

Daily Pilot

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2024 /// dailypilot.com

Mayor asks N.B. residents to be 'helpers'

At a Wake Up! Newport meeting the mayor renews his call for volunteerism and gives an overview of the state of the city.

BY LILLY NGUYEN

As part of a Wake Up! Newport panel hosted by the Newport Beach Chamber of Commerce, Mayor Will O'Neill spoke to members of the chamber and the public Thursday in a state of the city address that hearkened back to his idea for "The Year of the Volunteer" in 2020 when he was last mayor.

O'Neill noted with a smile that his last state of the city address was one of the few speeches he'd been able to give in-person that year prior to the shutdowns.

"There's a lot of ability to look back on that [year] and have a dark sense of humor ..., but I don't think that's really the Newport way of looking back on times of troubles. I think we look back on it and think about all the ways that we showed our resilience and we showed our character," said O'Neill.

"There were a lot of moments during that year where a lot of people stepped up and did amazing things," he said.

O'Neill called attention to the efforts of Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian and people like restaurateur Mario Marovic, who received the key to the city in December, in the earliest days of the pandemic. He pointed to the junior lifeguard program that year, which had been in danger of being shuttered because of exposure risks and how it managed successfully that summer. He also noted the street infrastructure upgrades that were able to happen that year because people were driving less.

"It's one of those things where you

See **Mayor**, page A3



Photos by Allen J. Schaben | Los Angeles Times

A LIFEGUARD patrols the beach as a beachgoer sits near tar balls and debris at the high-tide line at Huntington Dog Beach on Friday.

Oil sheen off the coast

Unified Command continues to investigate a possible spill that spanned about 2.5 miles long and half a mile wide Friday. Tar balls were seen on the sand.

BY MATT SZABO

An oil sheen discovered off the coast of Huntington Beach on Thursday night dredged up memories of a significant oil spill less than three years ago.

The U.S. Coast Guard received reports at about 6:50 p.m. Thursday of an unknown substance in the water 1.5 miles off the coast of Huntington Beach. Coast Guard pollution responders worked through the night with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR), Huntington Beach lifeguards and the Orange County Sheriff's Department.



A DOG CHASES another near tar balls in the sand at the high-tide line at Huntington Dog Beach on Friday.

See **Sheen**, page A4

Laguna Beach celebrates trees

Arbor Day event at Boat Canyon Park features native tree planting, recognition of winners in a youth art contest.

BY ANDREW TURNER

A couple hundred tree enthusiasts turned out for the annual Arbor Day celebration at Boat Canyon Park in Laguna Beach on Thursday afternoon.

The attendees had a multitude of community organizations and environmentally focused groups to learn from.

Laguna Beach Public Works Department provided an opportunity for kids to spin and win prizes, which served as an ice-breaker and a chance to teach about composting.

Anaheim-based Street Tree Revival, which helps save city trees from ending up in landfills, showed some of its handiwork, bringing wood slabs with intricate designs engraved via laser.

The Laguna Beach Garden Club had a couple of its members dress up in bee costumes. Laguna Canyon Conservancy



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

MAYOR SUE KEMPF and city arborist Matthew Barker join kids in planting a pine tree during the Arbor Day festival at Boat Canyon Park.

asked those who passed by to identify which fruits were on their table. Those who flaunted their knowledge went home with a nutritious treat.

Additional community groups on hand included Crystal Cove Conservancy, LOCA Arts Education, Laguna Canyon Founda-

tion, Laguna Greenbelt and the South Laguna Community Garden, among others.

"The importance of Arbor Day is to connect with our community, celebrate trees, appreciate the benefits they provide to our

See **Trees**, page A4

ELECTION 2024

With thin leads, H.B.'s Measure A and B look on track for approval

BY LILLY NGUYEN

Although an estimated 188,544 ballots countywide are not yet processed, according to the Orange County Registrar of Voters' Office, many early results reported on Super Tuesday have held steady. Most notably, the leads established Wednesday evening for Measures A and B in Huntington Beach had been maintained as of Friday evening.

