

Daily Pilot

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2022 // dailypilot.com



Allen J. Schaben | Los Angeles Times

MORE THAN 20 burglaries have been committed this year in Huntington Beach. Authorities say the burglars took cash and jewelry and that the crimes follow the same pattern. Officials have not confirmed the identity of the gang, but say they were part of a "known theft" group.

Arrests made in connection to at least 20 H.B. burglaries

Officials say a known South American gang is behind the burglaries that occurred around Huntington Harbour.

BY SUMMER LIN

At least 20 burglaries have been committed in an upscale Huntington Beach neighborhood this year by a known South American gang, according to officials.

Arrests have been made in connection with the burglaries in the Huntington Harbour area and charges have been filed, said Jennifer Cary, a city spokesperson. She could not say how many arrests were made, but said that there are currently no suspects in custody.

In each instance, the group was typically comprised of a "carload of two to five people," Cary said. Several of them would participate in the burglaries, while at



Alejandro Espana

FORMER UFC FIGHTER and Huntington Beach mayor pro tempore Tito Ortiz's home in Davenport Island was burglarized in June while he was away. Ortiz said a safe was found missing.

See **Arrests**, page A2

Suspect in F.V. stabbing cleared for trial

Judge finds Samuel Woodward can face murder, hate crime charges in 2018 killing of Blaze Bernstein.

BY ERIC LICAS

A judge on Friday found a Newport Beach man accused of killing a former classmate who gave him an unwanted kiss and then burying him in Foothill Ranch in 2018 competent to stand trial.

Samuel Lincoln Woodward, 25, faces one count of murder with sentencing enhancements alleging the use of a deadly weapon and a hate crime. Prosecutors say he stabbed Blaze Bernstein to death and hid his body in a shallow grave in Borrego Park.

A trial date had been set, but the matter was put on hold on July 15, after the attorney who was representing Woodward raised questions about his capacity to face the accusations against him. Judge Julian Bailey heard from psychologists appointed by both the public defender's and the district attorney's offices on Friday and found that he was fit to be tried.

Prosecutors claim Woodward killed Bernstein in January 2018 at least in part because the victim

See **Suspect**, page A5

ALSO FROM THE DAILY PILOT:



James Carbone

OXFORD ACADEMY RALLIES PAST C.M. IN FIRST ROUND OF CIF DIVISION 6 GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL PLAYOFFS PAGE A6

Community Café launches next week at H.B. library

The monthly discussion group will meet in an informal setting and invite participants to share their stories and ideas.

BY MATT SZABO

Strengthening community, one conversation at a time.

That's the tagline for the Huntington Beach Community Café, which will start brewing up conversations in Surf City starting next week.

The seven-part monthly conversation series will be hosted by the city of Huntington Beach and the Huntington Beach Central Library. Meetings will take place in Rooms C and D of the Central Library on the last Wednesday of each month, skipping October, through May of 2023. They begin Oct. 26 from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Food will be provided at each café, though Councilwoman Natalie Moser hopes they also provide food for thought.

"It's really just trying to remind people, hey, we're all neighbors," she said. "We all have stories and experiences. We are better together and more resilient as a community when we see each other that way, not as enemies but really as more full people. We do deal with emergencies and elections and all of those things, but can

See **Café**, page A5



A BALLOT drop box in front of the Laguna Beach Public Library. Ballot boxes opened earlier this month, but in-person voting will begin Oct. 29.

Don Leach | Staff Photographer

Where to find voting locations for Election Day

BY LILLY NGUYEN

While ballot boxes opened on Oct. 10, Orange County residents will get their chance to cast their ballots at local vote centers in a number of hotly contested races as early as Oct. 29.

Mail-in ballots were sent out earlier this month.

The Orange County Registrar of Voters' Office reports there are about 1.8 million active registered voters in the

county. Roughly 91,383 mail-in ballots had been returned as of Friday morning. The last day to register to vote in this election is Monday, Oct. 24.

The Daily Pilot is covering local, state and school board races in the cities of Costa Mesa, Fountain Valley, Huntington Beach, Laguna Beach and Newport Beach. Recent redistricting has placed some cities in different congressional, state, assembly and county districts. Readers can

check which districts they're now in at wedrawthelinesca.org/final_maps.

County districts can be checked at cob.org.gov.com/2021-redistricting.

Here's a list of all the vote centers in the Daily Pilot's coverage area. Note that those marked with an asterisk will not open until Nov. 5:

COSTA MESA

- Costa Mesa Senior Center
695 W. 19th St.

- Balearic Community Center*
1975 Balearic Drive
- Coast Community College District*
1370 Adams Ave.
- Costa Mesa City Hall*
77 Fair Drive
- Norma Hertzog Community Center*
1845 Park Ave.
- Sofia University*
3333 Harbor Blvd.

See **Voting**, page A4

Todd Voulemenous joins HBHS administration team

BY ANDREW TURNER

Huntington Beach High School added to its administration team this week, as the school welcomed aboard Todd Voulemenous as a new assistant principal.

Voulemenous' hiring was announced by Huntington Beach Union High School District officials on Tuesday. He arrives on campus with 22 years of experience in education that have seen him work at the elementary, middle and high school levels.

"I cannot express how excited I am to be working at Huntington Beach High School," Voulemenous said in a statement. "The staff and the administrative team are incredible and have made me feel like family right from the beginning. I am looking forward to getting to know the whole school community and having a great year and career as an Oiler."

In his new position, Voulemenous will concentrate on academic support and wellness issues for students and staff.

Voulemenous, who holds master's degrees in education technology and educational leadership, as



Courtesy of Huntington Beach Union High School District

TODD VOULEMENOUS joined the administration at Huntington Beach High School as an assistant principal.

well as a bachelor's degree in business administration, was an air traffic controller while serving in the U.S. Navy.

Huntington Beach adds an administrator who has received recognition as a national trainer for incoming teachers in the subjects of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEAM) in the western United States.

Voulemenous was the director of technology at Servite High School. At Yorba Middle School in Orange, he helped build a pair of STEAM labs. During his time at McPherson Magnet School in Orange, he was named Site Leader

of the Year by the Orange County branch of Computer Using Educators (CUE).

"What a find in Todd," Huntington Beach principal Daniel Morris said in a news release announcing Voulemenous' hiring. "He is an experienced educational leader with a strong background in education and the private sector. He is a proven, kid-centered administrator and will fit in nicely with our student achievement and wellness campus goals. We look forward to him wearing the Orange and Black."

andrewturner@latimes.com
Twitter: @AndrewTurnerTCN

ARRESTS

Continued from page A1

least one remained in the car to serve as a getaway driver.

