

Daily Pilot

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2024 // dailypilot.com

Judge to rule on Pacific Airshow case

Gina Clayton-Tarvin sued Huntington Beach last year after the city denied her request to review its settlement with air show operator Code Four.

BY MATT SZABO

An Orange County Superior Court judge heard arguments Monday afternoon over whether the city of Huntington Beach should be forced to release its complete multimillion-dollar settlement document with Pacific Airshow operator Code Four.

Judge Jonathan Fish presided over proceedings at the Central Justice Center in Santa Ana that lasted about an hour. Gregory Pleasants argued for the plaintiff, Gina Clayton-Tarvin. Savannah Skelton represented the defendants, the city of Huntington

Beach and City Atty. Michael Gates, who was also present but did not speak.

Fish will rule in the coming days or weeks, though either side could appeal. He asked for the settlement itself to be put into the court records, under seal, and both sides agreed.

Clayton-Tarvin, a longtime member of the Ocean View School District Board of Trustees, sued last June after Gates refused to release the full settlement, valued at up to about \$7 million. Instead, following her California

See **Judge**, page A4



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

PILOTS GREG "Wired" Colyer and Rob "Scratch" Mitchell fly their historic T-33 Ace Makers on day one of last year's Pacific Airshow in Huntington Beach.

State auditor to examine Surf City's \$7M air show settlement

Joint Legislative Audit Committee votes in Sacramento to take a look at the settlement.

BY MATT SZABO

The California Joint Legislative Audit Committee voted Tuesday in Sacramento to examine Huntington Beach's multimillion-dollar settlement with Pacific Airshow operator Code Four.

The joint committee voted 10-2, with one abstention, to review the settlement that was agreed to last year.

Among the yes votes were state Sen. Dave Min (D-Irvine), who requested the audit. Min represents a portion of Huntington Beach and has often been critical of its current conservative City Council majority.

Code Four sued for breach of contract after the final day of the 2021 Pacific Airshow was canceled due to an oil spill off the coast. Huntington Beach ended up settling with the air show operator for about \$5 million, plus \$2 million more if Huntington Beach recovers money in its own oil spill

See **Auditor**, page A5



Photos by Susan Hoffman

CERAMICIST AGNES Noble joins husband Don with her clay art pieces during the Spring Garden Art Faire Saturday at Sherman Gardens.

Art and nature merge for Spring Garden Art Faire



ATTENDEES CHECK out the mini succulents at Olivia Angulo's table.

Twenty-one artists contributed a variety of nature-themed art to show Saturday throughout the patios in Corona del Mar's botanical showplace, Sherman Gardens.

Among them, Huntington Beach artist Wendy Hamu turned finds from her frequent beach walks into a business, creating one-of-a-kind art. Asked about her large mussel sculpture at the Spring Garden Art Faire, Hamu said, "I don't like to eat mussels, but I like to collect the shells."

Carole Boller, a recognized artist and signature member of the Pastel Society of America and other Laguna Beach organizations, displayed her vibrant flower paintings that included both originals and giclée prints.

"After the originals are sold, I create five giclée prints," Boller said, adding that the prints can be sold for about one-tenth of the cost of the original.

Irvine artist Agnes Calagui Noble, a retired transplant nurse, recently began the art of hand-building clay into functional pieces. "They are all microwave and dishwasher safe," Noble said.

Guests milling through the serene setting made some great finds to take home with them.

"I'm having a wonderful time spending too much money," said Lisa Banks of Anaheim.

More than 450 visitors turned out for the show, according to Sherman Gardens event coordinator Beverly Morgan.

— Susan Hoffman

Law is helping to curb no-fault evictions

Costa Mesa passed an emergency ordinance in November to assist tenants displaced due to no fault of their own.

BY SARA CARDINE

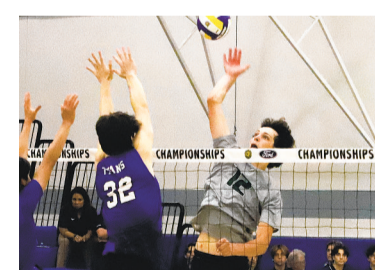
Last November, with the number of renters facing no-fault evictions at a critical peak, Costa Mesa city leaders adopted an emergency ordinance requiring landlords to report imminent displacements and broadening tenant protection and assistance efforts.

The new law took effect immediately, requiring property owners give occupants a 60-day notice and notify the city within 72 hours of issuing a notice of eviction related to a substantial renovation or demolition or, alternatively, an owner's desire to move in or take a property off the rental market.

Landlords must also provide one month of fair market value rent to evicted residents and share documentation and permits for renovations substantial

See **Helping**, page A5

ALSO FROM THE DAILY PILOT:



James Carbone

JACKSON CRYST'S 54 KILLS SEND SAGE HILL BOYS' VOLLEYBALL TO FIRST CIF CHAMPIONSHIP PAGE A6

Balboa Library and Fire Station project moves to final design phase

BY LILLY NGUYEN

The Balboa Library and Fire Station No. 1 project will move ahead to its final design phase before it goes out to bid next summer, following a unanimous vote of the Newport Beach City Council on Tuesday.

Council members ultimately decided on the second of the three possible layouts for the project, which is currently estimated to carry a \$16-million price tag. The proposed layout will bring the size of the building to about 9,170 square feet. The li-

brary will occupy 3,770 square feet, while 5,400 square feet will be used for the fire station.

An initial proposal for a public works storage facility was removed. Other additions include a playground and some additional green space. The new layout will orient the facility along Balboa Boulevard with public parking and the library entrance off of Bay Avenue.

Both facilities are in need of being updated, according to assistant city engineer Tom Sandefur, who delivered the staff presentation Tuesday night.

The Balboa Library was constructed in 1929 and was originally 566 square feet before it was expanded in 1952 and again in 1962 to encompass about 4,500 square feet, including 360 feet of museum space. Fire Station No. 1 was built in 1962 and is 3,431 square feet, according to the city.

Sandefur said the Public Works Department coordinated with the library, fire department, city staff and the recreation and senior services department to develop plans for the 24,000-square-foot

See **Project**, page A3



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

THE NEWPORT BEACH City Council has approved a design for reconstruction of the Balboa Branch Library and Fire Station No. 1. Pictured is the library and one of the trees that will be removed.

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THU, MAY 23
LISSIE

- 5/17 JOHN CRUZ
- 5/18 VENICE
- 5/19 THE LETTERMEN
- 5/22 THE WAILERS
- 5/23 LISSIE
- 5/24 DSB (JOURNEY TRIBUTE)
- 5/25 IN THE AIR TONIGHT (PHIL COLLINS & GENESIS TRIBUTE)
- 5/26 BLACKHAWK
- 5/31 YACHTY BY NATURE
- 6/1 STEELHEART
- 6/2 CELEBRATING WHITNEY (WHITNEY HOUSTON TRIBUTE)
- 6/6 HOWIE DAY
- 6/7 ROBERT JON & THE WRECK
- 6/8 THE ENGLISH BEAT
- 6/9 GARY HOEY
- 6/14 AMBROSIA
- 6/15 CHEST FEVER (THE BAND TRIBUTE)
- 6/16 ELVIN BISHOP BIG FUN TRIO
- 6/21 DESPERADO (EAGLES TRIBUTE)
- 6/22 DESPERADO (EAGLES TRIBUTE)
- 6/23 JUSTIN HAYWARD VOICE OF THE MOODY BLUES
- 6/28 THE BACON BROTHERS
- 6/29 SKELETON CREW (GRATEFUL DEAD TRIBUTE)
- 7/3 IAN MOORE
- 7/5 WALTER MICHAELS BAND
- 7/6 SHINE ON (PINK FLOYD TRIBUTE)
- 7/12 YYNOT (RUSH TRIBUTE)
- 7/13 FAST TIMES - THE ULTIMATE 80s TRIBUTE!
- 7/14 THE CREAM OF CLAPTON BAND
FEAT. WILL JOHNS & NOAH EAST
- 7/19 THE 5TH DIMENSION
- 7/20 Y&T 50TH ANNIVERSARY
- 7/25 THE RAT PACK
- 7/26 KEN GARCIA
- 7/27 BOB SCHNEIDER
- 7/28 BOBBY GRAY
- 8/1 CASH'D OUT (JOHNNY CASH TRIBUTE)
- 8/2 BEACH BOY AL JARDINE
- 8/3 CUBENSIS (GRATEFUL DEAD TRIBUTE)



