ROAST GOOSE WITH LINGONBERRY SAUCE**
Celery root mashed potatoes, warm gala apple compote & sweet sour red cabbage 46
- DI BELLA PASTA**
Penne pasta, marinara sauce, meatballs 25
- PEPPERED MEDALLIONS OF FILET**
Two medallions of pan-seared & pepper crusted filet mignon, topped with Diane sauce, seasonal vegetables 35
- MISO-MARINATED CHILEAN SEA BASS**
Soy glaze, coconut rice, stir fried vegetables, mushrooms, lemongrass ginger beurre blanc 37
- BLACKENED KING SALMON**
Yukon Gold mashed potatoes, avocado relish, honey jalapeño beurre blanc 31
- CALIFORNIA CHICKEN BREAST**
Pan-seared chicken breast, oven roasted tomatoes, avocado, Yukon Gold mashed potatoes 31

Split plate charge of five dollars for all entrees. Consuming raw or undercooked meats, poultry, seafood, shellfish or eggs may increase your risk of food-borne illness, especially if you have certain medical conditions. We have the right to refuse service to anyone. No more than two forms of payment per table, please. 20% Gratuity will be added to parties of eight or more. A 3% processing fee will be added to all credit card transactions. For guests that choose to pay with cash, the 3% fee will be waived.



Artisan Marketplace back for holidays

BY SARAH MOSQUEDA

Gift-giving has the chance to go green this holiday season as the Environmental Nature Center in Newport Beach hosts its 10th annual Artisan Marketplace on Dec. 3.

Hosted from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the center's 5-acre campus, the Artisan Marketplace will feature local vendors handpicked by ENC staff for their eco-friendly products and services.

"Purchasing from locally owned businesses has a positive impact on the economy and supports local communities," said ENC assistant director Lori Whalen.

More than 50 artisans will be on hand selling an array of handmade, vintage, eco-friendly and sustainable gifts like jewelry, ceramics, candles, soaps and clothing. There will also be food vendors and live music live by the Sweetwater Creek Band.

The Environmental Nature Center is a nonprofit public benefit corporation, founded in 1972. The campus features 15 California native plant communities as well as a wildlife habitat and walking trails and even includes a nature-based preschool. The center aims to provide impactful experiences by connecting guests with nature and hosts school field trips, a Traveling Naturalist programs, nature camps, service learning programs and professional development programs throughout the year.

In alignment with the



Courtesy of the Environmental Nature Center

ECO-FRIENDLY HOLIDAY GIFTS were on offer at 2022's Artisan Marketplace at the Environmental Nature Center in Newport Beach.

ENC's mission, the center's policy restricts nonnative plants, seashells, coral and animal parts from the Artisan Marketplace. There will also be minimal plastic at the market, and shoppers are encouraged to bring reusable shopping bags for their purchases.

Guests are also encouraged to bring reusable plates and utensils for dining with the market's food vendors and, as an incentive, those who do will receive a raffle ticket to be entered to win a prize. The market will also offer free hot cocoa to kids who

bring their own reusable mug.

Entry to the Artisan Marketplace is \$2 and will directly benefit the Environmental Nature Center's environmental education programs.

Whalen said shoppers will feel good about getting

gifts for loved ones, while connecting with the great outdoors.

"The Artisan Marketplace gives guests the opportunity to shop for unique gifts while spending time in nature instead of a shopping mall," said Whalen.

The ENC is located at 1601 E. 16th Street in Newport Beach, and more information about the Artisan Marketplace can be found at encenter.org.

sarah.mosqueda
@latimes.com
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MAILBAG

Continued from page A6

is odor-control devices, and techniques must be incorporated so that odors are not detectable off-site.

With the proliferation of pot shops all over Costa Mesa and our pot-friendly council, I have zero expectation anything will change

soon. Within a year I predict most of these shops will go out of business, and the owners will lose their shirts. The good news is they poured a lot of money into their buildings so more family-friendly companies may replace them.