The updated results for local races being watched by the Daily Pilot are as follows: Huntington Beach's Measure A, which in part deals with requiring voter identification at the polls, has received "yes" votes on 52.7% of the ballots counted, down from the 54.1% reported Wednesday evening. The "yes" votes on Measure B also continue to lead the "no" votes, with 56.8% of the ballots but have also dropped from the initially reported 58.2%. Mea-

sure C continues to be rejected by voters, with 53.8% of ballots being cast against the measure, up from the 52.6% reported Wednesday.

Conservative leaders in the city said Wednesday they are confident both Measures A and B will pass.

Meanwhile, local congressional races have narrowed down likely candidates for the November election.

The race for the 45th Congressional District will likely pit incumbent Rep. Michelle Steel, a Republican, and Derek Tran, a Democrat. Tran leads the current Democratic race for the seat by a slim 1.3% lead over Garden Grove Councilwoman Kim Nguyen-Penalzoza. Tran had 16.2% of the votes while Nguyen-Penalzoza had 14.9% as of Friday evening. The district includes Garden Grove, Westminster, Cerritos, Fountain

See **Election**, page A3

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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 (844) 477-7869 or visit this Internet Web site www.stoxposting.com, using the file number assigned to this case CR23-1063. 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 TENANT: Effective 1/1/2021. 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, assigned to this case CR23-1063 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, by remitting the funds and affidavit described in Section 2924m(c) of the Civil Code, 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. PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT if the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. Further, if the foreclosure sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid and shall have no further recourse or remedy against the Mortgagor, Mortgagee, or Trustee herein. If you have previously been discharged in bankruptcy, you may have been released of personal liability for this loan in which case this notice is intended to exercise the note holders rights against the real property only. As required by law, you are notified that a negative credit reporting may be submitted to a credit report agency if you fail to fulfill the terms of your credit obligation. 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. Date: 3/4/2024 COUNTY RECORDS RESEARCH, INC. 4952 WARNER AVENUE #105 HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA 92649 PHONE #: (714) 846-6634 or (800)664-2567 FAX #: (714) 846-8720 TRUSTEE'S SALE LINE (844) 477-7869 Sales Website: www.stoxposting.com HOAI PHAN COUNTY RECORDS RESEARCH, INC., TRUSTEE DIVISION



NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: RONALD L. DONAHUE AKA RONALD LEIGH DONAHUE AKA RONALD DONAHUE CASE NO. 30-2024-01381368-PR-PW-CMC

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both, of RONALD L. DONAHUE AKA RONALD LEIGH DONAHUE AKA RONALD DONAHUE.

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by ANTHONY J. WILLIAMS, JR. in the Superior Court of California, County of ORANGE.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that ANTHONY J. WILLIAMS, JR. be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

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 in this court as follows: 05/02/24 at 1:30PM in Dept. CM06 located at 3390 HARBOR BLVD., COSTA MESA, CA 92626

NOTICE IN PROBATE CASES

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 a 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 Petitioner
PHILLIP L. TANGALAKIS - SBN 78379
TANGALAKIS & TANGALAKIS
4264 OVERLAND AVENUE
CULVER CITY CA 90230
Telephone (310) 839-5179
3/8, 3/9, 3/15/24
CNS-3789795#
NEWPORT HARBOR NEWS PRESS COMBINED WITH DAILY PILOT

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: JAMES EDWARD FRANCIS, AKA JAMES FRANCIS AND JIM FRANCIS 30-2024-013769964-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 Edward Francis, aka James Francis and Jim Francis**

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by **Lisa Isola** in the Superior Court of California, County of Orange

The Petition for Probate requests that **Lisa Isola** 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 **05/09/2024 at 1:30 p.m. in Dept. CM06** located at Superior Court of California, County of Orange
3390 Harbor Blvd
Costa Mesa, CA 92626-1554
Costa Mesa Justice Complex

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 a 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 petitioner:
Lori Silver, Esq.
Law Office of Lori Silver
187 El Dorado Street
Monterey, CA 93940
(831) 375-3030

Huntington Beach man suspected of stabbing in Long Beach nabbed at LAX

BY SARA CARDINE

A Huntington Beach man was arrested Monday on suspicion of murder after a man was fatally stabbed outside a Dave's Hot Chicken in Long Beach, where a fight broke out early Sunday morning, according to police and news media reports.