The burglars took cash and jewelry but there was no information on the value of the stolen items, Cary said. KTLA-TV reported that the stolen goods were worth "millions of dollars."

Police would only say that the burglaries were the work of a "known theft" group and that the crimes followed the same

pattern. The suspects rent vehicles that blend into the affluent neighborhood, with the burglaries usually occurring Wednesday through Sunday, between 7 and 11 p.m., while residents are away.

The suspects typically break into homes through rear entry points or through second-floor windows or doors, Cary said. Police believe they are a small group of burglars and not part of a larger organized criminal ring.

Authorities have increased patrols in the community.

"We've increased our presence, both marked and unmarked," Cary said. Police are also working to educate and inform the public about what steps they can take to safeguard their homes.

Residents are advised to keep their doors and windows locked, and leave their exterior lights on at night, Cary said. Authorities also suggest that they not announce on social media when they might be away from home.

Summer Lin is a reporter for the Los Angeles Times.

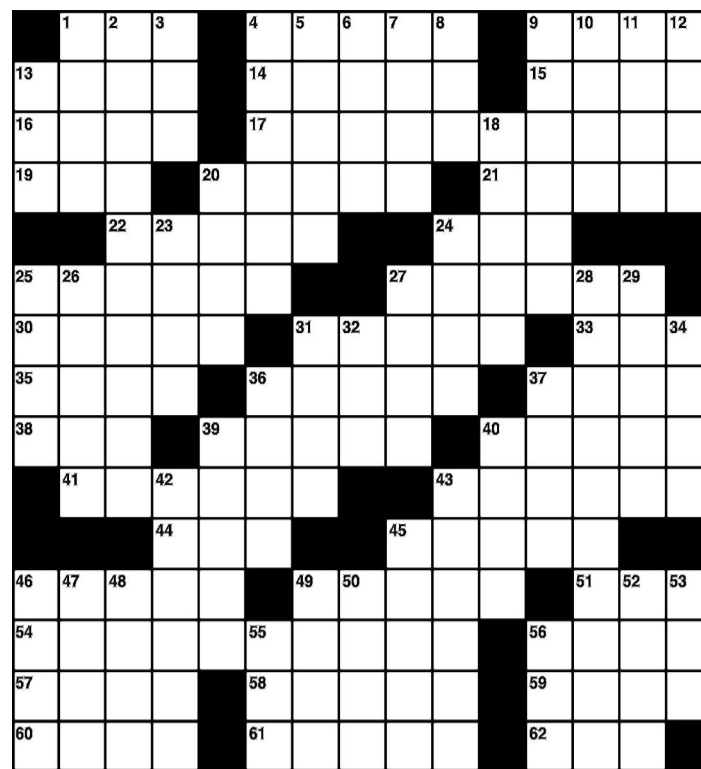
THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS

- 1 Peculiar
- 4 College major: abbr.
- 9 Gator's cousin
- 13 Getting on in years
- 14 Luau greeting
- 15 Midwest state
- 16 Exhort
- 17 Attorney's aides
- 19 Seventh letter
- 20 Falk or Finch
- 21 Swamp
- 22 Approaches
- 24 That woman
- 25 High standards
- 27 European capital city
- 30 Singer Vikki & others
- 31 In an aloof manner
- 33 "Peter _"
- 35 Times
- 36 Stern & brusque
- 37 Apple pie à la _
- 38 Explosive letters
- 39 Hillside
- 40 Implied but unspoken
- 41 Mariner
- 43 Badger
- 44 "The butler _ it"
- 45 Clothing tag
- 46 Monastery head
- 49 Rudely ignores
- 51 Orange potato
- 54 Exchange letters
- 56 _ on; incite
- 57 Family lineage chart
- 58 "Home on the _"
- 59 Queries
- 60 Stitches
- 61 Knight's transport
- 62 Agreeable reply

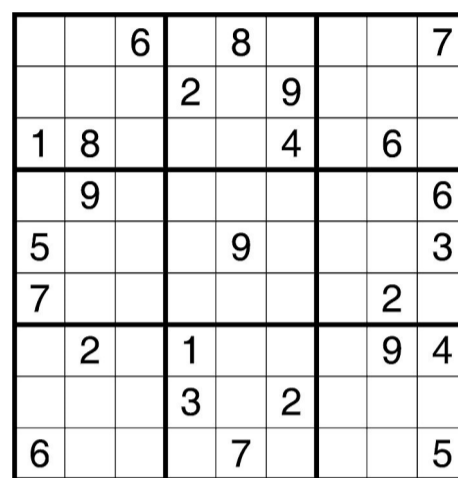
DOWN



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 A5.

- 1 Mean guy
- 2 Rot
- 3 Dwight's initials
- 4 Funny _; comic strips
- 5 Venetian blinds
- 6 Days of _; long ago
- 7 Singe

- 8 Linden, for one
- 9 Cuban exports
- 10 Laugh loudly
- 11 Birds of prey
- 12 Credit card alternative
- 13 Hot month: abbr.
- 18 _ board; nail file

- 20 Compadres
- 23 All _; listening
- 24 50%
- 25 Rapper & TV actor
- 26 Sews hose
- 27 Not a single woman
- 28 End of the world
- 29 Dry ravines
- 31 Steel, mainly
- 32 Coffee holder
- 34 Trawling gear
- 36 Happy
- 37 _ Winningham
- 39 Hit hard
- 40 Keep _ on; watch closely
- 42 Venerates
- 43 _ over; delivered
- 45 Forward thrust
- 46 Play parts
- 47 Dull speaker
- 48 Make tea
- 49 Argument
- 50 _ in on; find & go toward
- 52 Aquatic birds
- 53 TV's "The Ghost & _ Muir"
- 55 Most univ. applicants
- 56 Utter

Tribune Media Services

Refined Interior Design

by Tommy Bahama Home



HOME FURNISHINGS | HOME DÉCOR | OUTDOOR LIVING | DESIGN SERVICES

Tommy Bahama
HOME

FASHION ISLAND - NEWPORT BEACH

949.239.7112 | tbfurniturenewport.com | Atrium Court across from Starbucks

N.B. teen earns spot on charity's advisory council



Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

SOPHIA GAZZANIGA, pictured at her home in Newport Beach, has been named to the National Charity League's National Ticktock Advisory Council.