SUN, MAY 26
BLACKHAWK



SAT, JUN 1
STEELHEART



SUN, JUN 9
GARY HOEY



FRI, JUL 19
THE 5TH DIMENSION

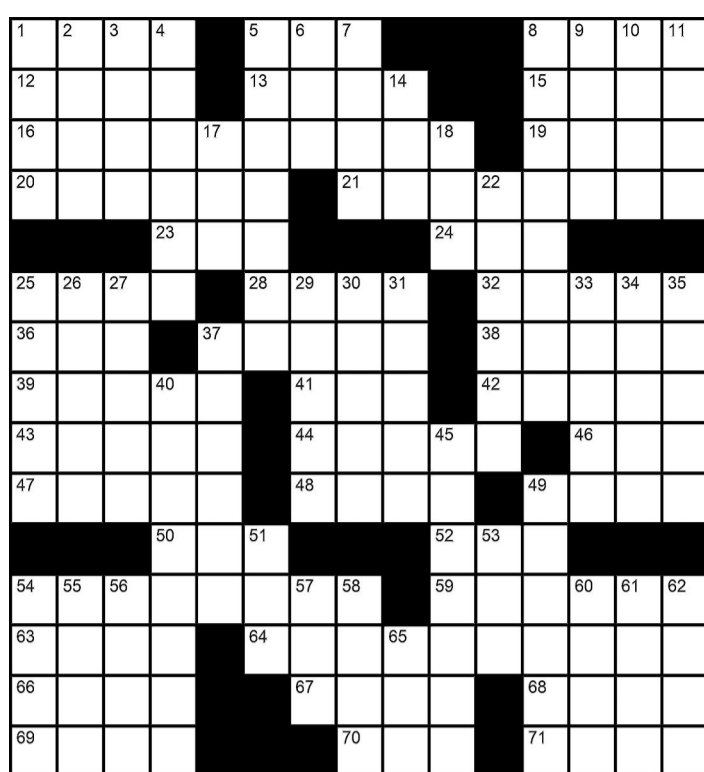
- 8/9 BIG BAD VOODOO DADDY
- 8/17 PIANO MEN: GENERATIONS
(BILLY JOEL AND ELTON JOHN TRIBUTE)
- 8/23 SUPER DIAMOND (NEIL DIAMOND TRIBUTE)
- 8/24 SUPER DIAMOND (NEIL DIAMOND TRIBUTE)
- 8/27 TAB BENOIT & ANDERS OSBORNE
WITH SPECIAL GUEST JD SIMO
- 8/28 TOM RUSH
- 8/29 THE PETTY BREAKERS (TOM PETTY TRIBUTE)
- 8/30 GLENN HUGHES - DEEP PURPLE SET
- 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF BURN
- 8/31 MICK ADAMS & THE STONES
- 9/1 MIDGE URE
- 9/7 SOUTHERN ROCK THROWDOWN
(LYNYRD SKYNYRD, BAD CO., ZZ TOP TRIBUTES)
- 9/12 GRAHAM BONNET
PERFORMING RAINBOW, MSG & ALCATRAZZ
- 9/14 JOURNEY USA (JOURNEY TRIBUTE)
- 9/15 BENISE: FIESTA!
- 9/19 THE MAN IN BLACK (JOHNNY CASH TRIBUTE)
- 9/22 JANE MONHEIT
- 9/25 ANA POPOVIC
- 9/27 DAVE MASON
- 10/3 ZEBRA w/SPECIAL GUESTS FUZZBUBBLE
- 10/5 KIMBERLY PERRY (OF THE BAND PERRY)
- 10/10 HENRY KAPONO
- 10/11 HENRY KAPONO
- 10/16 JIMMIE VAUGHAN
- 10/18 GARY PUCKETT & THE UNION GAP
- 10/20 THE YOUNG DUBLINERS
- 10/31 OINGO BOINGO FORMER MEMBERS / UNTOUCHABLES
- 11/1 OINGO BOINGO FORMER MEMBERS / UNTOUCHABLES
- 11/8 COMMON SENSE
- 11/9 TYRONE WELLS
- 11/15 RONSTADT REVIVAL (LINDA RONSTADT TRIBUTE)
- 11/16 JOSHUA RADIN & RON POPE
- 11/23 RUFUS WAINWRIGHT
- 11/27 BEATLES VS STONES - A MUSICAL SHOWDOWN
- 11/29 THE PLATTERS
- 11/30 LEE ROCKER OF THE STRAY CATS
- 12/4 LIVINGSTON TAYLOR & LOUDON WAINWRIGHT III
- 12/15 THE GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA - CHRISTMAS SHOW
- 12/29 L.A. GUNS
- 1/24 GENE LOVES JEZEBEL / BOW WOW WOW

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THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Mathews

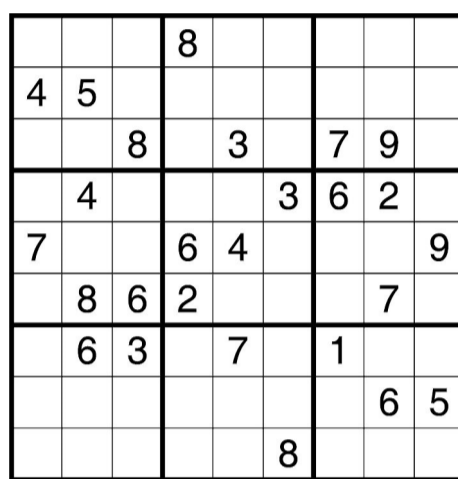
- ACROSS**
- 1 Fraudulent scheme
 - 5 In the past
 - 8 Run away
 - 12 For pickup: 2 wds.
 - 13 Rotary phone feature
 - 15 Enter a book
 - 16 Cold caffeinated drink: 2 wds.
 - 19 Not difficult
 - 20 Revolted: 2 wds.
 - 21 School attendees
 - 23 Complete collection
 - 24 Game official
 - 25 Narrow cut
 - 28 "Frozen" queen
 - 32 Issue to discuss
 - 36 Rooster's mate
 - 37 Chick's sounds
 - 38 Sports venue
 - 39 3:1, for example
 - 41 Horror director Aster
 - 42 Apple desktops
 - 43 Something that happens
 - 44 Bicycle part
 - 46 Mob informant
 - 47 Atlanta-based airline
 - 48 Observed
 - 49 If not
 - 50 And so forth: Abbr.
 - 52 Next-__ technology
 - 54 Performance-enhancing drugs
 - 59 Fancy home
 - 63 Tehran's country
 - 64 Green energy source: 2 wds.
 - 66 Unadulterated
 - 67 Story
 - 68 Agenda component
 - 69 In the mail
 - 70 Size between small and large: Abbr.
 - 71 Not as much



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 A3.

DOWN

- 1 Use a spoon
- 2 Pixar film set in Mexico
- 3 Grows older
- 4 Unassuming
- 5 Shelter dog, e.g.
- 6 Digital image type: Abbr.
- 7 Clods
- 8 Creatively unrestricted
- 9 Low in fat
- 10 Sunrise direction
- 11 Ice cream brand
- 14 Allow
- 17 Actor's signal

- 18 Germany's continent: Abbr.
 - 22 Fine point
 - 25 Ripped bit of paper
 - 26 Depart
 - 27 Spy's info, for short
 - 29 Big jumps
 - 30 Bender
 - 31 "All kidding _"
 - 33 Oyster's gem
 - 34 Peru natives
 - 35 Level of Hindu society
 - 37 Ingredient in gnocchi
 - 40 Virtual place to surf
 - 45 Made mad
 - 49 Require
 - 51 "_ for cookie": 2 wds.
 - 53 Mindreading skill: Abbr.
 - 54 Little tastes
 - 55 Loyal
 - 56 Come by honestly
 - 57 Morse code bit
 - 58 Grand _
 - 60 Poker payment
 - 61 Golf ball props
 - 62 Shade trees
 - 65 Bitter beer
- Tribune Media Services

City of Hope expands with Seacliff facility

BY MATT SZABO

Kathy Miller Willahan may be 74 years old, but that doesn't stop the Huntington Beach resident from getting on the pickleball court five days a week.

Surviving breast cancer in her 50s also didn't permanently deter her, nor did a 2017 diagnosis of Stage 4 mantle cell lymphoma, a rare form of non-Hodgkins lymphoma.

"There was no cure at that time for my type of blood cancer, and few people survived past five years," she said.

Willahan said that her husband drove more than

See *Facility*, page A3



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

CANCER SURVIVOR Kathy Miller Willahan speaks during the ribbon-cutting ceremony for City of Hope Seacliff in Huntington Beach on Tuesday.

Trial begins for woman, 70, accused of killing mom in H.B.

BY PAUL ANDERSON

The daughter of a 92-year-old Huntington Beach woman attacked her mother with a knife and then dragged her into a swimming pool for "greed" to collect on an inheritance, a prosecutor told jurors as the defendant's attorney said the real culprit was her client's sister.

Cynthia Roberta Strange, 70, is charged with murder with a special circumstance allegation of murder for financial gain. She is accused of killing her mother, Ruth Strange, on Sept. 4, 2018, at 6812 Vista Del Sol Drive. Her trial got underway this week at the Central Justice Center, Santa Ana.