Brandon Nguyen was booked on charges of murder after Long Beach homicide detectives located him at Los Angeles International Airport on Monday and detained him without incident. He is being held without bail, according to an LBDP release issued Monday.

The 29-year-old allegedly stabbed a 20-year-old Long Beach man during what restaurant patrons described as a verbal confrontation between two groups of people that quickly escalated into a physical fight, KTLA reported Monday.

Long Beach police officers, who had been responding to another call for service near the city's Belmont Shore neighborhood, were called to the 5200 block of East 2nd Street at

around 1 a.m. and arrived on scene in two minutes to find one victim suffering from at least one stab wound in his upper body, the release stated.

Officers rendered medical aid to the victim — identified by KTLA as Adrian Hernandez, 20, of Long Beach — until paramedics arrived and took over, transporting the man to a nearby hospital. He later succumbed to his injuries, police reported.

The suspect fled from the scene and was the subject of a search by LBDP detectives, who recovered security camera footage and worked with "business and community partners" to identify Nguyen as the person responsible for the stabbing.

Their efforts led them on Monday to LAX, where Nguyen was located and transported to Long Beach City Jail. A police spokeswoman Tuesday would not say whether it is believed Nguyen was attempting to leave the area or may have worked at the airport, as the investigation is still ongoing.

While a search warrant was later served on the suspect's Huntington Beach

residence, it is unclear whether a murder weapon or other evidence may have been retrieved from the property.

Long Beach Police Chief Wally Hebeish praised local officers and detectives for their prompt response Sunday and for working with the department's Special Investigations Division to locate and apprehend Nguyen.

"We will not tolerate acts of violence in our community and we will commit all available resources to ensuring that those responsible for crimes like this are held accountable," he said in Monday's release.

Anyone who may have information about the incident is urged to call Long Beach police homicide detectives Eric Thai or Alfredo Chairez at (562) 570-7244. Anonymous tips can be submitted through "LA Crime Stoppers" by calling (800) 222-TIPS (8477), downloading the "P3 Tips" app via smartphone (available at the Apple app store or Google Play) or by visiting LACrimeStoppers.org.

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Traffic collision kills teenage bicyclist in Huntington Beach

BY LILLY NGUYEN

An 18-year-old Huntington Beach resident died Thursday after an early morning traffic collision on Talbert Avenue, just west of Bell Circle.

Huntington Beach police said they responded to reports of a crash involving a maroon 2016 Kia Sorento and a bicyclist at around 6:15 a.m. Upon arrival, officers found the bicyclist in the roadway and trans-

ported him to a local hospital where he later died of his injuries.

The Orange County Sheriff's Department identified the victim as David Mario Garcia Olmos.

The driver of the Kia — identified as a 26-year-old man from Fullerton — remained on the scene and cooperated with authorities.

Impairment did not appear to be a factor, police said.

Early investigation suggests the driver of the Kia and the bicyclist were both traveling westbound on Talbert Avenue, with the cyclist in the bike lane when they collided.

The investigation is ongoing. Police are asking that those with information reach out to traffic investigators at (714) 536-5670.

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THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Mathews

- ACROSS**
- 1 Small branch
 - 5 Business abbreviation
 - 8 "Not so!"
 - 13 Prepare for impact
 - 14 Neither's partner
 - 15 Get to
 - 16 Plant with tiny white flowers: 4 wds.
 - 19 Size bigger than sm.
 - 20 "Umbrella" singer, to fans
 - 21 Steal
 - 22 Elegant and polished
 - 24 War movie, often
 - 25 Brides' accessories
 - 27 Unwanted sound
 - 31 Onus
 - 34 Cook in a hot pan
 - 36 Ewoks' home
 - 37 Like slanted type: Abbr.
 - 38 Wealthy people
 - 40 Rip
 - 41 Overfills with food
 - 43 Fool
 - 44 Knocks
 - 45 Doesn't play by the rules
 - 46 Barrel racer's show
 - 48 Autry or Kelly
 - 51 Sickly-looking
 - 54 "Lord of the Rings" villain
 - 56 Go downhill fast
 - 57 Apple computer
 - 59 Passive-aggressive tactic: 2 wds.
 - 62 Old-time saloon siren
 - 63 Big name in lip balm
 - 64 Raring to go
 - 65 Anxious
 - 66 Map lines: Abbr.
 - 67 Relaxing

	1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12
13						14					15			
16						17				18				
19				20					21					
	22		23					24						
				25				26			27	28	29	30
31	32	33				34			35		36			
37						38				39		40		
41				42		43					44			
45							46			47				
			48		49	50		51				52	53	
		54	55					56				57		58
59							60				61			
62							63				64			
65							66				67			

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.