BY MATT SZABO

Newport Beach resident Sophia Gazzaniga was a shy girl growing up in the National Charity League since she became a member of its junior program while in kindergarten.

She also felt like a bit of an outsider, as the only one in her Newport chapter who went to St. Margaret's Episcopal School. Most of her peers in the chapter attend Corona del Mar or Mater Dei high schools, she said.

"I had so much trouble making friends," she said. "I didn't really like to socialize, and I was kind of outcast."

In applying for the National Charity League's National Ticktock Advisory Council, though, she wrote about how she's been in leadership positions in the mother-daughter nonprofit organization over the years. That has helped her gain confidence.

"Now I'm a very talkative member of my NCL community," said Sophia, a junior at St. Margaret's who also plays girls' basketball and lacrosse for the Tartans. "It's the same

girls, I just had to overcome my shyness and just share my perspectives and not care about other girls' opinions about me. I had to be happy with who I am as myself."

Sophia now uses her talents to help benefit the organization on a national level.

She is one of 20 girls nationwide who were selected for the National Ticktock Advisory Council this school year. The group meets on Zoom every few weeks to discuss NCL programs and ideas.

"Ticktockers" is not a reference to a popular social media platform. They are NCL girls in grades seven through 12. This year's National Advisory Council will focus on grade-level curriculum and development of a selection process for the new Inspire Innovation Ticktock grant.

They exemplify the organization's three pillar traits: philanthropy, leadership and culture.

"We've gone over ideas with what we'd like to keep with NCL, what we'd like to change, what we'd like to fix," Sophia said. "The

chapter tea ... do we keep this or do we not? Is it modern, or is it just a little bit outdated? Personally, I think it's a little bit outdated, but it's a great way to learn etiquette skills."

Sophia, who participates in NCL with her mother, Lisa, is happy to offer her two cents to the panel. She's served as an officer in the Newport chapter every year for her Class of 2024, chapter co-president Melissa Meehan said, including as the president for 2019-20.

"She is well equipped for her role with National," Meehan said in an email. "We're thrilled to have one of our very own Ticktockers step up to such an important role as the National Ticktock Advisory Council. Each chapter has their own Ticktock Council, so it's exciting that she'll be able to take their feedback and more directly represent our own Ticktockers at a national level."

Meehan, who shares the chapter president duties with Mollie Rosing, said Newport's Ticktockers served nearly 9,000 hands-on philanthropy hours last

year. Sophia has been involved with the group's partnership with the Share Our Selves food pantry in Costa Mesa, and she also has volunteered as a leader-in-training at camps at the Environmental Nature Center.

"You get to advise the kids in how to be a kind person to one another," she said. "Sometimes kids struggle with being kind or sharing things, [but] sharing is caring. You also get the responsibility of being an adult, but you're not an adult quite yet. It's nice to have that responsibility. It brightens my day every time I go to ENC, because I learn something about nature all the time."

Sophia, who is also a part of three student-led clubs at St. Margaret's, is happy to give back to her community. The National Ticktock Advisory Council gives her a chance to even go above and beyond that.

"I really enjoy it," she said. "It's so nice to hear other girls' ideas. They all have the same motive — they want to make NCL a

See **Council**, page A6

AROUND TOWN

'Nights of 1,000 Lights' to return to Sherman Library & Gardens in December

Tickets go on sale Monday for this year's "Nights of 1,000 Lights" event at Sherman Library & Gardens in Corona del Mar. The 11-night show will take place from 6 to 9 p.m. on Dec. 9, 10, 11 and from Dec. 15 through 22. Organizers say it is sure to be a sold-out event, so early ticket purchase is suggested.

The theme for this year's holiday extravaganza is "Hooray for Hollywood." Visitors will arrive to a red carpet beneath a glistening light tunnel that will lead to "Moulin Rouge," a Parisian dance hall in the Tea Garden featuring can-can dancers and French cabaret singers.

A classic 1938 Packard 120 convertible sedan will add to the glamour, compliments of Packard's International Motor Car Club. Santa will be on the scene, the Gar-

den Shop will be filled with gift ideas, and visitors will be able to create s'mores at the fire pit.

Tickets are \$25 for members, \$35 for nonmembers. Children 3 and under are admitted at no charge.

For more information and tickets, visit thesherman.org or call (949) 673-2261. Sherman Library & Gardens is located at 2647 E. Coast Highway.

Newport Beach Civic Center hosts Art in the Park Saturday

The Newport Beach Arts Foundation will hold Art in the Park from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 22.

The event will be held at the Newport Beach Civic Center and feature more than 130 Southern California artists.

Artists will display and sell their paintings, jewelry, woodwork, wearable art, ce-

ramics, photography, sculpture, mixed media pieces and stationery.

There will also be free art activities for children provided by the Chuck Jones Center for Creativity.

Admission and parking are free. For more information, visit newportbeachartsfoundation.org.

Ocasio-Cortez to address young voters at UCI Sunday

Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-New York) will be at UC Irvine this Sunday, Oct. 23, to speak to young voters about their role in the midterm elections coming up in November.

The rally will be held at the university's flag poles at 10:30 a.m. and is hosted by the Sunrise Movement Orange County, the Orange County Young Democrats, Planned Parenthood Generation Action UC Irvine, the UC Student Workers Union and College Democrats at UCI.

'Love Among the Ruins' at Laguna Playhouse

A production of "Love Among the Ruins" is set to hit the stage at Laguna Playhouse, with opening night scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 30 at 5:30 p.m.

Starring JoBeth Williams and Peter Strauss, the play will run through Sunday, Nov. 13.

Admission prices range from \$50 to \$75. To purchase tickets, visit lagunaplayhouse.com, or call (949) 497-2787. The venue is no longer requiring proof of COVID-19 vaccination or testing to attend a performance.

Holiday Home Tour tickets are on sale now

Tickets sales have started for the Rossmoor Woman's Club's Holiday Home Tour,

See **Town**, page A5

OUR REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM IS UNDER ATTACK LIKE NEVER BEFORE.

A bill proposed by forced birth proponents would put access to IVF and contraception at risk and make abortion illegal. **Even in cases of rape and incest. Even here in California.**

Judie Mancuso is the **only** pro-choice candidate for Assembly District 72. **She's the fierce advocate we need in Sacramento to protect our rights.**



"Anyone who's ever worked with me knows I stand up for my values, I speak truth to power and I get things done. I'll work tirelessly in the Assembly to defend our right to control our own bodies and make our own healthcare decisions. Proposition 1 is a first step (please vote yes!), but much more remains to be done. Extremists want to take us backward. I'll fight to move us forward. And I'll never give up."

