

# Daily Pilot

FRIDAY, JULY 16, 2021 /// Now including Coastline Pilot and Huntington Beach Independent /// dailypilot.com



Photos by Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

**CHILDREN AND PARENTS** listen to instructions before heading out to Newport Dunes during the Miracles for Kids' Surf & Paddle Camp on Thursday at Newport Aquatic Center. The camp brings together children fighting life-threatening illnesses and their siblings for some fun in the sun.

## Miracles for Kids hosts beach day in Newport

BY MATT SZABO

Adriana Arroyo looked fondly at her daughter as she played in the water near the Newport Dunes on Thursday morning.

A day before her sixth birthday, Eliana got a special treat. She was one of about 30 participants in the 10th annual Miracles for Kids Surf & Paddle Summer Camp.

The surf part comes later, on Aug. 13 close to the Newport Beach Pier. Thursday was all about the paddleboard portion of the camp, which brings together children fighting life-threatening illnesses and their siblings for some fun in the sun.

Eliana and the other kids rowed from the Newport Aquatic Center to the Newport Dunes. There were different ways to get there, either by stand-up paddling, a two-person paddleboard or a three-hull outrigger.

See **Kids**, page A3



**ABOVE:** Davian Castrillon, 3, of Fullerton gets his life vest fastened by his father David.

**LEFT:** Children and parents stretch before paddling out to Newport Dunes.

## Voter approval measure proposed

The initiative would require residents' OK for any major development in Laguna Beach.

BY ANDREW TURNER

After an effort to give Laguna Beach residents a strong say in the fate of development projects within the city was curbed by the coronavirus pandemic last spring, the grassroots group Laguna Residents First submitted a notice of intent on Wednesday for a proposed ballot initiative that would do just that.

The nonprofit advocacy group, concerned with preserving the environment and heritage of the coastal community, is calling on residents to defend the look and feel of the town by enabling voters to have their voices heard concerning approval of major development projects.

The organization previously filed a notice of intent with the city on March 6 of last year, but the pandemic prevented supporters from collecting the necessary signatures in person.

For the proposed ballot initiative to appear on the ballot for the November 2022 election, signatures equal to 10% or more of the

See **Measure**, page A2

## Hotel Laguna work can resume

An order to stop the restoration was issued in May after city officials discovered necessary permits were lacking.

BY LILLY NGUYEN

Restoration work can resume at Hotel Laguna on its restaurant, lobby, bar and kitchen after the city of Laguna Beach partially lifted a stop work order on the historic landmark that had been placed when officials discovered exterior work was occurring without a permit.

A statement released Wednesday by the city said building inspectors confirmed the interior work done by developer Mo Honarkar on the hotel meets required construction standards, but that no work will be allowed in other parts of the hotel until Honarkar and his team submit a comprehensive plan for the overall restoration of the property and obtain the appropriate permits to do that work.

Work will not continue in other parts of the project that are part of a coastal development permit

See **Hotel**, page A3

## Costa Mesa's State of the City looks ahead to greener pastures

Reflecting on a difficult pandemic year, Mayor John Stephens welcomes cannabis retailers to the community in his address on Thursday.

BY SARA CARDINE

Costa Mesa leaders, chamber officials and business owners attending a State of the City luncheon Thursday reflected on how the city pulled through the pandemic, thanks to a collective desire to support one another and the place they call home.

And, in doing so, they welcomed the newest members of Costa Mesa's business community — cannabis retailers, who will soon be able to operate legally within the city.

"Cannabis is coming into

town," Mayor John Stephens said at the Segerstrom Concert Hall event, asking those in the industry to raise their hands and acknowledging the 20 or more who did.

"Thank you for being here," he continued. "You have true partnership with a friendly government who wants you to succeed."