Barry Friedland
Costa Mesa

Rally successful

Following the successful Protect Huntington Beach rally at City Hall, Mayor Tony Strickland rebuffed its significance by claiming that any group could turn out a hundred people to

complain about the policies of our local government. He stated with confidence that his City Council posse was supported by the overwhelming majority of the Surf City electorate. Maybe that confidence has eroded a little after the Protect H.B. rally at Central Park last weekend, which drew a reported 300 people to oppose the council majority's high-handed tactics in running our city. Especially targeted were the unneeded and irresponsible Charter amendments being forced on the March 2024 primary ballot. There is going to be serious and

widespread push-back against the majority's authoritarian attempts to rule rather than govern us. Back in September at the California GOP convention in Anaheim, Donald Trump praised Strickland as being one of his favorite mayors. One autocrat praising another. Taking a page out of the Trump playbook, Strickland seemed to express disdain for any community members who opposed his agenda. At least he's not calling us vermin.

Tim Geddes
Huntington Beach

Book-banning resolution is out of touch

On Nov. 7, voters sent a clear message throughout the country. They voted for governors, congressional candidates and school board officials who detest book bans and anti-LGBTQ rhetoric. Candidates endorsed by groups like Moms for Liberty lost even in conservative states as Americans reject their out-of-touch cultural platform. But in Huntington Beach, conservative city council

members continue to pursue a public library book-banning resolution that will establish a review board of political appointees who determine which books the library can acquire (without librarians' input) and relocate all books from the young adult/teen section that have the slightest reference to sex. When will the conservatives in this city understand that the majority of residents and tourists oppose their Orwellian plot?

Carol Daus
Huntington Beach

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TENANT

Continued from page A6

ended, often referred to as a "no-fault eviction." It is safe to assume that many Costa Mesa landlords do not know that they have another level of financial obligation to their tenants and reporting requirements to the city when they end a resident's tenancy.

Addressing the crisis of housing insecurity on a city-by-city basis, where each city has different rules and processes, does not solve what is a much larger, systemic problem. Orange County desperately needs a unified response to housing insecurity, and an excellent starting point would be county-wide education and resources to support tenants. This job

cannot be done piecemeal by city staff, who are neither social workers nor lawyers. We need an independent agent outside city government with the professional expertise and legal standing to ensure landlords follow the law and tenants' receive the time and assistance owed to them.

These agents already exist in the form of Fair Housing non-profits. Orange County is served by two such organizations—Fair Housing Council of Orange County and Fair Housing Foundation. Both of these organizations intervene on issues of housing discrimination and landlord tenant counseling. Moreover, every city in Orange County is already contracted with a Fair Housing organization to provide assistance to

residents on issues of housing discrimination. The scope of services rendered could be expanded to include the rights of tenants and responsibilities of landlords under AB 1482 and SB 567.

To enforce their Tenant Protection Ordinance, the city of Costa Mesa will add three staff members to review cases and ensure landlords follow proper procedures and tenants receive the relocation assistance they are owed, per the staff report. The estimated cost to execute the city's ordinance is \$850,000 over the next eight months, ending in June 2024, using remaining American Rescue Plan Act (ARPS) funds. What if those funds could be combined with the resources of other cities, like Buena Park, which recently passed a similar tenant protection ordinance? We could invest in and grow the capacity of the Fair Housing organizations to ensure tenant protections and have a consistent response across Orange County.

We desperately need additional resources to help renters in their current living situations. Most tenants do not know their rights under AB 1482 and SB 567; they do not know where to turn when they have disputes with landlords. Currently, the only option for low-income tenants in Orange County who need legal assistance is the pro-bono legal nonprofits Public Law Center and Community Legal Aid, which diligently serve Orange County residents but regularly turn people away who are facing eviction because they lack the staff capacity to assist them.

The Fair Housing organizations already serving Orange County cities could

be charged with helping residents exercise their rights under AB 1482 and SB 567. With additional resources, they could create educational materials in multiple languages to inform tenants of their rights, help them navigate the relocation process, and connect them with housing resources. This effort would grow the capacity and resources to address housing insecurity beyond just Costa Mesa.

While the intention behind the city's ordinance is laudable, Costa Mesa has chosen to "go it alone" by providing city staff to "case manage" the relocation of renter households from their current homes. This isn't the job of city government, and the model is not sustainable, but we can and should build on the good intentions to support renter households by growing the capacity within the nonprofit community to educate tenants about their rights and ensure they receive the protection and assistance that state law affords them. We need city leaders from all Orange County cities to fund their Fair Housing nonprofit partners to support residents with tenant issues covered by AB 1482 and SB 567 in the same way that they address housing discrimination issues. By growing this capacity, we will make progress towards a consistent approach to addressing housing insecurity in Orange County.