-Judie Mancuso

f JudieMancusoAD27 @JudieMancuso www.JudieMancuso.com

Paid for by Mancuso for Assembly 2022. FPCC ID #1443966

Paid Political Advertisement

MAILBAG

Mesa Water District is financially strong

Mesa Water District appreciates public discourse. However, a letter in the Daily Pilot Mailbag, "Candidates are right about a water district's woes, but what should be done?" (Oct. 13, 2022) contains false and misleading information.

Mesa Water is financially strong. In fact, Mesa Water consistently receives an AAA credit rating — the highest achievable by an organization — from Standard & Poor's and Fitch rating agencies, it is the most efficient water agency in Orange County, based on the lowest expenditures per capita, and it has no unfunded pension liability.

We are continuously investing in our infrastructure, which has resulted in us having one of the lowest water loss percentages of any agency in California. We are currently constructing two new wells to increase local water production capacity, replacing mainline water valves throughout the service area, and upgrading the Mesa Water Reliability Facility, to ensure an abundant water supply.

The MWRF makes the district the only Orange County water agency to meet 100% of its community's water needs with locally sourced water ensuring a drought-resilient water source for Mesa Water's service area for generations to come. Local water is less costly than imported water from the Colorado River and Northern California.

Mesa Water customers receive safe, high-quality water from a transparent, efficient and fiscally responsible agency.

Paul E. Shoenberger, P.E.
Mesa Water District General Manager, resident of Costa Mesa

Sea level rise threatens N.B.

Kudos to the Daily Pilot for publishing a resume on each of the candidates running for City Council in the cities covered by its circulation.

However, considering the current schism in the nation between those who pledge allegiance to the Constitution and the rule of law as opposed to those who would impose their will on the nation by use of force, I believe that the Daily Pilot erred in not asking one basic question to every single candidate: Do you believe that the 2020 presidential election was stolen from Donald Trump? Every voter has a right to know this.

Regarding the eight candidates running in Newport Beach, it is quite depressing though not surprising that only Jim Mosher has identified the real long term issues facing the city — sea level rise and airport impact. The latter is being addressed to a limited extent, mainly by the persistence of concerned citizens due to the increasingly debilitating effect on large segments of the city right now. However, sea level rise and its impact the harbor and on 18 miles of waterfront properties, is an orphan. The issue will not be resolved in one or two four-year terms, particularly by those council members who view their stint at the city as a farm club for higher political office and find it politically expedient to view climate change as a Chinese hoax. The catastrophic impacts of sea level rise are 20 to 25 years away. The possible mitigation scenarios need to be addressed now — research, preliminary engineering, financing, permitting and construction.

The city needs not one but four



Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

MARICE DEPASQUALE, left, the Mesa Water District board president, and Karyn Igar, a senior civil engineer, talk about one of two new potable water wells in the city of Costa Mesa in November 2021.

Jim Mosher — dedicated, apolitical, beholden to none, no hidden agenda, honest as the day is long, a true public servant just wanting to serve.

Jamshed Dastur
Balboa Island

Making a run for Costa Mesa council

Former President John F. Kennedy once said, "One person can make a difference, and everyone should try." Our current Costa Mesa City Council suffers from "groupthink," where most votes are 6-1, divided by bitter ideological differences. Whether it's a proposed Charter or removing our right to vote on large developments, our core mission should be to provide quality of life for residents and workers by collaboratively tackling tough problems. I'm an independent Democrat and public medical service professional who can't be influenced.

I support regional homelessness solutions, offering similar quality services that will avoid shifting the unhoused, and reduce resource burden on our city. No more enabling neighbor cities. If they refuse, I support enhancing our police (including bicycle police) to enforce our anti-camping ordinance stringently, discouraging vagrancy and other petty crime.

On housing and development, I trust our voters, who want quality affordable housing options. Bringing in corporate developers to convert us into Santa Ana fuels gentrification, which is pushing poor black and brown people, including my siblings, out of Santa Ana.

I will work to find the best investment with a fair and safer balance between commuters, bikes, pedestrians and transit. For instance, my husband and I led our neighborhood in advocating for the cost-effective bike boulevard through Mesa Del Mar instead of a pricey and environmentally dangerous project in 2019 which didn't even link destinations.

I hear a lot about parking and mobility. Working-class folks don't have the luxury of living close to work or spending hours walking,

biking or on the bus. I support bringing back the residential parking permit program with no fees, equitable participation for renters and low-income areas, and starting a shared parking agreement program between residences and businesses.

With your vote, we can begin this new dawn in Costa Mesa's bright future together.

Jorge Miron
Candidate for Costa Mesa City Council District 3

A son's case for kindness and respect

I remember being taught John Wooden's Pyramid of Success at Lincoln Elementary School, but this wasn't my first time learning it, as John Wooden was a legend in my home. My dad played volleyball at UCLA, and my mom, Lisa Pearson, received her master's in education from UCLA. The Pyramid of Success teaches sincerity, honesty, reliability, integrity, loyalty and poise. While performing well academically was important in our household, my parents held these values above all else.

My mom came from a family of educators, and while she was teaching, she became one of the most popular teachers in her school. When I was born, she retired to focus on raising the family. Raising three children, one with a learning disability, has only furthered her compassion and underlies her promise to treat every student with kindness and respect.

If you haven't heard of my mom, step outside and ask your neighbors about her. Her positive reputation precedes her. I saw it when I attended Lincoln Elementary and Corona del Mar Middle and High School. Teachers and students were quick to recognize the Pearson name because of her years of dedicated service to our schools.

We live in a community where reputation goes a long way. Being able to work with others and listen to opposing views is important when considering someone for a position of leadership. As you prepare to vote, I encourage you to think about the type of

leader you would want representing you, your kids and our district on the school board.

Lisa Pearson is the only school board candidate in Trustee Area 4 who has earned the respect of our community through years of service and leadership — always with kindness and respect. She is trusted by students, parents and leaders throughout our community.

Vote for my mom, Lisa Pearson, for our Newport-Mesa School Board Trustee, Area 4.

Maxwell Pearson
Newport Beach

Tom Miller is the best for Newport Beach

The arguments being used to tear down Tom Miller and prop up Joe Stapleton are misleading and need to be called out.