"The defendant — Cynthia Roberta Strange — sitting right there brutally and viciously murdered her 92-year-old mother," Senior Deputy Dist. Atty. Nick Thomo said, pointing to the defendant in her wheelchair.

The victim's other daughter,

Amy Hamilton, arrived to pick up her mother for a doctor's appointment about 10 a.m. that day, Thomo said. She saw a small garage door open and an inner door leading to the house locked, which she thought was suspicious, Thomo said.

Hamilton called police for a welfare check when her mother did not answer her phone calls.

"As soon as they open the door they see the blood" and Hamilton jumped back, Thomo said.

Police asked her to stay back while they searched the house and found a bathroom "covered in blood" and bloody footprints leading to a blood-spattered recliner before a sliding-glass door to the outside patio, Thomo said. When officers checked the backyard they found the victim in the swimming pool, he added.

Cuts and lacerations to the victim's head were deemed "superficial," and

her death was caused by drowning, Thomo said.

Strange killed her mother to inherit money and to avoid repaying a debt, Thomo said.

In court papers, Thomo said Strange was receiving supplemental income from her mother after she told her she got divorced from her husband. But she never got divorced and continued receiving benefits from the U.S. Navy service member while also getting a profit from selling her Oceanside home and moving to Irvine, which angered her mother, Thomo said in a trial brief.

On Sept. 3, 2018, Strange went to her mother's house about midnight, prompting her mother to repeatedly try to call Hamilton, leaving voicemail messages begging for help and a call back, Thomo said.

"You have to help me; I'm afraid," the victim told Hamilton in a voicemail played for jurors.

See *Trial*, page A4



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

PATIENTS, STAFF, public officials, physicians and administrators gathered in front of the new City of Hope Seacliff location in Huntington Beach on Tuesday morning for a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

FACILITY

Continued from page A2

6,000 miles between 2021 and 2022 to take her back and forth to City of Hope in Duarte.

Now there is a closer solution right in her own backyard.

City of Hope Orange County held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for its new Seacliff location on Tuesday morning.

The 17,000-square-foot comprehensive outpatient center is located at the corner of Main Street and Yorktown Avenue, across from City Hall on one side and the Seacliff Village Shopping Center on the other side. It becomes City of Hope's second-largest facility in Orange County.

City of Hope Seacliff will start seeing patients on Monday, City of Hope Orange County President Annette Walker said, adding that it was about two years in the making. The previous, smaller location in Huntington Beach, on Beach Boulevard, will close, its services transferred to Seacliff.

"It's just another continuation of our promise to be

part of the Orange County community and be as close to the people as we can," Walker said.

City of Hope Seacliff features 20 infusion bays with varied coastal views from the third floor, as well as 15 light and bright exam rooms with large monitors for patients to review tests with their specialists.

Doctors there will offer expertise in gynecologic oncology, urology, Mohs surgery for skin cancer, blood cancers and more. Walker said the unique artwork on the wall originally came from the Lennar Foundation Cancer Center in Irvine, but it was selected for the new center to fit the Huntington Beach vibe.

Speakers at Tuesday's ceremony included oncologist Dr. Nishan Tchekmedyian, himself a Huntington Beach native and Edison High graduate, as well as Huntington Beach Mayor Pro Tem Pat Burns.

Burns shared that he was diagnosed with cancer three years ago, was treated at City of Hope by Dr. Jeffrey Yoshida and had his prostate removed.

"I'm grateful for the care,

See Facility, page A6

PROJECT

Continued from page A1

lot. Those plans were first reviewed by the Board of Library Trustees and the public in January, then by the Parks, Beaches & Recreation Commission in March.

Both favored the first layout, which includes the storage space, along with the "cottage house" theme for its exterior design.

The much-needed updates have been met with some concern from residents as the project would call for the removal of two existing landmark trees — a blue gum eucalyptus tree and a Canary Island date palm. City staff said removals are necessary as the eucalyptus tree is experiencing an internal fungal rot while the date palm faces removal because of "unavoidable" construction impacts.

City staff said the progression of the rot in the eucalyptus is at about 7% and that it would only take about five years before it would impact one-third of the tree — the threshold at which trees are typically recommended for removal.

Members of the public raised objections in January after the first hearing on the project, saying they felt the city removes more trees than it plants and that the removal would impact what remaining habitat there is in Orange County for birds like the

great blue herons that nest there. The city said it would not be removing the trees during nesting season, so no birds would be displaced.

Comments during public comment Tuesday reflected many of the same concerns. All of the speakers agreed that updates were necessary, but some residents said a few of the additions folded into the project were unnecessary, like the playground, equipment storage and additional parking.

"[The great blue herons] are our friends and neighbors, and your city staff says these birds are opportunistic. But I look on my rides, and I'll see a hummingbird on a certain tree. And every time I go on that ride, that hummingbird is there. On the other hand on the south-side of the Back Bay trail, I notice the city or county took down a big tree that was a hawk's home. Every time I go by there, no more hawk," said resident and bird watcher Don Abrams.

"On Balboa Island, a neighbor pruned a tree down and a juvenile night heron, which had been living there for years, is now gone from the community," he continued. "So, I'm not so much a tree lover — although that tree, I've gone over and looked at it, and it's magnificent — but I'm a bird lover.

"These great blue herons, they're not opportunistic. They're not looking



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

A GREAT BLUE heron builds a nest in the eucalyptus tree near by the Balboa Branch Library in January.

for a new place to live anymore than we would want to give up our homes."

Mayor Will O'Neill said both buildings have been on the city's capital improvement program for some time. He said he felt there wasn't a question as to whether or not they would need to replace either facility.

"The question that we've been trying to work through as part of this design project has been what it would look like to do so," O'Neill said.

O'Neill said Corona del Mar saw the completion of a library-fire station hybrid in 2019 and noted replacements, not rehabilitations, were necessary for both the Balboa Library and Fire Station No. 1. He also said the city has added about 680 trees to the Balboa Peninsula over the last two decades.

"When we've done the testing, and we've done it

[through] an arborist that's been trusted in the past and has done a great job for the city, it's not enough to tell us that you can look at a tree and there's not a problem, [that] 'the arborist doesn't know what he's talking about.' We don't have that luxury to do that because, in the past, we have had limbs fall on people. We have had limbs fall on property.

"We have had major problems with trees like this ... we cannot allow for a failure. This is the point of why we do these tests in the first place, to make sure that we're paying attention to the safety concerns as well as what we're working through ... knowing that we have to do this work, it's not feasible for us to be trying to design around a tree that is not going to work."

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The sale will be made in an "as is" condition, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Trustor: Richard N Jaffe and Cheryl M Jaffe, husband and wife Duly Appointed Trustee: National Default Servicing Corporation Recorded 09/02/2004 as Instrument No. 2004000797647 (or Book, Page) of the Official Records of Orange County, California. Date of Sale: 06/11/2024 at 12:00 PM Place of Sale: At the North front entrance to the County Courthouse, 700 Civic Center Drive West, Santa Ana, CA 92701 Estimated amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$205,795.91 Street Address or other common designation of real property: 2414 University Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660 A.P.N.: 439-301-18 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. 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If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 714-730-2727 or visit this internet website www.ndscorp.com/sales, using the file number assigned to this case 23-20520-SP-CA. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the internet website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT*: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are a "representative of all eligible tenant buyers" you may be able to purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call 888-264-4010, or visit this internet website www.ndscorp.com, using the file number assigned to this case 23-20520-SP-CA to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as a "representative of all eligible tenant buyers" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. *Pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code, the potential rights described herein shall apply only to public auctions taking place on or after January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2025, unless later extended. Date: 05/01/2024 National Default Servicing Corporation c/o Tiffany and Bosco, P.A., its agent, 1455 Frazee Road, Suite 820 San Diego, CA 92108 Toll Free Phone: 888-264-4010 Sales Line 714-730-2727; Sales Website: www.ndscorp.com Connie Hernandez, Trustee Sales Representative A-4816330 05/09/2024, 05/16/2024, 05/23/2024