2		3		4				9
8			6					5
			9		8	1		
	5	8	3					1
	9				1	8	4	
		5	2	6				
3					5			2
1				7		3		8

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

- resorts
- DOWN**
- 1 Attempts
 - 2 Guy hiding in kids' books
 - 3 Very unfriendly
 - 4 First President's first name
 - 5 Ahead: 3 wds.
 - 6 Japanese drama form
 - 7 Thin pancake
 - 8 Nutty confection
 - 9 Restraint in tough situations: 2 wds.
 - 10 Healthy
 - 11 Laptop brand

- 12 "How come?"
 - 13 Social justice acronym
 - 17 Complete
 - 18 Bigwig, for short
 - 23 Elis, e.g.: 2 wds.
 - 26 Enjoy the taste of
 - 28 Notion
 - 29 Sudsy stuff
 - 30 Screws up
 - 31 The D in CD
 - 32 Provo's state
 - 33 London gallery name
 - 35 Take back
 - 39 "Calendar Girl" singer Neil
 - 42 With a serious manner
 - 47 A-listers
 - 49 "But that's _ all!"
 - 50 Go in
 - 52 Pricy watch brand
 - 53 Gets less intense
 - 54 Make binding, in a way
 - 55 Landed
 - 58 O-line member: Abbr.
 - 59 Govt. lender
 - 60 Thin bar
 - 61 Atlas component
- Tribune Media Services



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

NEWPORT BEACH Mayor Will O'Neill gives the annual state of the city address during Speak Up Newport Mayor's Dinner four years ago.

AROUND TOWN

SPECIAL PRICING FOR PAGEANT OF MASTERS ENDS MARCH 17

Pageant of the Masters is holding a limited time ticket offering to this summer's production of 'A La Mode: The Art of Fashion' that applies to Monday through Thursday evening performances from July 6 to Aug. 30.

'In celebration of St. Patrick's Day, we're spreading some Irish luck by offering special discounted tickets that will save our patrons some green,' Sharbie Higuchi, marketing and public relations director at the Festival of Arts, stated in a news release.

Tickets can be purchased online at foapom.com or by calling (800) 487-3378. Use promo code GREEN24 for \$45 tickets in Main Tier seating, up to a \$70 value.

FOR THE RECORD

A story published Friday on the gallery at Golden West College incorrectly stated Heather Bowling is the curator and director of Brea Gallery. She is the curator at John Wayne Airport.

MAYOR

Continued from page A1

look back and you just say, 'OK. We stood up and we understood it was a really difficult time, but how do we handle it?' and we handled it with character and resilience, which says a lot about our community."

He said this year, as was intended for 2020, will focus on celebrating "helpers." He pointed to local organizations like Newport Beach Foundation, the Ben Carlson Foundation, the Patrick's Purpose Foundation, Friends of OASIS and former councilwoman and community activist Jean

Watt, who died last year. O'Neill also touched on statistics from the Newport Beach police and fire departments, city departments and upcoming or ongoing public works projects including the trash interceptor, the Newport Beach Junior Lifeguards headquarters, the Superior Avenue bridge and the replacement of the Balboa Branch Library and Fire Station No. 1 on Balboa Boulevard. He expressed his appreciation to city staff, touching on the general plan updates and the Balboa Island Ferry.

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James Carbone

A VOTER walks into Huntington Beach Civic Center on Super Tuesday to vote.

ELECTION

Continued from page A1

Valley, Buena Park, Fullerton, Placentia and Brea.

The much-contested race in the state's 47th Congressional District appears to be a fight between Republican and former state Assemblyman Scott Baugh and current state Sen. Dave Min. Baugh is the leading Republican on the ticket with 32.5% of the votes. Min trails behind with an estimated 26% of the votes, ahead of community activist Joanna Weiss, who con-

gratulated Min for being the presumptive Democratic nominee on Wednesday. Data indicates Weiss had about 19.3% of the votes as of Friday.