First, they deliberately overlook Tom's record as a successful businessman and family man who has improved countless lives through his entrepreneurship, volunteer work and philanthropy. We should welcome the idea of having a self-made man with fresh ideas and hard-earned business and life experience on the Newport Beach City Council. The fact that Tom has spent his time in the real world rather than the Team Newport training school is actually a very good reason to vote for him.

Second, it's hilarious that anyone would label Tom, who has called Newport home since 2016, a "relative newcomer." Will O'Neill and Kevin Muldoon had lived here for fewer years when they were elected as part of "Team Newport" (aka "Team Newport").

There's no greater proof of Tom's love for Newport Beach than the time and money he devoted to defeating the disastrous Measure B. The latter was designed to restructure our city government to transfer nearly all power to a single politician, presumably a Team Newport member. It was an attempt to destroy a voter-approved system of governance that has served us extremely well, all to allow the Team Newport members to further entrench themselves and gain even more

control of our city's agenda and future.

Joe Stapleton's support for Measure B is totally at odds with his "Keep Newport, Newport" campaign slogan. Maybe a better tagline would be "Keep Newport Team Newport."

I'll be voting for Tom Miller to bring a wealth of business and life experience, as well as real independence, to the City Council. I urge you to do the same.

Gary Cruz
Newport Beach

We are approaching the moment for final decision on the elected leaders in our communities. In order to make the choice more clear, we thought that the comparison below may be helpful. Our family supports Tom Miller based on his leadership experience, and independence.

Tom Miller
Age: 60
Professional Achievement: Founder and CEO of multi-regional auto services company. 850 employees

Politician: No
Measure B (Elect the mayor): Opposed and won

Controlled by others: Never = Independent

Day job: Retired. Plans to work full time for City Council

Availability: Available full time
Leadership experience: Steered his company through two down economic cycles

Joe Stapleton
Age: 38

Professional Achievement: co-founder and president of investment firm

Politician: Yes
Measure B (Elect the mayor): Supported and lost

Controlled by others: Supported by and indebted to Team Newport and developers

Day job: Mid-career financial advisor during this new financial crisis

Availability: Maybe at night when not focusing on clients

Leadership experience: Has never headed a large corporation during a crisis

Best Candidate: Tom Miller

Mike Dutton
Corona del Mar

VOTING

Continued from page A1

Walk-up drop-off boxes can be found here:

- Boys & Girls Club of Costa Mesa
- 2131 Tustin Ave.
- Mesa Verde Branch Library

2969 Mesa Verde Drive, E.

- Mesa Water District
- 1965 Placentia Ave.
- TeWinkle Park Athletic Complex

980 Arlington Drive

- Drive-through drop-off boxes can also be found here:
- Coastal Heights Senior Living
- 2283 Fairview Road
- The Esplanade
- 3001 Red Hill Ave.

- FOUNTAIN VALLEY**
- Freedom Hall at Mile Square Park

16801 Euclid St.

- Fountain Valley Recreation Center*
- 16400 Brookhurst St.
- Fountain Valley School District, 2nd Floor*
- 10055 Slater Ave.
- The Center at Founders Village*
- 17967 Bushard St.

Walk-up drop-off boxes can be found here:

- Fountain Valley Branch Library
- 17635 Los Alamos St.
- The Center at Founders Village
- 17967 Bushard St.

- HUNTINGTON BEACH**
- Edison Community Center
- 21377 Magnolia St.
- Huntington Beach Central Library
- 7111 Talbert Ave.
- Murdy Community Center
- 7000 Norma Drive
- City Gym and Pool*
- 1600 Palm Ave.
- Golden West College - RCJTC*
- 15744 Goldenwest St.
- Huntington Beach

Civic Center, Lower Level*

- 2000 Main St.
- IAMAW District Lodge
- 725, 2nd Floor*
- 5402 Bolsa Ave.
- Main Street Branch Library*
- 525 Main St.
- Ocean View District Office, Building A*
- 17200 Pinehurst Lane
- Resurrection Lutheran Church*
- 9812 Hamilton Ave.
- St. Wilfrid's Episcopal Church*
- 18631 Chapel Lane
- Surf City Church*
- 2721 Delaware St.
- The Connection Church*
- 17581 Newland St.

Walk-up drop-off boxes can also be found here:

- 5 Points Plaza
- 18591 Main St.
- Golden West College
- 15744 Goldenwest St.
- Harbour View Park
- 16600 Saybrook Lane
- HB Professional Plaza
- 714 Adams Ave.
- Huntington Beach Civic Center
- 2000 Main St.

Huntington Professional Plaza

- 20932 Brookhurst St.
- Main Street Branch Library
- 525 Main St.
- Vista Centre
- 17483 Beach Blvd.

Drive-through drop-off boxes can also be found here:

- Huntington Beach Civic Center
- 2000 Main St.

- LAGUNA BEACH**
- Laguna Beach Community & Susi Q Center
- 380 3rd St.
- Lang Park*
- 21540 Wesley Drive

Walk-up drop-off boxes can be found here:

- Laguna Beach Branch Library
- 363 Glenneyre St.

NEWPORT BEACH

- Newport Beach Civic Center
- 100 Civic Center Drive
- Coastline College - Newport Beach Campus*
- 1515 Monrovia Ave.
- Marina Park Commu-

nity Center, 2nd Floor*

- 1600 W. Balboa Blvd.
- Newport Coast Community Center*
- 6401 San Joaquin Hills Road
- OASIS Senior Center Event Center*
- 801 Narcissus Ave.
- St. Mark Presbyterian Church*
- 2200 San Joaquin Hills Road

Walk-up drop-off boxes can also be found here:

- Bob Henry Park
- 900 Dover Drive
- Sidewalk
- Corner of Avon Street and Riverside Avenue
- Drive-through drop-off boxes can also be found here:
- Newport Beach Public Library
- 1000 Avocado Ave.
- OASIS Senior Center Auxiliary Parking Lot
- Corner of Fifth and Marguerite avenues
- Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 8.

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TOWN

Continued from page A3

scheduled from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 4.

This year, the tour showcases five recently remodeled homes, ranging from a 6,000-square-foot, two-story in Rossmoor to a compact, 1,900-square-foot rancher in the Highlands.

Ticket-holders are also invited to a tea room in the garden behind Flagg With a Flair at the Arbor Village restaurant and shopping complex, 10651 Los Alamitos Blvd. There they will find complimentary cookies and coffee in addition to a raffle for prize baskets.