For the first time ever, retail dispensary owners are being offered a seat at the table as elected officials and the Costa Mesa Chamber of Commerce seek to legitimize

See **State**, page A4



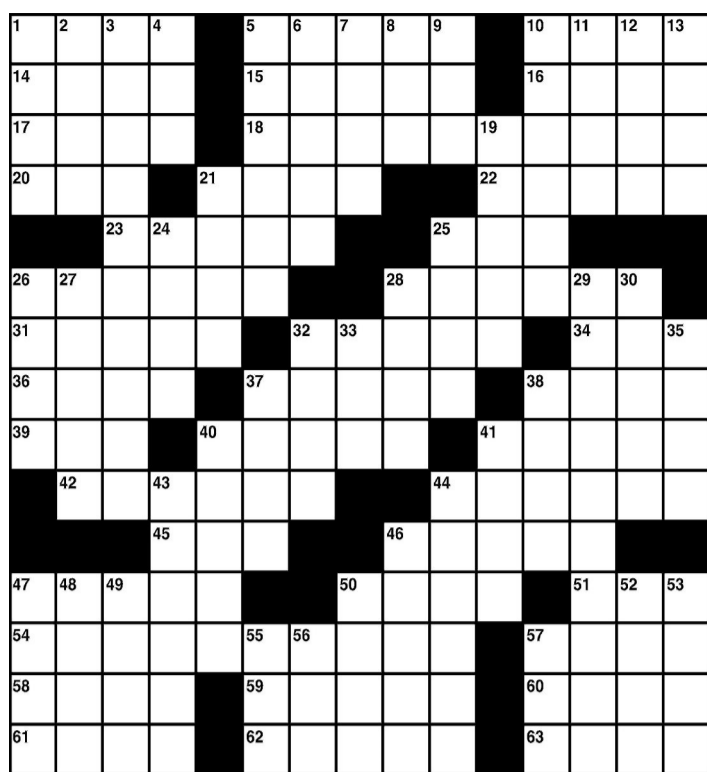
**COUNCILMAN** Manuel Chavez speaks Thursday at the annual State of the City at the Renee and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall Thursday.

Don Leach  
Staff Photographer

**THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE**

By Jacqueline E. Mathews

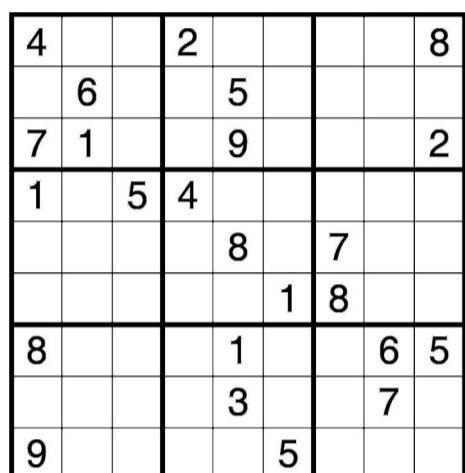
- ACROSS**  
 1 Pitt or Garrett  
 5 Carvey's namesakes  
 10 Alpha's follower  
 14 Easy stride  
 15 Eliminate errors  
 16 Be a breadwinner  
 17 Mount Blanc's range  
 18 Generous  
 20 Feminine pronoun  
 21 Football maneuver  
 22 Ben Affleck's brother  
 23 Fill with joy  
 25 Film director's cry  
 26 Ebb  
 28 Most recent  
 31 Pen name  
 32 Run after  
 34 Rat-a-tat-  
 36 Peel of thunder  
 37 Climb onto  
 38 Baseball's Ruth  
 39 "Not \_"; words to the impatient  
 40 Went public with  
 41 Private teacher  
 42 Sewer's need  
 44 American \_; group for vets  
 45 Youth  
 46 Cattle catcher  
 47 Hard to climb  
 50 Stag  
 51 Org. for Coyotes & Canucks  
 54 Rehearsing  
 57 Where to find Wailea Beach  
 58 Neighbor of Hungary; abbr.  
 59 Two-step or tango  
 60 Sculpting & watercolor  
 61 Brooklyn team  
 62 Furry swimmer  
 63 Fluid-filled sac



**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](http://sudoku.org.uk).



**For answers to the crossword and Sudoku puzzles, see page A3.**

- |                            |                       |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 4 _ Moines                 | 11 Polishes off       |
| 5 Formal argument          | 12 Shade provider     |
| 6 Get up                   | 13 Capp of the comics |
| 7 Poor old horses          | 19 Like a small angle |
| 8 _ Wednesday; Lent opener | 21 Homes for hippies  |
| 9 Use your eyes            | 24 Jump               |
| 10 Scold                   |                       |

- 25 Throw  
 26 Somewhat improper  
 27 Actress Pompeo  
 28 Come to shore  
 29 Not moving  
 30 Verboten  
 32 Discarded part of an apple  
 33 Cry's partner, in phrase  
 35 Gull's cousin  
 37 Not at all spicy  
 38 Cartoon rabbit  
 40 Go with the flow  
 41 End-of-semester event  
 43 Votes into office  
 44 Bigger  
 46 Spear  
 47 Bridge  
 48 Word of agreement  
 49 Compass direction  
 50 Helpful suggestion  
 52 Tiny shelters  
 53 Tilt to one side  
 55 Words before a honeymoon  
 56 Popular pet  
 57 PC alternative

Tribune Media Services



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

**LAGUNA RESIDENTS FIRST**, a nonprofit advocacy group, is calling on residents to have their voices heard concerning approval of major development projects in the city.