In the 72nd State Assembly District, Assemblywoman and Republican Diane Dixon will face off with community activist and Democrat Dom Jones. Dixon currently has about 60.8% of the votes while Jones has 39.3%. Incumbent Assemblywoman Cottie Petrie-Norris will vie for votes with Republican and former Newport Beach City Councilman Scotty Peotter. Petrie-Norris leads with 55.2% of the votes while Peotter follows with 31.1%.

About 1.8 million people are registered voters in Orange County. Of those, 28.3% voted in the primary, according to the Orange County Registrar of Voters' Office.

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speakupnewport.com/housing-amendments-2024.

NEWPORT BEACH ARTS COMMISSION SEEKS INPUT ON SCULPTURES

A poll is up again for residents of Newport Beach to weigh in on the city's sculpture garden in Civic Center Park. The poll will close on March 11.

Those interested in responding can visit sparkoc.com/nb_sculpture_poll.

— Daily Pilot Staff

CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS

Crossword grid with answers filled in. Words include TWIG, INCA, PSHAW, BRACE, NOR, REACH, LILY, OF, THE, VALLEY, MED, RICH, PILFER, SOIGNE, EPIC, VEILS, NOISE, DUTY, SEAR, ENDOR, ITAL, HAVES, TEAR, SATES, DOPE, RAP, CHEAT, RODEO, GENE, SALLOW, SAURON, SKI, MAC, SILENT, TREATMENT, GIRL, EOS, EAGER, ANTSY, RDS, SPAS.

9x9 Sudoku grid with numbers filled in. Row 1: 2 1 3 5 4 7 6 8 9. Row 2: 8 4 9 6 1 3 7 2 5. Row 3: 5 6 7 9 2 8 1 3 4. Row 4: 7 5 8 3 9 4 2 1 6. Row 5: 4 3 1 8 6 2 5 9 7. Row 6: 6 9 2 7 5 1 8 4 3. Row 7: 9 8 5 2 3 6 4 7 1. Row 8: 3 7 4 1 8 5 9 6 2. Row 9: 1 2 6 4 7 9 3 5 8.

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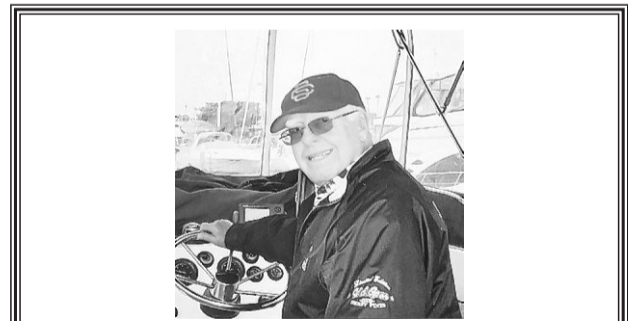
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Donald K Sloper

October 30, 1924 - January 19, 2024

Don Sloper passed away on January 19, 2024 at the age of 99. In recent years he was living in Santa Rosa, California near his older daughter, but his heart and soul never left his beloved Newport Beach, namely Balboa Island. Don was a long time resident on Sapphire Ave who was introduced to the Island as a child when his parents bought an original lot to be used as vacation property. Don grew up deep sea fishing and spending days at the beach. He was the son of Frank and Florence Sloper.

Don served as a quartermaster in the US Coast Guard aboard the Patrol Frigate USS Corpus Christi during World War 2 from April 1943 until May 1946.

After his military service, Don attended and earned his BS degree from the University of Southern California. There he was a member of the founding USC Crew team in 1948 and 1949. He was a lifelong USC Trojans Football fan, and attended many games both home and away.

Don married his wife, Fran in 1951 and had 2 daughters. They enjoyed their life together until her passing in 1992. He worked in the boating industry and owned Fox Marine Specialites in Long Beach, CA. He had been a long-time member of the Balboa Angling Club and the American Legion Post 291. When not fishing, boating, or at a USC Football game, Don enjoyed taking his family on car trips and had a regular golf group in his later years.