Hotel lots.

All net proceeds from this event go to fund college scholarships for Los Alamitos High School students and to support local charities. To purchase tickets online visit rossmoorwomansclub.com.

Girls Inc O.C. announces grant from Boeing

Girls Inc. of Orange County, the Santa Ana-based affiliate of the national nonprofit on Thursday announced a \$100,000 grant awarded from the Boeing Co.

The grant will directly fund specialized STEM and Social, Emotional (SEL) instruction through the SMART Girls initiative, which helps at-risk middle

school and early teen girls develop enthusiasm and skills in the areas of science, math and relevant technology.

“Studies show that girls become interested in STEM subjects around age 11 but quickly lose interest by age 15,” Lucy Santana, chief executive officer of the organization stated in a news release announcing the yearlong grant. “Our community needs the unique strengths and perspectives that young women possess, particularly in STEM fields where workers play an important role in developing innovative solutions to the world’s problems. Boeing understands that we have to give all girls the opportunity to get excited about STEM fields.”

— From staff reports

SUSPECT

Continued from page A1

was gay. The defendant said they were in his car when Bernstein kissed him on the lips, and he responded by pushing him away.

Then-19-year-old Bernstein was a University of Pennsylvania student visiting home for winter break when his parents reported him missing on Jan. 3. He was found six days later in Borrego Park after a rainstorm washed away some of the dirt he was underneath.

Bernstein was described by one of his former college advisors, Jamie-Lee Josse-

lyn, as a passionate cook with a deadpan sense of humor who loved LaCroix seltzer water so much he considered having a can tattooed onto his thigh. More than 500 people attended a memorial held for him at University Synagogue in Irvine four years ago.

DNA evidence found at the park and in Woodward’s car led detectives to name him as a suspect.

An attorney defending Woodward in 2018 said he was confused about his sexual identity. He had also been diagnosed with Asperger’s syndrome, a condition that may have had an impact on his actions.

The defendant was also allegedly a member of the neo-Nazi organization, Atomwaffen Division, Pro Publica reported. The group celebrated the death of Bernstein, a Jewish man, in confidential chat logs, according to the nonprofit newsroom.

Woodward has pleaded not guilty to the charge and enhancements filed against him. He remained in custody at the Theo Lacy Jail as of Friday morning, Orange County Sheriff’s officials said. His next scheduled court appearance will be in January.

eric.lucas@latimes.com Twitter: @EricLicas



Courtesy of Natalie Moser

A GRAPHIC recording of the preview event for H.B. Community Cafe, which was held on Sept. 27. The next session will be held on Oct. 26 from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

CAFÉ

Continued from page A1

we come back to the fact that we’re still just neighbors?”

Moser participated in a trial run on Sept. 27. She said participants sit at tables, switching three times. Throughout the meeting, the facilitator takes Post-it notes from the tables on things that come up in each conversation.

At the practice session, Moser said she talked to Moe Kanoudi, owner of Main Street Eyewear in downtown Huntington Beach.

“He talked about how he moved across the country and what his life was like before he got here,” she said. “I had no idea. You almost want to have more time at the table, because people start saying things and you’d be like, ‘I can talk to this person all night about this.’ That’s what we’re going for, people kind of like rehumanizing each other.”

“As a council member, somebody might say to me, ‘OK, this is just soft stuff.’ But I believe that if we can’t talk to each other, then we can’t do the hard work. We can’t get all the other stuff done if we can’t be together as a communi-

ty.” A graphic recording also was made of the practice session by Michelle Boos-Stone.

Participants are asked to register in advance for October’s event by visiting bit.ly/hbcc10reg. As of Friday afternoon, there were no seats available but a waiting list had been

started. For future events, register via the Huntington Beach Library Event Page at bit.ly/hblibraryevents.

For more information, contact Christine Ivison at communitycafe@surfcity-hb.org or (714) 315-5128.

matthew.szabo@latimes.com Twitter: @mjszabo

Daily Pilot

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CONTACT US

Carol Cormaci Managing Editor carol.cormaci@latimes.com

Beth Raff Advertising Manager (714) 932-4036 beth.raff@latimes.com

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

Business Office (714) 966-4600 Newsroom (714) 966-4699 Sports (714) 966-4612

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ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR A CHANGE OF NAME CASE NO. 01277708

Petitioner or Attorney (name, state, bar, and address): Eleni Susan Buflaten 2260 Park Avenue Laguna Beach, CA 92651 (949) 377-9669 Self Represented

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED:

Petitioner Eleni Susan Buflaten filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

Present Name: Eleni Susan Buflaten Proposed Name: Eleni Otellie Buflaten

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: 11/8/2022 TIME: 8:30 am DEPT: 100

The address of the court is:

Remote Hearing SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA County of Orange Central Justice Center 700 Civic Center Drive West Santa Ana, CA 92701

A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county, the DAILY PILOT.

Dated: AUG 30, 2022 Judge Layne H. Melzer David H. Yamasaki, Clerk of the Court B. Wangsnest, Deputy

Dates of Publication: 10/1/2022; 10/8/2022; 10/15/2022; 10/22/2022



CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Thursday, November 03, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. or soon thereafter as the matter shall be heard, a public hearing will be conducted in the Council Chambers at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach. The Planning Commission of the City of Newport Beach will consider the following application:

El Ranchito Outdoor Dining Patio Expansion - A conditional use permit, lot merger, and coastal development permit for a 950-square-foot expansion of an existing 355-square-foot outdoor dining patio that serves an existing restaurant. Since the expansion involves the construction of additional patio area over the interior property line between 2800 and 2806 Newport Boulevard, a lot merger is requested. Additionally, an off-site parking agreement is requested between the restaurant and 2812 and 2814 Newport Boulevard to provide 12 additional parking spaces. There are no changes to the interior floor plan of the restaurant. The current Type 47 (On-Sale General - Eating Place) ABC License would be maintained, and there would be no extension of operating hours. If approved, this Conditional Use Permit would supersede Use Permit No. UP1757.

The project is categorically exempt under Section 15301 under Section 1 (Existing Facilities) and Section 15303 under Section 3 (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures) of the State CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) Guidelines.