**MEASURE**

Continued from page A1

city's registered voters as of the last election will have to be collected. Laguna Residents First will be aiming to collect roughly 2,000 signatures, David Raber, a co-founder of the political action committee, said. If approved, the proposal would result in the establishment of an ordinance that would allow residents to vote on major development or redevelopment projects within 750 feet of Coast Highway or Laguna Canyon Road, the routes leading into and out of the city.

"Laguna's a unique town in an unusual location, and we need to preserve its value for residents, merchants and visitors alike," Merrill Anderson, assistant treasurer for Laguna Residents First, said in a statement.

"Overdevelopment and gridlock are valid concerns, and residents should have the right to vote on projects that could affect their property values, as well as their quality of life."

The ballot initiative argues that increasing traffic raises concerns for public safety, public health and quality of life, and that land use intensification

should be approached carefully due to the limited size of the city.

It asks for major development projects to be unique, mindful of the impacts on neighbors and visitors, and consider ways to preserve the town's aesthetic beauty.

Raber said he believes that projects reviewed by the residents as well as the City Council, result in better outcomes, citing the Montage resort as one such example.

"I just know what a quality job was done there in planning," Raber said.

"I can't help but think that having the residents vote on accepting a very large project kind of raises the bar for developers to really think about the impact of the development on the community, on the environment, and come up with a good proposal that would make sense for the operators, the owners, of course, but also makes sense for the community."

The initiative provides a handful of criteria that would trigger a vote by residents, including projects that would see an average of at least 200 additional daily trips in town and those that do not supply a "reasonably necessary number" of spaces for parking.

Projects utilizing contiguous lots to form a sin-

gle parcel exceeding 7,500 square feet (or 6,000 square feet where the Downtown Specific Plan applies) would also be subject to voter approval under the measure.

Residential projects with less than 10 units, low-income housing, and projects exclusively pertaining to the development of a school for students in kindergarten through high school, a hospital, a museum or a place of worship would not be subject to the initiative.

Nor would refurbishment projects to address damage from earthquakes, fire, flooding, wind or other disasters, provided that the structure does not exceed its "original size, placement and density."

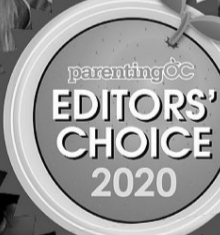
The proposal is currently being reviewed by the city. Once the ballot title and summary are provided by the city attorney, Laguna Residents First will have 180 days to circulate the petition.

Prior to circulation, a notice of intent with the ballot title and summary must be published by the proponents.

The Orange County Registrar of Voters will have 30 business days to verify signatures upon their submission.

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**South Coast Repertory**  
 Orange County's Tony Award-winning Theatre

**LIVE THEATRE UNDER THE STARS AT MISSION SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO**



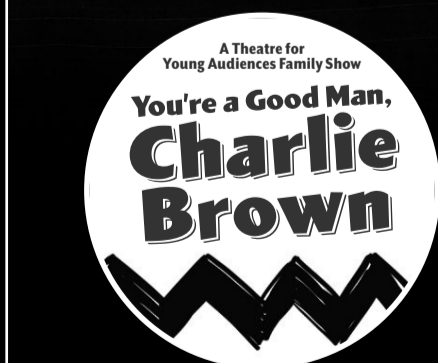
by José Cruz González  
 directed by Christopher Acebo

**Jul 15, 17, 23, 25, 29, 31**  
 Performances at 7:30 p.m.

It's the 1970s and women can't be mariachis...or can they?