ELIZABETH HANSBURG is co-founder and director of People for Housing OC, the Yes In My Backyard (YIMBY) organization supporting new affordable and workforce housing in all neighborhoods across Orange County. She can be reached at elizabeth@peopleforhousing.org.

Daily Pilot

A Times Community News publication.

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

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'Adventure waiting': A new park opens in O.C.



Sarah Mosqueda

THE WOODLANDS WALK of the Gypsum Canyon Wilderness debuted to the public on Tuesday. The space features 6 miles of new trails for hiking, biking and horseback riding as demonstrated by an OC Parks docent and her horse, Jessie.

BY SARAH MOSQUEDA

Avid hikers and equestrian enthusiasts have some new trails to explore in Orange County. On Tuesday, OC Parks hosted a ribbon-cutting for the new 500-acre park and trail system located within OC Parks' Irvine Ranch Open Space. Gypsum Canyon Wilderness on the eastern edge of Anaheim near Yorba Linda opened to the public on Friday and will be accessible through scheduled programs.

"This day has been in the works for a really long time," said OC Parks director, Pam Passow. "We are excited to open this natural space to the public."

Passow was joined at the ribbon-cutting by Orange County Board of Supervisors Chairman Donald P. Wagner, as well as supervising park rangers Nick Martinico and Kevin Carrera, Irvine Ranch Conservancy president and chief executive officer Michael O'Connell, OC Parks commission vice chair, Bert Ashland, Irvine Co. vice presidents Mark Denny and Dean Kirk and senior vice president Bill Martin.

"OC Parks stewards these lands in close coordination with the Irvine Ranch Conservancy, the Orange County Parks Foundation and the Nature Conservancy," said Passow.

In order to prepare the area for the public, the Irvine Ranch Conservancy built key staging area infrastructure, facilitated natural resource surveys, printed and installed trail signs.

The Conservancy also prepared docents to lead public programs on the land, who also attended the ribbon-cutting, including one docent on horseback.

Gypsum Canyon Wilderness contains 6 miles of new trails for hiking, biking and horseback riding and multiple lookout points

with views of the Santa Ana Mountains.

The area also features prehistoric rock formations of cobble and sandstone bluffs believed to have formed 16 to 20 million years ago, when the earliest horses roamed the earth. Today, nature lovers can discover mule deer, red-tailed hawks, California gnatcatchers and bobcats in their protected and preserved native habitats in the area, as well as oak and sycamore trees and California poppies come spring.

"This is going to add yet another remarkable open space to be explored by the residents of Orange County," said Wagner, recalling the Saddleback Wilderness near Silverado that opened to the public on April 1 of this year.

While Gypsum Canyon Wilderness is only accessible through scheduled guided and self-guided programs with advance registration, there is a full roster of such opportunities scheduled for November and December.

An open Wilderness Access Day took place Saturday and returns Nov. 25. On Nov. 24, hikers are invited to work off Thanksgiving dinner with a Turkey Burner fitness hike starting at 8 a.m. Open Wilderness Access Days for December include early morning hikes on Dec. 16 and 22. Visit ocparks.com/irvine-ranch-open-space for a full list of scheduled activities within Irvine Ranch Open Space.

Wagner said he hopes Orange County residents will take advantage of the new space and enjoy the many events OC Parks will host there.

"Gypsum Canyon Wilderness is full of adventure waiting to be discovered," said Wagner.

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Don Leach | Staff Photographer

THE NEW 500-acre park space and trail system is located within OC Parks' Irvine Ranch Open Space.



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

MOUNTAIN BIKERS pedal through Gypsum Canyon Wilderness, situated on the eastern end of Anaheim.

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SURFERS

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amazing surfers and work together.”

Freyre and her friends head to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on Tuesday for the 2023 ISA World Junior Surfing Championship, which starts Friday and runs through Dec. 3.

The travel roster is ripe with Orange County locals, as they make up five athletes on the 12-surfer team. Freyre was one of three Under-18 girls selected, while Mia McLeish and Eden Walla of San Clemente made the U16 girls’ team.