All interested parties may appear and present testimony in regard to this application. If you challenge this project in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you raised at the public hearing or in written correspondence delivered to the City, at, or prior to, the public hearing. The application may be continued to a specific future meeting date, and if such an action occurs, additional public notice of the continuance will not be provided. Administrative procedures for appeals are provided in the Newport Beach Municipal Code Chapters 19.12 (Tentative Map Review), 20.64 (Appeals), and 21.64 (Appeals and Calls for Review). A fee is required to appeal any final action on a coastal development permit to the City Council. The project site is partially located within the appeal area of the coastal zone; therefore, final action by the City may be appealed to the California Coastal Commission.

The agenda, staff report, and corresponding documents will be available by end of business day on the Friday preceding the public hearing and may be reviewed at the Community Development Department Permit Center (Bay C-1st Floor), at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660 or the City of Newport Beach website at www.newportbeachca.gov/planningcommission. Individuals not able to attend the meeting may contact the Planning Division or access the City’s website after the meeting to review the action on this application. All mail or written communications (including email) from the public, residents, or applicants regarding an agenda item must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on the business day immediately prior to the meeting. This allows time for the Planning Commission to adequately consider the submitted correspondence.

For questions regarding this public hearing item please contact David S. Lee, Associate Planner, at 949-644-3225, dlee@newportbeachca.gov, at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660.

Project File No.: PA2021-219 Activities: Conditional Use Permit, Lot Merger, and Coastal Development Permit

Zone: CV (Commercial Visitor Serving) General Plan: CV (Visitor Serving Commercial)

Coastal Land Use Plan: CV-A (Visitor Serving Commercial) - 0.0 - 0.75 FAR Filing Date: August 24, 2021

Location: 2800, 2806, 2812, and 2814 Newport Boulevard Applicant: Robinson Hill Architecture

Mark Rosene, Secretary, Planning Commission, City of Newport Beach

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CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Thursday, November 03, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. or soon thereafter as the matter shall be heard, a public hearing will be conducted in the Council Chambers at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach. The Planning Commission of the City of Newport Beach will consider the following application:

Morfontaine Holdings, LLC Residence - The applicant requests a coastal development permit to allow the construction of a detached patio cover measuring approximately 17 feet 6 inches in height and approximately 450 square feet in area. The applicant requests approval of a variance to allow the structure to encroach approximately 24 feet and 3 inches into the waterside front setback area on the north side of the property facing Newport Harbor.

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

All interested parties may appear and present testimony in regard to this application. If you challenge this project in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you raised at the public hearing or in written correspondence delivered to the City, at, or prior to, the public hearing. The application may be continued to a specific future meeting date, and if such an action occurs, additional public notice of the continuance will not be provided. Administrative procedures for appeals are provided in the Newport Beach Municipal Code Chapters 20.64 and 21.64. A fee is required to appeal any final action on a coastal development permit to the City Council. The project site is located within the appeal area of the coastal zone; therefore, final action by the City may be appealed to the California Coastal Commission.

The agenda, staff report, and corresponding documents will be available by end of business day on the Friday preceding the public hearing and may be reviewed at the Community Development Department Permit Center (Bay C-1st Floor), at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660 or the City of Newport Beach website at www.newportbeachca.gov/planningcommission. Individuals not able to attend the meeting may contact the Planning Division or access the City’s website after the meeting to review the action on this application. All mail or written communications (including email) from the public, residents, or applicants regarding an agenda item must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on the business day immediately prior to the meeting. This allows time for the Planning Commission to adequately consider the submitted correspondence.

For questions regarding this public hearing item please contact Chelsea Crager, Senior Planner, at 949-644-3227 or ccrager@newportbeachca.gov, 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660.

Project File No.: PA2022-123 Activity No.: CD2022-035 and VA2022-004

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

Coastal Land Use Plan: RSD-A (Single Unit Residential Detached (0.0-5.9 DU/AC)) Filing Date: June 3, 2022

Location: 18 Harbor Island Applicant: Winkle Custom Homes

Mark Rosene, Secretary, Planning Commission, City of Newport Beach

CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS

Crossword grid with filled-in letters: ODD PSYCH CROC AGED PALOHA IOWA URGE AROHA LEGALS GEE PETER MARSH NEARS HER IDEALS WARS AW CARRS ICILY PAN ERAS GRUFF MODE TNT SLOPE TACIT SEAMAN HARASS DID LABEL ABBOT SHUNDS YAM CORRESPOND SPUR TREE RANGE ASKS SEWS STEED YES

Sudoku grid with numbers: 2 3 6 5 8 1 9 4 7 4 7 5 2 6 9 3 1 8 1 8 9 7 3 4 5 6 2 8 9 1 4 2 3 7 5 6 5 4 2 6 9 7 1 8 3 7 6 3 8 1 5 4 2 9 3 2 7 1 5 6 8 9 4 9 5 8 3 4 2 6 7 1 6 1 4 9 7 8 2 3 5

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

C.M. knocked out of CIF Division 6 playoffs

BY ANDREW TURNER

CYPRESS — The Costa Mesa High girls' volleyball team had taken the first two sets, putting itself in prime position to move on to the next round.

The screech of sneakers on the hardwood got louder, and louder still, and it signaled impending doom for the visiting Mustangs.

Oxford Academy dug in defensively, rallying from match point down to defeat Costa Mesa 27-29, 24-26, 25-16, 28-26, 15-9 on Thursday in the first round of the CIF Southern Section Division 6 playoffs.

"They played well," Oxford coach Allan Comerford said. "They stepped up, and they didn't let anything fall, so I can't complain."

The Patriots played in a five-set match for the first time this season, and they staved off a match point in the fourth set. Costa Mesa coach Jillian Rifkin was shown a yellow card after questioning whether the Patriots committed a lift violation during the point.

"Even though the ball came out with no spin, I thought she took it kind of



James Carbone

COSTA MESA'S Sophia Winters (4) and Natasha Ruiz (10) block Oxford Academy's Hien Nguyen's (21) attempt in the first round of the CIF Southern Section Division 6 playoffs on Thursday. The Mustangs were defeated in five sets.

as a throw," Rifkin said. "I'm thankful for the refs to be here. We had plenty of chances. It was what it is."

Charlotte Emmerling-Fink produced a service point on the next point,

and a net violation gave the Patriots the fourth set.

Oxford then jumped out to a 5-1 lead in the fifth. Costa Mesa clawed back into the set, courtesy of a four-point run with Jamie

Kibin at the service line, but the Mustangs' passing faltered late.