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 book, music & lyrics by Clark Gesner  
 additional dialogue by Michael Mayer  
 additional music & lyrics by Andrew Lipka  
 directed by Kari Hayter

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**KIDS**

Continued from page A1

Adriana is grateful a program like this exists for her daughter, who was diagnosed with leukemia in May 2018. She has been in remission since soon after diagnosis, but also had to deal with a bad bout of pneumonia as her immune system was weakened.

“We did almost lose her,” said Adriana Arroyo, who lives in Fullerton. “She’s been looking forward to this. You know, she’s been isolated for the longest time, even way before COVID. She’s always looking forward to everything. It seems like she’s not really scared. We’re the ones who are little more scared, of getting her exposed to everything.”

Miracles for Kids, a non-profit based in Irvine, has been running the camps for the last decade-plus for children ages 5 to 18.

Camp founder Tom Swanecamp, a Miracles for Kids board member, said the surf camp started out as a partnership with Billa-bong.

“Billabong was offering auction items from some of their pro surfers, and I built a relationship with a few of their marketing people over there,” Swanecamp said. “We got talking about what we can do to take it to the next level.”

Miracles for Kids now partners with Oceanside-based Waves of Impact for the surf camp, as well as Boardriders, which donates the boards and wetsuits.

Miracles for Kids chief executive Autumn Strier said the organization typically hosts up to four combined paddleboard and surf camps each summer.

This year that number is two, as it is building back up after having to cancel events last year due to the coronavirus pandemic.

“Our families were deeply impacted when we had to cancel outdoor programming and wellness activities last summer,”



Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

**MIRACLE FOR KIDS** board member and camp founder Tom Swanecamp speaks to participants on Thursday at Newport Aquatic Center in Newport Beach.

Strier said.

“We had to focus on keeping the families safe, and that included keeping them home and delivering food to their homes. It did not include the ability, in a large group, to get them out in the sunshine where they could just be a kid.”

On Thursday, the kids were set to go back to Newport Aquatic Center for lunch, followed by an awards ceremony. In a typical year, that would include medals, but not this time.

“We just move and adjust,” Strier said. “Tom has been flexing and adjusting with this program for years, and our kids are so resilient. They just want to be out here and have fun.”

That is ultimately the

**“We had to focus on keeping the families safe, and that included keeping them home and delivering food to their homes. It did not include the ability, in a large group, to get them out in the sunshine where they could just be a kid.”**

— Autumn Strier

Miracles for Kids chief executive

name of the game, and the goal of the camp.

“The whole intent is to have water sports, get kids out of their homes, out of their hospital beds,” Swanecamp said. “Today isn’t about treatment, medication, pills, needles. It’s just a beach day.”

other challenges many of the kids at the camp face.

Kristofer was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia three years ago and is currently undergoing chemotherapy at Children’s Hospital of Orange County.

Miracles for Kids helps his family through bill pay and basic needs programs.

Others also support in different ways.

Eight members of the Mater Dei High School boys’ lacrosse team were on hand Thursday to aid the youngsters.

Strier said the Mater Dei community has always been supportive of Miracles for Kids.

“It’s super-cool,” said Dylan Lin, a Mater Dei incoming senior and New-

port Beach resident.

“This just gives the kids a chance to go in the water, hang out, have a good time.”

Having family members present at the camps is a big part of the Miracle for Kids mission, Strier said.

“Stability of the entire family is the goal of Miracles for Kids,” she said.

“It includes bringing Mom, Dad, brothers, sisters, cousins — anyone who wants to come out. We want to make sure that everybody has mental wellness, because it impacts the patient. If everybody is more calm and stable at home, the patient does better.”

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Don Leach | Staff Photographer

**A VIEW OF** the Hotel Laguna from Main Beach as shown on May 12.

**HOTEL**

Continued from page A1

still under an appeal to the California Coastal Commission. City officials have notified the state coastal commission that minor work would be occurring at the site.

Additionally, prior to issuance of a temporary use permit for the restaurant, lobby, bar and kitchen on the first floor, a structural engineer will inspect the building to make sure it is safe to occupy. City officials said inspectors will also routinely be making rounds to ensure no unpermitted

work occurs.

“The decision by the city is vindication for me, my family and the entire team at the Laguna Beach Company,” said Honarkar in a statement. “We are thrilled to get back to work and complete the first floor restoration and renovation of the Hotel Laguna.”

“The final touches are expected to take just a few weeks to complete. Then, we will open the doors and join together with the Laguna community to honor the hotel’s storied history while celebrating its future,” Honarkar said.