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Legal Notices

APN: 939-57-043 Order: 15950554 TS-2400204 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE UNDER DEED OF TRUST YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 2/22/2023 UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. NOTICE is hereby given that C.N.A. FORECLOSURE SERVICES, INC. A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, as trustee, or successor trustee, or substituted trustee pursuant to the Deed of Trust executed by Huracan Investments, LLC Recorded on 2/28/2023 as Instrument No. 202300046042 of Official records in the office of the County Recorder of Orange County, California, and pursuant to the Notice of Default and Election to Sell thereunder recorded 2/05/2024 as Instrument No. 2024000026014 of said Official Records, WILL SELL on 5/29/2024 At the North front entrance to the County Courthouse at 700 Civic Center Drive West, Santa Ana, CA 92701 at 1:30 p.m. AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH (payable at the time of sale in lawful money of the United States), all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County and State hereinafter described. The property address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is proposed to be: 2900 Bristol St #36, Costa Mesa, CA The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the property address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. The total amount of unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is: \$351,333.20 (estimated). In addition to cash, the Trustee will accept a cashier's check drawn by a state or federal credit union or a check drawn by state or federal savings and loan association, savings association or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state. In the event tender other than cash is accepted the Trustee may withhold the issuance of the Trustee's Deed until funds become available to the payee or endorsee as a matter of right. Said sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied regarding title, possession or encumbrances, to satisfy the indebtedness secured by said Deed, advances thereunder, with interest as provided therein, and the unpaid principal balance of the Note secured by said Deed with interest thereon as provided in said Note, fees, charges and expenses of the trustee and the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 916-939-0772 or visit this internet website www.nationwideposting.com, using the file number assigned to this case 240204 Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the internet website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. FOR SALES INFORMATION CALL : 916-939-0772 C/O C.N.A. Foreclosure Services, Inc., a California Corporation as said Trustee. 2020 Camino Del Rio N. #230 San Diego, CA 92108 (619) 297-6740 DATE: 5/06/2024 C.N.A. Foreclosure Services, Inc., a California Corporation Kimberly Curran, Trustee Sale Officer NPP0460274 To: ORANGE COAST DAILY PILOT 05/09/2024, 05/16/2024, 05/23/2024

Daily Pilot

A Times Community News publication.

CONTACT US

Carol Cormaci Executive Editor carol.cormaci@latimes.com

Gabriel San Román, TimesOC gabriel.sanroman@latimes.com

Beth Raff Advertising Manager (424) 225-9928 beth.raff@latimes.com

Matt Szabo, Huntington Beach and Sports matthew.szabo@latimes.com

10540 Talbert Ave., Suite 300 West, Fountain Valley, CA 92708

Andrew Turner, Laguna Beach and Sports andrew.turner@latimes.com

Reporters: Sara Cardine, Costa Mesa sara.cardine@latimes.com

Sarah Mosqueda, TimesOC sarah.mosqueda@latimes.com

Lilly Nguyen, Newport Beach lilly.nguyen@latimes.com

Send Letters to the Editor to erik.haugli@latimes.com. See Mailbag for guidelines.

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CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS

Grid of crossword puzzle answers including words like SCAM, AGO, FLEE, TOGO, DIAL, READ, ICED, COFFEE, EASY, ROSE, UP, STUDENTS, SET, REF, SLIT, ELSA, TOPIC, HEN, PEEPS, ARENA, RATIO, ARI, IMACS, EVENT, PEDAL, RAT, DELTA, SEEN, ELSE, ETC, GEN, STEROIDS, ESTATE, IRAN, SOLAR, PANEL, PURE, TALE, ITEM, SENT, MED, LESS.

Grid of Sudoku puzzle answers with numbers 1-9 in a 9x9 grid.

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File Photo

THE U.S. AIR Force Thunderbirds fly over the Huntington Beach Pier during the Pacific Airshow in 2021.

JUDGE

Continued from page A1

Public Records Act request, he provided an executive summary with financial details.

The settlement stems from the cancellation of the final day of the Pacific Airshow in 2021, due to the oil spill off the coast of Surf City.

Gates has said he didn't release the full settlement because it could compromise the city's success in litigation against the oil

spill polluters — though any such litigation has yet to be officially filed. Critics have argued that the lack of full transparency raises concerns about the relationship between Gates and the conservative City Council majority with Code Four chief executive Kevin Elliott.

"What I'm concerned with as a resident and a taxpayer is this: It's not the money that they just paid, it's the money that they will encumber into the future," Clayton-Tarvin said following the hearing. "My tax

dollars could go into infinity and beyond into this private corporation. As a taxpayer, I should be able to go to my government and say, 'Hey, maybe you should go out to [a request for proposals] ... Maybe this isn't a good deal for the public.' I'm worried that there is an evergreen clause in that settlement."

Skelton argued in court the city was in a difficult position, where release of the full settlement could undercut its own position in what she called "pending and future litigation."

She also argued that Gates was within his legal rights to use his discretion to decide whether to release the full settlement, though Pleasants disagreed.

"At the time it was drafted and signed, there was never a thought that this would be disclosed publicly," Skelton said in court. "These terms are sensitive ... the settlement terms document provides all important terms to the petitioner. We're not trying

to pull any tricks."

Pleasants said the settlement agreement's release serves the public interest. He pointed to a California Coastal Commission letter sent to city officials in February that alleges the air show privatized public land and waters in Huntington Beach without a needed coastal development permit. In the letter, Coastal Commission staff also ask for the public release of the full settlement with Code Four.

Skelton countered that the letter was irrelevant to the CPRA request and didn't exist when it was made.

Pleasants also disagreed with Skelton's claim that pending litigation would be hurt by the settlement's release.

"There is no other litigation," he said. "It's outrageous to come in here and say that there is ... the city of Huntington Beach is no longer a party."

matthew.szabo@latimes.com
Twitter: @mjszabo

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Legal Notices

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BSC 225111
NOTICE OF PETITION
TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
HAROLD WICKS, aka HAROLD RICHARD WICKS
30-2024-01397037-PR-LA-CMC

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: **HAROLD WICKS, aka HAROLD RICHARD WICKS.**

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by **Mark Wicks** in the Superior Court of California, County of **ORANGE.**

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that **Mark Wicks** be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on **June 26, 2024 at 1:30 p.m. in Dept. CM05** located at: 3390 HARBOR BLVD. COSTA MESA, CA 92626

The court is providing the convenience to appear for hearing by video using the court's designated video platform. This is a no cost service to the public. Go to the Court's website at The Superior Court of California - County of Orange (occourts.org) to appear remotely for Probate hearings and for remote hearing instructions. If you have difficulty connecting or are unable to connect to your remote hearing, call 657-622-8278 for assistance. If you prefer to appear in-person, you can appear in the department on the day/time set for your hearing.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for the Petitioner:
DAVID J. HALLSTROM
ATTORNEY AT LAW
15615 ALTON PARKWAY, STE 450
IRVINE, CA 92618
Published in the **ORANGE COAST DAILY PILOT** on: 5/10, 5/16 & 5/17/2024

BSC 225091
NOTICE OF PETITION
TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
James Howard Thomas a.k.a. Jim Thomas
30-2023-01357126-PR-LA-CMC

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: **James Howard Thomas a.k.a. Jim Thomas.**

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by **Jodi Ann Gist** in the Superior Court of California, County of **ORANGE.**

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that **Jodi Ann Gist** be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on **May 30, 2024 at 1:30 p.m. in Dept. CM07** located at: 3390 HARBOR BLVD. COSTA MESA, CA 92626

The court is providing the convenience to appear for hearing by video using the court's designated video platform. This is a no cost service to the public. Go to the Court's website at The Superior Court of California - County of Orange (occourts.org) to appear remotely for Probate hearings and for remote hearing instructions. If you have difficulty connecting or are unable to connect to your remote hearing, call 657-622-8278 for assistance. If you prefer to appear in-person, you can appear in the department on the day/time set for your hearing.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for the Petitioner:
MICHELLE C. BARTOLIC, ESQ
GOSTANIAN LAW GROUP, PC
1201 DOVE ST., STE 475
NEWPORT BEACH, CA 92660
Published in the **ORANGE COAST DAILY PILOT** on: 5/10, 5/16 & 5/17/2024

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS CALLING FOR BIDS COAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Coast Community College District ("DISTRICT"), acting by and through its Board of Trustees, will receive sealed bids for the award of a contract for the following named Project. Bids will be received up until, but not later than, the bid deadline listed below.

Project Name: **Golden West College Nursing Remodel**
Bid Number: **Bid #2199**
Advertisement: **5/9/24 & 5/16/24**
Pre-Bid RFI Deadline: **5/22/24 12:00pm**
Bid Deadline: **5/28/24 PRIOR to 2:00 PM**

A MANDATORY pre-bid job-walk will be held at 9:00am, May 17, 2024, Nursing, 15744 Goldenwest St., Huntington Beach, CA 92647.

Place of Bid Receipt: All bids shall be submitted electronically via the PlanetBids Vendor portal located on the District Website(<https://vendors.planetbids.com/portal/36722/bo/bo-detail/117672>), including the forms furnished by the District, prior to the bid closing date and time, and results will be available immediately upon the close of bids. Incomplete, inaccurate, or untrue responses or information provided therein by a bidder shall be grounds for the District to reject such submissions for non-responsiveness.

Project Description: Remodel second floor of Nursing per attached plans to include 4 hospital style rooms, reconfigure HVAC, plumbing, electrical, fire life safety devices, and adding A/V equipment. It is anticipated that the Project will commence on June 19, 2024, and be completed by October 23, 2024.