An ace by Jenevieve Ur-fano completed the comeback win for Oxford (25-5), which plays host to Red-

lands Arrowhead Christian (19-6) in the second round on Saturday.

"I think middles are our strength," said Rifkin, who said the break down in passing forced the Mus-

tangs to go away from setting the middle. "That's what separates us from maybe some other teams we play. They don't set their middles at all.

"If you look at our season stats, we almost are even across the board, but you never see outsides, middles and right sides almost even on kills."

Reygan Schneider had a team-high 14 kills to go with 19 digs for Costa Mesa (12-10). Hana Batlik added nine kills, Natasha Ruiz had eight kills and Kaitlyn Yagerlener provided seven kills for the Mustangs.

"We played hard," Batlik said. "We played good. We tried our best. Definitely pushed through the start and then kind of fell off a little bit, but we stayed together, and we tried to cheer. The only important thing is that we stayed as a team and we just kept cheering on each other."

Rosey Madriaga contributed 35 assists and 15 digs, and Vanessa Castillo also had 27 digs for Costa Mesa, which was the third-place team in the Orange Coast League this season.

andrew.turner@latimes.com
Twitter: @AndrewTurnerTCN

HIGH SCHOOL ROUNDUP

Edison girls' volleyball earns first-round playoff sweep

BY ANDREW TURNER

Summer Witherby pounded out 16 kills to lead the Edison High girls' volleyball team to a 25-22, 25-18, 25-23 sweep of Goleta Dos Pueblos at home on Thursday in the first round of the CIF Southern Section Division 3 playoffs.

Adia McCown added 15 kills for fourth-seeded Edison (20-15), which plays host to Orange Coast League champion St. Margaret's (27-7) on Saturday at 6 p.m.

Molly McCluskey also chipped in with 11 kills for the Wave League-champion Chargers.

El Segundo 3, Corona del Mar 1: The host Sea Kings fell to the Eagles 25-15, 25-27, 26-24, 25-20 on Thursday in a Division 3 first-round match.

Corona del Mar (20-18) was the second-place team in the Wave League this season.

El Segundo (16-5) will play host to second-seeded West Hills Chaminade (31-1) in the next round.

Marina 3, Whittier California 0: Dominique Vadeboncouer had a team-leading 14 kills for the Vikings in their 25-14, 25-20, 25-23 straight-sets victory over the Condors on the



James Carbone

EDISON'S MOLLY MCCLUSKEY (15), seen serving against Santa Margarita on Sept. 1, had 11 kills in the Chargers' CIF Division 3 first-round win over Dos Pueblos.

road Thursday in the first round of the Division 5 playoffs.

Jalissa Costa and Jenna Zaffino each had eight kills for Marina (15-14), which takes on Monrovia (21-11) at home on Monday at 6 p.m.

Jordan Packer handed out 34 assists, Dana Tran had nine digs, and Mackenzie Dorney dropped in four service aces for the Vikings.

Thermal Coachella Valley 3, Estancia 0: The top-seeded Mighty Arabs earned a 25-21, 27-25, 25-7 sweep on Thursday, eliminating the visiting Eagles from the Division 7 playoffs.

Estancia (18-14) was the fourth-place team in the Orange Coast League this season.

Coachella Valley (21-1), the Desert Valley league champion, will take on Valencia Trinity Classical Academy (17-8) on Saturday at 5 p.m. at Canyon Country Canyon High.

Ocean View 3, Riverside JW North 1: The visiting Seahawks pulled off a 15-25, 25-20, 25-18, 25-23 comeback win to advance to the second round of the Division 7 playoffs on Thursday night.

Brooke Abascal had 10 kills to lead Ocean View (15-

12). Paula Bledsoe added eight kills and eight aces, and Jade Auger chipped in with seven kills. Natalia Christensen distributed 30 assists to go with eight aces.

Ocean View, which shared the Golden West League title with Westminster, will face Mission Valley League champion Gabrielino (20-8) at home on Saturday at 3 p.m.

Pacifica Christian Orange County 3, La Mirada 2: Senior outside hitter Rebecca Penjoyan had 28 kills and three blocks, as the Tritons rallied for a 26-28, 14-25, 25-23, 25-17, 15-9 win on Thursday at La Mirada in the first round of the Division 7 playoffs.

Sophomore opposite Chara Wondercheck had 11 kills and two blocks for Pacifica Christian (18-6).

Pacifica Christian returns home to face Mt. Baldy League champion Chino Don Lugo (13-2) on Saturday at 6 p.m.

Godinez 3, Newport Christian 1: The Grizzlies clawed past the host Seahawks 25-12, 25-20, 23-25, 25-12 on Thursday in the first round of the Division 8 playoffs.

Newport Christian (10-6) finished in a tie for second place in the Express League with Liberty Christian this

season.

Godinez (18-10) has a home match against Los Angeles Milken Community (18-9) on Monday at 6 p.m.

Samueli Academy 3, Liberty Christian 0: The visiting Minutemen went down in straight sets to the Firewolves on Thursday in the first round of the Division 9 playoffs.

Liberty Christian ends its season with an overall record of 12-7.

Samueli Academy (12-9) remains at home to take on Canoga Park AGBU (16-5) on Saturday.

FOOTBALL

Calvary Chapel 25, Estancia 20: Gavin Ghahyasi and Charles Sparks each had a touchdown reception for the Eagles, who earned the victory in their homecoming game at Segerstrom High on Thursday.

Calvary Chapel improved to 4-5 overall and 3-2 in Orange Coast League play, keeping its postseason hopes alive with the win.

Estancia (3-6, 1-4) will host Costa Mesa (3-5, 1-3) in the Battle for the Bell to close the regular season next Friday.

andrew.turner@latimes.com
Twitter: @AndrewTurnerTCN

COUNCIL

Continued from page A3

better place than it already is. Their ideas are so amazing, and their ability to lead the group online is great. The community that we're evolving through that group is just really positive and happy."

She added with a smile that she was glad that her application essay was well-received. She said she was treating it almost like a college entrance essay. She still has a year to go before worrying about that, though her older brother, Caden, a senior at St. Margaret's, is currently in that realm.

Lisa Gazzaniga is just happy that her daughter, no longer a shy girl but now a young woman full of confidence, made the decision to go for it.

"I'm glad that she put herself out there and applied for it," Lisa Gazzaniga said. "She saw that she had enough experience to do it, and she realized that she has a lot to share with others and bring it back to the other Ticktockers in her group."

matt.szabo@latimes.com
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