“The reopening will be an important milestone for

our family-owned company that has been a part of the Laguna community for more than two decades,” he added. “Bringing Hotel Laguna back to life is just one way we plan on celebrating the unique lifestyle and unmistakable character that make Laguna such a special place.”

Honarkar’s real estate investment firm, Laguna Beach Co., signed a 99-year-lease of the historic property that went into effect January 2019. The hotel — known by its red and white striped awning — has been closed since 2017

See **Hotel**, page A4

**CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS**

B	R	A	D	D	A	N	A	S	B	E	T	A
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8	7	3	9	1	2	4	6	5				
5	4	1	8	3	6	2	7	9				
9	2	6	7	4	5	1	8	3				

South Coast Repertory Theatre Conservatory  
presents *The Summer Players* in

**Peter Pan**

a musical based on the play by  
**SIR JAMES M. BARRIE**

lyrics by **CAROLYN LEIGH** music by **MORRIS (MOOSE) CHARLAP**

additional lyrics by **BETTY COMDEM & ADOLF GREEN** additional music by **JULE STYNE**

originally directed, choreographed & adapted by  
**JEROME ROBBINS**

directed by **HISA TAKAKUWA** music direction by **ERIN MCNALLY**

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Photos by Don Leach | Staff Photographer

GRIGOR GRIGORYAN, left, and Raymond Shirvanyan, of cannabis retailer Sesh, at Costa Mesa's State of the City.

STATE

Continued from page A1

mize a commercial enterprise that will create new streams of tax revenue and forge new business partnerships.

The City Council in June passed ordinances regulating the sales and delivery of retail cannabis, effectively implementing Measure Q, a ballot initiative passed

by voters in November. Proprietors may begin submitting applications for conditional use permits Aug. 2.

With a host of potential applicants looking to hang a shingle in Costa Mesa, the chamber is seizing on the opportunity to grow its membership.

In a June 16 virtual "Cannabis Kickoff" event, officials encouraged dispensary owners to join and sponsor local events like the

State of the City address.

In exchange, they said, they would help write letters of support business owners could include in their applications to the city.

That message was driven home at Thursday's chamber-hosted event, as Tom Johnson, president emeritus of the chamber and member of the group's Cannabis Task Force, shared the vision of a new, more progressive organiza-



MAYOR JOHN STEPHENS in the State of the City address at the Renee and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall welcomed retail cannabis business owners.

tion. "We want to be a model chamber of commerce, to let other communities know how to interact with the cannabis industry and make them successful partners," said Johnson, who emceed the event.

So far, the messaging seems to be working. Five area cannabis retailers sponsored Thursday's event including one company, Sesh, which was a \$10,000 platinum sponsor, alongside C.J. Segerstrom and Sons and South Coast Plaza.

In his remarks, Stephens reminded audience members that Measure Q passed with more than

65% of the vote, more than any single council member elected to office in November. He went on to explain the incentive for ensuring the transition to legal sales is successful.

Retail cannabis will be taxed at 7% — 1% of which will be used to fund two programs in support of local artists and first-time homebuyers, he said. City staff have estimated the industry, once up and running, could bring in at least \$3 million annually.

"So, buy your cannabis in Costa Mesa," the mayor added.

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Legal Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE AND OF INTENTION TO TRANSFER ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE(S) (UCC Sec. 6105 et seq. and B & P 24073 et seq.) Escrow No. 21-2197-DK NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a bulk sale of assets and a transfer of alcoholic beverage license(s) is about to be made. The name(s) and business address(es) of the Seller(s)/Licensee(s) are: J SAN CROSSROADS, INC., 3972 BARRANCA PKWY STE 1, IRVINE, CA 92606

Legal Notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF COSTA MESA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING The Costa Mesa Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at City Hall Council Chambers, 77 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa, California and virtual locations on Monday, July 26, 2021 at 6:00 PM, or as soon as possible thereafter, to consider the following item:

Legal Notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF COSTA MESA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING The Costa Mesa Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at City Hall Council Chambers, 77 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa, California and virtual locations on Monday, July 26, 2021 at 6:00 PM, or as soon as possible thereafter, to consider the following item:

Legal Notices

Notice of Sale of Real Property at Private Sale Case# 30-2021-01183935-PR-LA-CJC In the Superior Court of California, for the County of ORANGE In the matter of the Estate of JOHN W. CHEEK, III, Deceased. Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell at Private sale to the highest and best bidder, subject to confirmation of said Superior Court, on or after the 26th day of July, 2021 at the office of Lani M. Goodman, Esq., Sundstedt & Goodman, 7755 Center Avenue, 11th Floor, Huntington Beach, CA 92647 all the right, title and interest of said deceased at the time of death and all the right, title and interest the estate has acquired in addition to that of said deceased in and to all the certain property situated in the city of Costa Mesa, County of Orange, State of California, particularly described as follows: The real property in the City of Costa Mesa, County of Orange, State of California, described as:

Legal Notices

DATE OF OPENING BIDS: Bids will be received at the City of Laguna Beach until 10:00:00 a.m. on August 2, 2021, at which time the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud in the Laguna Beach City Council Chambers located at 505 Forest Avenue, Laguna Beach, CA 92651. All bids must be submitted online through Planet Bids. No Hand-delivered or courier delivered bid packages will be allowed.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK: The work to be performed shall include, but not be limited to: building prep, pressure washing, removal of loose or peeling material, patching holes, sealing cracks, applying a prime coat and a paint coat to exterior and interior surfaces and painting all fascia, gutters, gates, support buildings, and bollards.

PRE-BID MEETING: It is the bidder's responsibility to inspect the site of the proposed work to satisfy themselves of the actual conditions and the degree to which work will be required as part of their bid. A mandatory, pre-bid meeting has been scheduled to facilitate this on July 19, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. at Fire Station No. 2 (285 Agate Street, Laguna Beach, CA 92651). Staff will be available at the meeting to answer any questions.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK: The work to be performed shall include, but not be limited to: building prep, pressure washing, removal of loose or peeling material, patching holes, sealing cracks, applying a prime coat and a paint coat to exterior and interior surfaces and painting all fascia, gutters, gates, support buildings, and bollards.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Contractor must possess a minimum of three (3) years' experience within the last five (5) years. Bidders who fail to meet these minimum qualifications shall have their bids deemed "non-responsive."

LICENSE REQUIREMENT: In addition to any and all relevant City, State and Federal permits and licenses required in the Agreement, the Contractor must possess a valid and current class B or C33 California License and submit a copy thereof. The name and license number will be supplied to the City within one (1) calendar day after effective date of the contract, and any changes forwarded within twenty-four (24) hours of said change.

PROJECT ADMINISTRATION: All questions relative to this project prior to opening bids shall be prepared in writing and transmitted to the attention of Andrew Hill, Fire Captain by email to ahill@lagunabeachcity.net with a copy to Adam Gufarotti, Senior Public Works Analyst at agufarotti@lagunabeachcity.net. No inquiries will be accepted later than five (5) business days prior to the bid opening date as this would not allow time to respond to all plan holders. No phone inquiries will be accepted



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

A STOP work order sign at the front of the Hotel Laguna.

HOTEL

Continued from page A3

when its last operator's lease ran out.

It is one of the most recognizable buildings in Laguna Beach.

The hotel was initially constructed in the 1880s before it was demolished due to fire concerns in 1928. Its current iteration was dedicated in 1930 and is the building that most visitors and residents would recognize standing today.

The city issued a stop work order in May. A letter sent to Honarkar noted at least three stop work orders were issued between June and August last year for extensive work being done to the interior and exterior of the hotel without permits.

"Hotel Laguna is a historic landmark and an important asset to this community," wrote community development director Marc Wiener.

"It is critical that all work is done in the correct manner and in accordance with

the applicable regulations so that the historic asset is protected and all legal mandates are respected."

City officials said developers were working on a plan for the overall restoration of the hotel with a schedule and description of the work ahead, which staff will then evaluate and determine what use permits or coastal development permits may be necessary.

The comprehensive plan will also be subject to the review of the city's planning commission prior to any further construction.

"Hotel Laguna is a historic landmark and an important asset to this community, and we are supportive of the end-goal of restoring Hotel Laguna," city manager Shohreh Dupuis said in a statement. "At the same time, we will continue to make it clear that all the procedures and requirements applicable to the project are to be followed."

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Daily Pilot

A Times Community News publication incorporating the Huntington Beach Independent, Coastline Pilot, Orange Coast Daily Pilot and the Newport Harbor News Press combined with Daily Pilot

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