Each bidder shall be a licensed contractor pursuant to Business and Professions Code Section 7028.15 and Public Contract Code Section 3300. The District requires that the bidder possess at the time of bid, and maintain throughout the duration of the Agreement, the following license classification(s):

Bid Package	Trade	License	Engineer's Estimate
1	General Contractor	B	\$850,000

DIR Registration. Each bidder submitting a proposal to complete the work, labor, material, and/or services ("Work") subject to this procurement must be a Department of Industrial Relations ("DIR") registered contractor pursuant to Labor Code Section 1725.5. A bidder who is not a DIR-registered contractor when submitting a proposal for the Work is deemed "not qualified" and the proposal of such a Bidder will be rejected for non-responsiveness. Pursuant to Labor Code Section 1725.5, all subcontractors identified in a Bidder's subcontractors' list shall be DIR-registered contractors as well.

Prevailing Wage Rate ("PWR") Monitoring and Enforcement. The Work is subject to payment of the PWR. The Contractor and all Subcontractors of every tier shall pay laborers performing any portion of the Work not less than the PWR established for the labor provided. Pursuant to Labor Code Section 1771.4(a)(4), PWR monitoring and enforcement shall be by the DIR.

More information regarding this project can be found on the PlanetBids Vendor portal listed above. Further inquiries should be directed to the District's Purchasing Department at purcAhsing@cccd.edu.

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TRIAL

Continued from page A2

Eventually, Ruth Strange let her daughter in just before Hamilton called her back and threatened to call police, so the defendant left, Thomo said.

Also, the day before the victim was killed, Strange allegedly made several voice requests of Google and searched the web for information on topics such as the difference between bruises from a fall and a punch.

Strange sought to find out from the web the average age of a woman's death in the U.S., about smothering, how air in a needle can kill someone and how to break someone's neck, Thomo said.

Strange also sent her mother a letter saying, "I have done you no wrong — never. When I get the money you will have it," according to Thomo.

The prosecutor showed jurors a note the victim wrote Jan. 26, 2017, in which she complained that her mother gave her \$1,000 instead of a requested \$1,200 and called her sister a derogatory insult for women, Thomo said.

After the defendant left the house, the victim and Hamilton spoke for about an hour, and Hamilton advised her mother to call police the next time Strange showed up at her door, Thomo said.

Police made their case against Strange with surveillance video and cellphone tracking, Thomo said.

On the day of the killing, the defendant's cellphone did not show any movement from her Irvine residence, prompting detectives to think she left it there because surveillance video shows her at a Walgreens at 19581 Beach Blvd. at about 5:32 a.m. where she bought blue latex gloves, Thomo said.

"She went right back to the victim's house," when the victim would be typically getting up to grab her morning newspaper, Thomo said.

The defendant is seen on doorbell videos driving in the neighborhood with the headlights off, Thomo said. Then the car isn't seen again until about 8 a.m. leaving the area, Thomo said.

Strange was seen at her bank at 10 a.m. wearing different clothes than what she was seen wearing at the Walgreens, Thomo said.

"After the murder she changed her clothes," Thomo said.

When Strange went to meet with police for questioning she wore a sling, though a doctor had told her it was no longer necessary, Thomo said.

The defendant's attorney, Sara Ross of the Orange County Public Defender's Office, said her client's sister, Hamilton, had "2 million reasons to want her mother dead," referring to the money she expected to inherit.

The two sisters had a brother, Bobby, who lived in Minnesota, and the oldest sister, Ruthie, who lived in Massachusetts, Ross said. Cynthia Strange was a ge-

ologist who was active in her senior community where she was known as being "kind" and "gentle," Ross said.

The defendant had a full shoulder replacement surgery shortly before the killing and suffered from arthritis in her right wrist, Ross said.

Hamilton "hates working to an extreme," so she relied heavily on her mother for income, Ross said.

"She was in significant debt, way over her head," Ross said. She also said Hamilton was "abusive, aggressive, hostile, lazy and money hungry."

Prior to 2016, the two sisters got along fine, but that changed in April of that year when Cynthia Strange moved from Oceanside to Irvine to be closer to her mother, Ross said.

"Hamilton doesn't like this," Ross said.

In December 2016, Hamilton got her mother to buy a condo for her, but despite the monthly income and no house payment her daughter continued racking up debt, Ross said.

"She's in so much debt she starts cashing out stock her mother gave her a year before," Ross said.

The defendant's father was an engineer who had a knack for building a nest egg with wise investment choices, Ross said.

When Ruth Strange got sick Hamilton convinced her mother that Cynthia got her ill, Ross said. That's when she got her mother to change the family trust that was set up in by their parents in 1992, Ross alleged.

The house in Huntington Beach was to be split up by the three daughters and the rest of the estate to be divided up by the four siblings, Ross said. But Hamilton convinced her mother to list Hamilton as the beneficiary of a stocks account worth about \$1.66 million, Ross said. When adding in \$100,000 from an IRA and money from the sale of the house the total inheritance would be \$2 million for Hamilton, Ross said.

Cynthia Strange showed up at her mother's house about midnight Sept. 3 because she had an unpleasant encounter with a "creep," her attorney said.

Ross said Hamilton acted suspiciously the day of the killing, not calling 911 but the non-emergency line instead when she arrived to pick up the victim who did not answer the phone.

When officers told Hamilton her mother was found in the pool, Hamilton asked, "Was she stabbed?" according to Ross.

"They only knew she was stabbed after the autopsy, but she knew right away," Ross said.

Ross also said police "failed" to adequately investigate Hamilton, who had a box of latex gloves in her car that were never tested.

The defense attorney acknowledged the "weird stuff," including true crime stories, that her client searched for online, but Ross said police never bothered to check Hamilton's search history despite a "dummy" email address she gave investigators.

Paul Anderson is a reporter for City News Service.

AUDITOR

Continued from page A1

lawsuit. “Like hundreds of businesses along the Huntington Beach coastline, there is no doubt that the Pacific Airshow lost revenue during the beach closures that followed the 2021 oil spill,” Min said in a statement following the vote. “But it is unclear that they were owed any damages from the city for its decision, made in conjunction with the state and the County of Orange, to shut down its beach. It is also unclear whether their lost revenues were anywhere close to the amount provided by the city’s settlement.

“At a time when public trust in the integrity of our governments is at an all time low, it is more critical than ever that we provide transparency and assure the public that their tax dollars were not used in inappropriate or illegal ways,” Min continued. “I’m grateful to my Democratic and Republican colleagues for voting to authorize this audit, which will hopefully get to the bottom of this.”

The committee vote happened a day after arguments were heard in Orange County Superior Court in Gina Clayton-Tarvin’s lawsuit against the city, and City Atty. Michael Gates, relating to the denial of her California Public Records Act request to release the full air show settlement to the public. A decision is expected soon from Judge Jonathan Fish.

Gates, as well as interim City Manager Eric Parra, represented Huntington Beach at Tuesday’s hearing in Sacramento.

Parra said during his hearing comments that the air show was “vitaly important” to the city but that Pacific Airshow operators had made it clear there would

be no show in 2023 unless a settlement was reached, which the City Council voted to pursue.

“The city’s contention is that it was an appropriate settlement,” Parra said.

Gates said that negotiations spanned five months before the city settled in May 2023. He added that the California Supreme Court has repeatedly upheld that charter cities like Huntington Beach have the autonomy to spend their resources as they deem fit, when it comes to their own municipal affairs.

“We believe that as a matter of law, the requested audit is not justified or proper,” Gates said. “As a matter of fact, the record shows that the 2023 settlement with Pacific Airshow was justified, at least in public comments by the City Council, as a prudent decision to ensure future air shows and the related vast economic benefits to the city. And, as importantly, to avoid any risk associated with proceeding to trial.”

Min said during the hearing the audit request was simply about looking for information and transparency.

“I’m not making any determination as to whether this was a public gift,” he said. “We would just like information to start making that determination ourselves.”

State auditor Grant Parks said during the hearing that Clayton-Tarvin’s lawsuit shouldn’t impact the state’s ability to obtain the records it needs, but it could impact the level of specificity that a public audit report could get into.

He estimated the audit would take about 2,300 hours to complete.

There is no established timeline for the audit.

matthew.szabo@latimes.com
Twitter: @mjszabo



Rich Pedroncelli | AP

AN URGENCY ORDINANCE broadening protections for renters who receive no-fault eviction notices is slowly helping calm a recent spike in displacements.

HELPING

Continued from page A1

enough to trigger displacement of 30 days or more.

The city, in turn, approved \$300,000 in Federal Rescue Plan Act funding for local nonprofits to provide case management and financial assistance, allocating \$250,000 for legal help and advocacy. Another \$600,000 was budgeted for two outreach workers, a senior planner and code enforcement officer to implement the program.