Costa Mesa’s Quaid Fahrion was one of three U16 boys to make the cut, as was Rex Hennings of San Clemente.

The full roster also includes Cole McCaffray, Lucas Owston and Titus Santucci (boys’ U18), Will Deane (boys’ U16), Zoe Chait and Talia Swindal (girls’ U18) and Lanea Mons (girls’ U16). Alternates include Kylie Pulcini, Avery McDonald, Hayden Rodgers and Teddy Wittemann.

Two-time U.S. Open of Surfing champion and Santa Ana native Courtney Conlogue will coach the squad in Brazil along with fellow assistant coach Asher Nolan, in the absence of head coach and Seal Beach native Ryan Simmons.

Team USA will be trying to better a bronze medal team finish in El Salvador at last year’s ISA World Junior Surfing Championship. Freyre, Swindal and Owston are the returners from last year’s competition.

“I’ve been working hard and I feel like I’ve improved since last year,” said Freyre, who tied for 25th in U16 girls among nearly 100 surfers worldwide last year. “I’m just going to go out there and do my best, take it heat by heat. I feel super-honored just to be picked, one of three girls for the U18 team in the whole USA to be able to go and represent our team.”



SARA FREYRE of Huntington Beach cuts back into a wave while training with the USA Surfing Junior National Team.



USA SURFING junior team head coach Ryan Simmons goes over training notes with, from left, Talia Swindal, Zoe Chait, Coach Asher Nolan, Coach Courtney Conlogue, Sara Freyre and Avery McDonald after practice.

The presence of one of her idols in the sport, Conlogue, is not lost on Fryre. Conlogue, a Sage Hill School alumna who’s now 31, was a two-time world-title runner up in 2015 and ’16 and is a Surfing Walk of Fame member.

She has been involved with USA Surfing since age 11 and was coached by lo-

cal legend Peter “PT” Townsend in those early years.

“I look up to her a lot, so it’s really cool to have her take on things, have her as a coach and a mentor as well,” Freyre said.

Fahrion, 15, is a sophomore at Pacifica Christian High School. He has surfed internationally in Indonesia before, but he said he’s



U18 DIVISION surfer Lucas Owston, center, and team alternate Luke Guinaldo run drills with the USA Surfing Junior National Team in Huntington Beach on Nov. 3.

not really sure what to expect in Brazil.

“I’m just really excited,” Fahrion said. “This is something that I’ve been working toward for a long time. In the last year, training with all of these guys has been helping me a lot.”

He said his goal is to bring an intensity to his surfing, and he hopes that

will help him next week at Junior Worlds.

“My mindset is to surf like I’m in a heat all the time,” Fahrion said. “That helps me when I’m actually in heats. It’s not like I’m just cruising or chilling out in the water.”

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APODACA

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or because I have some deep desire to turn the holiday into a somber affair where we wallow in remorse and recrimination.

Rather, I believe that looking squarely at the truth about our tumultuous, complicated history will ultimately make us stronger — and better. We must own our history — all of it — and resist the urge to soften the edges, minimize the impact or outright ignore the darkest, bloodiest parts. It’s not about guilt but about responsibility to learn from the past in all its complexity and acknowledge the injustices that have been perpetrated.

We have nothing to lose by fully embracing our flawed history, but there is much to gain. This is how we grow. With the illumination shining brightly on the past, we can move forward with a deep understanding of where things can go wrong, an ability to think critically — yes, there’s that pesky term, “critical thinking” — and to reflect on how we can build a more vibrant, just and healthy future for all.

We can handle the truth. So, by the way, can kids. They can grasp complex topics far better than they are sometimes given credit for. We should trust them enough to teach them the facts, not some rose-colored fiction about how we got to where we are now that, sadly, some groups still advocate.

This Thanksgiving I plan to give thanks for my beautiful family and cherished friends, and for my happy, comfortable life, even as I readily acknowledge that the foundation my happiness was built upon wasn’t always noble or good. I admit to the contradiction. But I won’t accept a lie.

PATRICE APODACA is a former L.A. Times staff writer and is coauthor of “A Boy Named Courage: A Surgeon’s Memoir of Apartheid.”

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