The hope was to prevent families from being forced into homelessness. One month prior, four Newport-Mesa Unified School District families who had been displaced were living on the streets, while 67 no-fault evictions were reported between July 1 and Oct. 25. Officials anticipated Costa Mesa could see another 160 to 170 evictions in the next year.

That grim forecast appears to have been avoided, however, according to a six-month progress report delivered to the Costa Mesa City Council during a May 7 meeting.

Management analyst Sergio Escobar told the council that since November, a total of 35 eviction notices were filed with the city — a decline of nearly 50%. Of those, 25 were of the no-fault variety, while the remaining 10 pertained to occupants for failing to pay rent, causing a nuisance or breach of contract.

Among the no-fault evictions reported by landlords, 17 were initially deemed to be out of compliance with state and city laws. Four of those were withdrawn altogether, resulting in no displacements, while the others were amended and re-submitted, buying tenants

time to find new accommodations.

Despite some successes, challenges remain. Although 21 no-fault evictions were given notice to proceed by the city, only one household so far has been granted a \$500 voucher for moving-related expenses.

Displaced households that earn 50% or less of the area median income (set at \$78,900 for a family of four) may also be eligible to receive supplemental assistance for things like storage fees, security and utility deposits as well as application and holding fees.

Escobar said city staff could only speculate as to why more people were not taking advantage of the offer of assistance.

“In some cases, the most important reason is that individuals must be able to identify and secure a new housing unit before the financial assistance is available to them,” he said. “If they are not able to locate a unit by the date they are to vacate, we do have emergency alternatives available.”

Council members praised the initial progress of the ordinance, asking for more data specific to the city’s six council districts and possible barriers to access as well as continued updates on trends and impacts of the program.

Councilman Manuel Chavez, the only renter on the dais, said he was glad the city responded to an urgent need in the community.

“I’m pleased we have seen a reduction in no-fault evictions,” he said. “Obviously, it’s not perfect, but it’s a right step in the right direction.”

sara.cardine@latimes.com
Twitter: @SaraCardine

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EMPLOYMENT 1500

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Al Engineer. Work with the AI engineering team to craft best-in-class AI technology for AAA game titles. Req. Masters in Comp. Science, Entertainment Arts & Engineer., or rel. field. Jobsite: Woodland Hills, CA. Wage range: \$121,222/yr to \$201,880/yr. Send resume ref#22311 to K. Finnsson, Activation Publishing Inc, 2701 Olympic Blvd, Bldg. B, Santa Monica, CA 90404.

Senior Engineer. Design, implement, debug & optimize systems in C/C++ & other languages. Req. Bach. in Comp. Science, Software Engineer, or rel. field or foreign equiv. & 2 yrs exp in job or 2 yrs exp as Engr., Software Engr., or rel occup. Any suitable combo of educ, training &/or exp is acceptable. Jobsite: Los Angeles, CA. Wage range: \$149,800/yr to \$201,880/yr. Send resume ref#22201 to K. Finnsson, Activation Publishing Inc, 2701 Olympic Blvd, Bldg. B, Santa Monica, CA 90404.

Game Producer. Drive the completion of project goals & facilitate communication, organization, & accountability across a multi-discipline team. Req. Bach. in Interactive Media, Film Studies, or rel. field or foreign equiv. & 2 yrs exp in job or 2 yrs exp as Producer, Creative Producer, Promo Producer, or rel occup. Any suitable combo of educ, training &/or exp is acceptable. Jobsite: Irvine, CA. Wage range: \$101,753/yr to \$124,000/yr. Send resume ref#22195 to K. Finnsson, Blizzard Entertainment, Inc, PO Box 18979, Irvine, CA 92623.

Software Engineer. Implement & design software systems through collaboration with engineers, designers, & artists. Req. Bach. in Comp. Science, Software Engineer, or rel. field or foreign equiv. & 2 yrs exp in job or 2 yrs exp as Engineer, IOS Lead, or rel. occup. Any suitable combo of educ, training, &/or exp is acceptable. Jobsite: Irvine, CA. Wage range: \$129,376/yr to \$155,000/yr. Send resume ref#22239 to K. Finnsson, Blizzard Entertainment, Inc, PO Box 18979, Irvine, CA 92623.

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Product Manager, Mobile. Define the strategy for our live operated monetization & engagement systems. Req. Masters in Info. Systems, Bus. Admin., or rel. field. Jobsite: Santa Monica, CA. Wage range: \$150,000/yr to \$194,500/yr. Send resume ref#22365 to K. Finnsson, Activation Publishing Inc, 2701 Olympic Blvd, Bldg. B, Santa Monica, CA 90405.

Project Engineer. Apply standard engineering skills, (gravity, seismic & wind design) knowledge (wood, steel, concrete, & masonry), & techniques to complete Engineering tasks. Req. Bach. in Civil Engineering or rel. field or foreign equiv. Jobsite: Costa Mesa, CA. Send resume: T. Burke, Burke Structural Engineers PC., 151 Kalmus Dr., Bldg. E-140, Costa Mesa, CA 92626.

18 Folds Inc seeks Public Relations Specialist w/ Bachelor’s deg in public relations, communications, or rtd field (foreign credential equiv accepted), & 6 mos exp researching, creating, & promoting prod using social media such as Facebook & Instagram. Send resume to 430 South Anaheim Blvd., Anaheim, CA 92805.

Software Engineer. Implement & design software systems through collaboration with engineers, designers, & artists. Req. Bach. in Comp. Science, Software Engineer, or rel. field or foreign equiv. & 2 yrs exp in job or 2 yrs exp as Engineer, IOS Lead, or rel. occup. Any suitable combo of educ, training, &/or exp is acceptable. Jobsite: Irvine, CA. Wage range: \$129,376/yr to \$155,000/yr. Send resume ref#22239 to K. Finnsson, Blizzard Entertainment, Inc, PO Box 18979, Irvine, CA 92623.

Employment

Software Engineer. Write technical design documents for new game features. Req. Bach. in Comp. Science, Games & Playable Media, or rel. field or foreign equiv. & 2 yrs exp in job or 2 yrs exp as Engineer, Programmer, Assoc. Programmer, or rel. occup. Any suitable combo of educ, training &/or exp is acceptable. Jobsite: Irvine, CA. Wage range: \$120,827.20/yr to \$155,000.00/yr. Send resume ref# 22144 to K. Finnsson, Blizzard Entertainment, Inc, PO Box 18979, Irvine, CA 92623.

Software Engineer. Collaborate with designers, artists, & engineers to ensure a robust & reliable game experience on a wide range of mobile devices. Req. Bach. in Comp. Science, Software Engineer, or rel. field or foreign equiv. Jobsite: Irvine, CA. Wage range: \$113,838.40/yr to \$155,000/yr. Send resume ref#22346 to K. Finnsson, Blizzard Entertainment, Inc, PO Box 18979, Irvine, CA 92623.

Software Engineer. Improve the way that online game functions through design, implementation & support of various software advances & tools. Req. Bach. in Comp. Science, Software Engineer, or rel. field. & 2 yrs exp in job or 2 yrs exp as Engr., Software Dev., or rel occup. Any suitable combo of educ, training, &/or exp is acceptable. Jobsite: Irvine, CA. Wage range: \$118,996.80/yr to \$155,000/yr. Send resume ref#22335 to K. Finnsson, Blizzard Entertainment, Inc, PO Box 18979, Irvine, CA 92623.

SELL your stuff through classified!

Title Order No. : 2387832CAD Trustee Sale No. : 86871 Loan No. : 399424341 APN : 163-183-12 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE’S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 8/18/2022 . UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On 6/6/2024 at 10:00 AM, CALIFORNIA TD SPECIALISTS, AS TRUSTEE as the duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust Recorded on 8/31/2022 as Instrument No. 2022000295240 in book *////*, page *////* of official records in the Office of the Recorder of Orange County, California, executed by: VIRGINIA FERNANDEZ, A MARRIED WOMAN AS HER SOLE AND SEPARATE PROPERTY , as Trustor COMPASS ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENTS, LLC, RETIREMENT PLAN AS TO AN UNDIVIDED 335,000.00/900,000.00 INTEREST; COMPASS ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENTS, LLC, A CALIFORNIA LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY AS TO AN UNDIVIDED 115,000.00/900,000.00 INTEREST; WPP3, LLC AS TO AN UNDIVIDED 103,000.00/900,000.00 INTEREST; AND EIG 401 (K) PROFIT SHARING PLAN AS TO AN UNDIVIDED 347,000.00/90,000.00 INTEREST; ALL AS TENANTS IN COMMON , as Beneficiary WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH (payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States, by cash, a cashier’s check drawn by a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state). At: At the front entrance to 8180 East Kaiser Blvd, (Please check in with Receptionist) Anaheim Hills, CA 92808, NOTICE OF TRUSTEE’S SALE – continued all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County, California describing the land therein: Lot 18, of Tract 7631, in the City of Huntington Beach, County of Orange, State of California, as per Map recorded in Book 306 Page(S) 47 to 50, inclusive of Miscellaneous Maps, in the office of the County Recorder of said County. Except therefrom all Oil, Gas, Minerals and other Hydrocarbon Substances lying below a Depth of 500 feet from the surface of said property, but with no right of surface entry, as provided in deed recorded in Book 9355 Page 737, Official Records. Also Except the Subsurface Water Rights, but without the right of entry to the surface or the subsurface above a depth of 500 feet as dedicated on the Map of said Tract. The property heretofore described is being sold “as is”. The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 5621 RIDGEBURY DRIVE HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA 92649. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, if any, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, estimated fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to-wit: \$1,078,666.06 (Estimated). Accrued interest and additional advances, if any, will increase this figure prior to sale. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election of Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located and more than three months have elapsed since such recordation. DATE: 5/9/2024 CALIFORNIA TD SPECIALISTS, AS TRUSTEE, as Trustee 8190 EAST KAISER BLVD., ANAHEIM HILLS, CA 92808 PHONE: 714-283-2180 FOR TRUSTEE SALE INFORMATION LOG ON TO: www.stoxposting.com CALL: 844-477-7869 PATRICIO S. INCE, VICE PRESIDENT CALIFORNIA TD SPECIALIST IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. “NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid on a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder’s office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 844-477-7869, or visit this internet Web site www.stoxposting.com, using the file number assigned to this case T.S.# 86871. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale.” For sales conducted after January 1, 2021: NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an “eligible tenant buyer,” you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an “eligible bidder,” you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (844) 477-7869, or visit this internet website www.STOXPOSTING.com, using the file number assigned to this case 86871 to find the date on which the trustee’s sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee’s sale. Third, you must submit a bid; by remitting the funds and affidavit described in Section 2924m(c) of the Civil Code; so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee’s sale. If you think you may qualify as an “eligible tenant buyer” or “eligible bidder,” you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase.

NEED EXTRA CASH? Call Classified and have a garage sale!

Legal Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE
(UCC Sec. 6105)
Escrow No. 15655-PM
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a bulk sale is about to be made. The name(s), business address(es) of the seller(s), are:
LWM Enterprises, Inc., a California corporation
3800 East Coast Highway, Ste. B, Corona Del Mar, CA 92625
Doing Business as: Tiffany Scott Salon (Type - Hair Salon)
All other business name(s) and address(es) used by the seller(s) within the past three years, as stated by the seller(s), is/are: None
The location in California of the Chief Executive Office of the Seller(s) is: Same as above
The name(s) and address of the buyer(s) is/are:
Grazia Brunocelli and/or her assignee, 3800 E. Coast Highway, Ste. B, Corona del Mar, CA 92625
The assets being sold are described in general as: The on-going business concern and all business assets, including, but not limited to: all furniture, fixtures, equipment, machinery, leasehold interest and leasehold improvements, stock in trade, inventory, goodwill and business name and are located at: 3800 East Coast Highway, Ste. B, Corona Del Mar, CA 92625
The bulk sale is intended to be consummated at the office of: The Escrow Spectrum, Inc., 15615 Alton Parkway, Suite 450, Irvine, CA 92618, and the anticipated sale date is 06/04/24
The bulk sale is subject to California Uniform Commercial Code Section 6106.2 YES
The name and address of the person with whom claims may be filed is:
The Escrow Spectrum, Inc., 15615 Alton Parkway, Suite 450, Irvine, CA 92618, and the last date for filing claims shall be 06/03/24 which is the business day before the sale date specified above.
Dated: 5/6/24
Buyer:
S/ Grazia Brunocelli
5/16/24
CNS-3812147# DAILY PILOT

T.S. No.: 2023-07891-GSE APN: 426-066-01Property Address: 190 Cecil Pl, Costa Mesa, California 92627-1747NOTICE OF TRUSTEE’S SALEYOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 5/15/2020. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER.A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier’s check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Trustor: Joanna Zhou, an unmarried woman as to an undivided 50% interest and Danny B. Richards, an unmarried man, as to an undivided 50% interest as Tenants in Common duly Appointed Trustee: Nestor Solutions, LLC Deed of Trust Recorded 5/21/2020 as Instrument No. 2020000229845 in Book -- Page -- of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Orange County, California Date of Sale: 5/31/2024 at 9:00 AM Place of Sale: Auction.com room, Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Anaheim – Orange County, 100 The City Drive, Orange, California 92868Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$646,841.41 Street Address or other common designation of real property: 190 Cecil PlCosta Mesa, California 92627-1747 A.P.N.: 426-066-01The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder’s office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (800) 793-6107 or (888) 902-3989 or visit these internet websites www.auction.com or www.nestortrustee.com, using the file number assigned to this case 2023-07891-GSE. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANTS: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an “eligible tenant buyer,” you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an “eligible bidder,” you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (800) 793-6107 or (888) 902-3989 or visit these internet websites www.auction.com or www.nestortrustee.com, using the file number assigned to this case 2023-07891-GSE to find the date on which the trustee’s sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee’s sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee’s sale. If you think you may qualify as an “eligible tenant buyer” or “eligible bidder,” you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. Date: 4/24/2024 Nestor Solutions, LLC214 5th Street, Suite 205Huntington Beach, California 92648Sale Line: (888) 902-3989 Giovanna Nichelson, Trustee Sale Officer EPP 40034 Pub Dates 05/02, 05/09, 05/16/2024

BOYS' VOLLEYBALL

Cryst's 54 kills lift Sage Hill to CIF crown

BY SCOTT FRENCH

NORWALK — Jackson Cryst's arrival instantly transformed Sage Hill's boys' volleyball program into a powerhouse, and the first tangible reward arrived Saturday on the biggest of stages.

A dominant Cryst posted 54 kills, an astonishing total, to power the Lightning to a 19-25, 25-22, 22-25, 25-18, 15-13 triumph over San Marino in the CIF Southern Section Division 5 title game. He was phenomenal if hardly perfect, but the victory required the efforts of all involved, not just the 6-foot-10 centerpiece.

Sage Hill (22-9) had to rally twice from one-set deficits, then staved off the fourth-seeded Titans' late fifth-set push to claim a dramatic win at Cerritos College in both programs' first CIF final. It was the unranked Lightning's fourth win in five playoff games over a top-10 foe, the second in five sets, and the most difficult of the bunch.

"We know how to pull it out when it's tight," said Sage Hill coach Shelby Young. "We also, I think, like the drama of making it a little tight. ... Sage Hill volleyball is what we always finish with, and I think sometimes we can get caught up in the gravity of the game, the opponent or what have you, but that fact that we finish — it's more how you finish than how you start, and we know that."

The Lightning finished gloriously, using a 9-2 tear to turn a 7-7 fourth set into a romp, then leapt to a quick six-point edge before holding on gamely after San Marino (24-7-1) pulled within a point four times in the final set. Adept defense



James Carbone

SAGE HILL'S Jackson Cryst (12) spikes the ball against San Marino's Luca Moggio (32).

all over the court was pivotal, but Cryst's ability to finish plays made the difference.

The junior Long Beach Millikan transfer, who's being pursued by NCAA champion UCLA and runner-up Long Beach State, totaled double-digit kills in every set but the third, when he had nine. Ten of Sage Hill's fifth-set points, the winner included, came from his swings, a handful of them explosive spikes that left an organized and gifted Titans defense no hope.

Cryst's teammates collectively added 15 kills, nine from sophomore opposite Connor Gapp.

"The more he gets an opportunity, the more he shines," Young said of Gapp.

Senior middle blocker Aidan Powell had three kills and a block. Senior setter Brayden Brien, junior mid-

dle blocker Omar Al-Khatib, and libero Dylan Han and outside hitter Ryan Manesh, both sophomores, also made big contributions.

Cryst has 200 kills in five playoff games, along with 21 blocks — he had three Saturday — and nine aces.

"Six-[foot]-10 will do that for you," said Young, whose team is 16-3 since Cryst became eligible in mid-March. "And the experience that he has and the up-bringing [by former pro Geoff Cryst, a Long Beach State standout in the 1990s]. He comes from a long line of high-level volleyball. He's got it."

Cryst wasn't perfect. The ball was a lighter ball than what he's used to — he had three service errors, sent four swings into the net and had several that sailed long, and "could have been more efficient," he acknowledged — and Young said it was "a

pretty good example of, like, he's still human."

He nearly wasn't enough. San Marino, which hadn't dropped a playoff set, used 4-0, 9-2 and 7-2 runs to sprint to the first-set win, finished the third set on a 9-4 tear for a 2-1 advantage, then turned a 10-4 deficit into a one-point clash in the final set behind a versatile crew led by left-handed opposite Casey Chan (15 kills, two blocks), middle blocker Luca Moggio (12 kills and two blocks) and expert setter Jared Wang.

The Titans, who had fewer (51) kills than Cryst, made late charges in all three sets that Sage Hill won, turning six-point deficits into close encounters in the second and fourth sets before that fifth-set rally fell short.

"It was good that we went through that adversity [in the earlier playoff rounds]," said Cryst. "I feel like [our



THE SAGE HILL boys' volleyball team celebrates after winning the CIF Southern Section Division 5 final against San Marino at Cerritos College on Saturday.

bracket] was a lot more difficult than [San Marino's]. We had a game go to five sets [the second-round win at Camarillo], we had a game go to four sets [two: at Fullerton in the opener and against No. 2 Moreno Valley Rancho Verde in the quarterfinals].

"We were battle-tested, they hadn't dropped a set, so I feel like they weren't ready, and that's how we got that jump out of the gate, and that's why we could continue to push even when it got to scary side-out, side-out volleyball. We really thought it's our volleyball [toward the end], that we just have to play our volleyball. We're better, and everybody has that supreme level of confidence, no matter where the ball goes. We have confidence in our ability to play volleyball as a unit. It doesn't have to be one guy."

Young's message to her team after the third-set loss: "We're either ending their season or they're ending ours. How bad do you want it? What are you willing to do to get that win?"

"We can take care of business. We totally can,"

she said. "And I think the more we are able to get ahead, stay ahead and finish, the more we'll see that that's our level. We don't have to fight, let's just take it."

Sage Hill came into the playoffs without much fanfare — it hadn't won a playoff game since a 2018 wildcard triumph, hadn't won within the bracket since 2010 — but arrived with great confidence, and Cryst called the title "great for the school, kind of building a culture in volleyball."

It didn't surprise anyone within the program.

"We worked toward this all season, so it's nice to have everything come to fruition ...," Gapp said. "We always believed that we would win."

Sage Hill lost at Valencia West Ranch 25-14, 19-25, 25-17, 25-18 in a CIF State Southern California Regional Division III opener on Tuesday, ending its season. Second-seeded West Ranch was the Division 4 champion in the Southern Section.

Scott French is a contributor to Daily Pilot Sports.

BOYS' BASEBALL

Pacifica Christian sprints into first CIF final

BY SCOTT FRENCH

Pacifica Christian Orange County had seen its three-run lead disappear and stood one out from extra innings in Tuesday's CIF Southern Section baseball semifinal, with anything possible, good or ill, from that point.

Up walked Blake Hayes to the plate, so forget about all that.

The freshman catalyst was unstoppable in the Division 8 showdown at Orange Coast College's John Altobelli Park — he's been nearly so all season — and the Tritons, in just their third campaign, trotted into Saturday's title game as his fourth extra-base hit of the afternoon was followed by Scout Escobedo's single to the left-center field gap and then a thunderous celebration.

The 4-3 triumph over visiting San Bernardino, built primarily upon Hayes' expertise at bat and with the glove and sophomore right-hander Jon Stone's eloquence at the edge of the strike zone, takes Pacifica Christian Orange County (22-6) deeper into uncharted territory, gloriously so.

"It feels fantastic," said head coach Chris Gomez, who has led the top-ranked Tritons from a tough first season to a CIF berth in year two and now within one victory of a most unexpected prize. "I went to a dark spot when they scored that three-spot [to tie it up], but I'm so happy for these kids. They support each other, they've been getting after it all year long, they work hard, they're great kids. So they deserve it."

They'll play Saturday at 10 a.m. at Diamond Stadium, the home of the San Diego Padres' Single-A affiliate Lake Elsinore Storm. Their opponent is second-seeded Azusa (17-5), a 9-5 winner at Edgewood in the other Division 8 semifinal.

"This means everything to me and this program," said Escobedo, who had hit the ball hard but at fielders in his first three at-bats. "It's the third year, so no one really expects us to be in the championship this early in the program, but we're glad to be here."

They've advanced this far



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

PACIFICA CHRISTIAN teammates pour out of the dugout to mob Scout Escobedo (5), second from left, after he had the walk-off hit to win Tuesday's Division 8 semifinal game against San Bernardino at Orange Coast College.

mostly behind underclassmen. Escobedo, too, is a freshman, among five in the Tritons' lineup Tuesday, alongside three sophomores and junior Keegan DeMots behind the plate. Of 20 players on the roster, only four are upperclassmen. Thirteen are freshmen.

"They're a young team, for the most part," Gomez said. "Really young, so what they're doing all year is pretty impressive for such a young ball club."

Pacifica Christian, which had out-tallied its first three postseason foes by a combined 38-6, was in command most of the way in this one. The hosts took a 3-0 lead in the third inning through No. 9 hitter DeMots' leadoff single, triples by Hayes and sophomore shortstop John Coopman's and sophomore left fielder Reed Fry's sacrifice fly.

That ought to have been enough, given Stone's precision on the mound. He'd allowed just one hit through 5 1/3 innings, with 46 of 58 pitches for strikes.

Then things went awry in the sixth. Miller dropped a throw from Hayes on what should have

been the second out, and Aiden Zuno followed with a single to right. Both runners moved up on a sacrifice bunt. Then Stone plunked Alexander De La Paz, and San Bernardino (15-5) had bases loaded.

Antonio Quintero ripped a triple to the wall in left-center and it was 3-3.

"At that point, I feel it's back to 0-0," said Stone (6-2), who ended up with a four-hitter, eight strikeouts and 66 strikes on 86 pitches and has a 0.88 ERA with 59 strikeouts and just five walks in 39 2/3 innings for the year. "This is where I start over and show them my stuff again."

He'd noticed that "the low outside corner was being called [for strikes]," hit his spots, and it led to the strikeouts and 10 grounders, two off them very high choppers that Hayes handled expertly, beating both runners by a step.

"He's a bulldog out there," said Gomez, who has Coopman (7-1, 0.56 ERA) ready for the final. "He pounds the zone all day long and hits spots, and it's a good recipe to be a solid pitcher."

Right-hander Zuno, who relieved struggling starter Shaun Bonds after successive walks to start the bottom of the second, retired the Tritons in the sixth, striking out the last two. The fourth-seeded Cardinals made nothing from a one-out single in the seventh, and it looked like Pacifica Christian wouldn't, either.

Then Hayes, who is hitting .447, stepped in.

Along with that triple, he'd doubled twice, in the first and the fifth, stealing third base after both — his 30th and 31st stolen bases of the season — but advancing no further. He worked Zuno to a full count, berating himself after taking a strike down the middle, then popped the ball up not far beyond second base. Rikou Sasser raced in but couldn't reach it, and Hayes took second when it bounced over the center fielder's head.

"Blake has been doing [what he did today] all year," Gomez said. "He's the spark plug at the top of the lineup, [and] we knew if we could get him on base, we had a good chance."

With Escobedo stepping into the box, Hayes figured it was a done deal.

"I knew the game was over," he said. "He hit the ball hard all day, and eventually the [ball] is going to drop."

Escobedo blistered the first pitch, a fastball down the middle, into the gap in left-center, and that was that.

"Phenomenal job on [Pacifica Christian's] side," said San Bernardino head coach Josh Doty, whose team was seeking its first Southern Section baseball final since winning the title 99 years ago. "There's a lot of sadness out here, and I think it's just because the trip's over for us, and we've had great time, a great experience, it's been a heck of a ride."

"To lose to a team that like that, very respectful and just a solid team, our hat's off to them. And now, of course, we hope they go take it."

Scott French is a contributor to Daily Pilot Sports.

FACILITY

Continued from page A3

and I'm really grateful now he's going to be in my backyard for a follow-up," Burns said. "This is not just a medical facility, it's a lifeline for our community, offering healing and support to those who need it most."

Guests heard music from the swing band of Johnny Kleker, 86, a longtime Huntington Beach resident and patient of Tchekmedyan. Additionally, local artist Melissa Murphy, better known as Melissa Murals, was on site painting surfboards.

One of Murphy's surfboard paintings will be hung in the facility in honor of former City of Hope employee Todd Lindquist, who worked closely with the nonprofit's facilities, design and construction teams at many City of Hope locations throughout Southern California.

Lindquist was diagnosed with esophageal cancer in November 2022 and died this past January, Walker said.

"He was an inspiration to everybody who worked on this project," Walker said. "While he did lose his battle, we know that Todd's contributions will continue to mean something for countless patients and their families who come through these doors."

Before she was done talking, Willahan told the ceremony attendees that her cancer "did not define" her. After years of fighting, she was told at City of Hope that she was a candidate for CAR T-cell therapy, which proved successful on the second attempt.

"My body had cancer. My brain, my heart and my soul didn't have cancer," Willahan said. "I did my best to live every day as well as I could, and that's exactly what I'm doing today, because of City of Hope."

matt.szabo@latimes.com
Twitter: @mjszabo