Don is survived by his sister, Majorie Adams of Irvine and her family, his two daughters, Patti Fitch (Mark) and Shirley Sloper (Glenn), three grandsons, Jon Fitch (Jamie), Zac Fitch (Melody), and Matt Fitch (Alexa). He has 7 great-grandchildren.

Don's ashes will be scattered at sea off the coast of Newport Beach by USCGC Narwhal.

Donations can be made in Don's memory to the USC Men's Crew by visiting https://www.trojannavy.com/donate. After clicking on the DONATE button, scroll down to "Friends of USC Men's Rowing Fund." Use the "GIVE" button to the right of the account name. You will have the option to choose to make it a memorial gift, and write Don Sloper in the "in memory of" box.

LEGAL NOTICE

CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH Governmental Funds Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances For the Year Ended June 30, 2023

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances table with columns for Revenues, Expenditures, and Fund Balances across various categories like Taxes, Licenses, and Debt Service.

LEGAL NOTICE

City of Newport Beach City's Financial Transactions Report Summary and Statistics Fiscal Year 2023

Summary table showing Revenues, Expenditures, and Fund Balance/Net Position for Governmental and Proprietary Funds. Total Fund Balance/Net Position (Deficit) at end of fiscal year is \$ 247,958,074 for Governmental Funds and \$ 211,805,189 for Proprietary Funds.

SHEEN

Continued from page A1

Early Friday morning, Coast Guard Pollution Responders investigated the situation with a Newport Harbor patrol boat and a Coast Guard helicopter. The oil sheen discovered was 2.5 miles in length and half a mile wide, nearly 3 miles off Huntington Beach near oil platforms Emmy and Eva.

A Unified Command team — consisting of the U.S. Coast Guard, OSPR and the O.C. Sheriff's Department — has been formed to investigate. Coast Guard officials said that no offshore oil platform has reported a spill, and the cause of the sheen was unknown as of Friday afternoon.

The total volume of oil in the ocean was also unknown, Orange County Supervisor Katrina Foley said at a news conference Friday afternoon at Huntington Dog Beach. The Coast Guard deployed two skimmers and a barge to contain the area to clean up, she said.

"We don't want to have a situation like we had in October of 2021, where we had to close our beaches, which impacted our businesses, residents, tourism," Foley said. "I think this time, everybody's at the ready, communicating and coordinating."

Though no Surf City beaches were closed Friday, mariners received an alert to stay away.

Visitors to the dog beach reported seeing tar balls washed on shore, and Foley recommended they be avoided.

"For one, it's very sticky and it's hard to get off your clothes or skin," she said. "It's also not healthy to be in contact with in general. I remember when I was a girl in Santa Barbara, I would get the baby oil out and wipe it off my feet when I went to the beach there. So, we're kind of used to that in California, unfortunately."

Costa Mesa resident Kent Adams noticed a Frisbee-sized circle of oil as he approached the dog beach's southern entrance.

"You rarely see that," Adams said. "I usually stay away from the beach if I know about them because I don't want it all over [my dog]."

Carly Hill, who lives in Irvine,



A JETSKI rides the water near Huntington Dog Beach, where tar balls and debris were found at the high-tide line on Friday.

Allen J. Schaben

was at the dog beach with a friend and a golden retriever puppy, Nala, late Friday morning. They tried to clean oil from Nala's hind legs as she splashed in the sand.

"We've been stuck inside because of the rain," Hill said. "She loves the ocean and the sand ... the ocean is like our livelihood and it's so sad that we destroy it or hurt it, intentionally. We were talking about that with the rain though, too, all of the drains leading to the ocean. It's super unfortunate."

An oil spill off the coast of Huntington Beach in October 2021 dumped more than 25,000 gallons of crude oil into the water, causing the cancellation of the third day of that year's Pacific Airshow. Amplify Energy owned that affected oil rig and ended up paying millions of dollars in settlements and fines.

"At this time, we have no indication that this sheen is related to our operations," Amplify officials said in a statement Friday regarding the most recent sheen spotted. "We will continue to cooperate with the U.S. Coast Guard and other relevant authorities and provide support in any way we can."

The Coast Guard has hired an oil spill response organization to conduct offshore oil collection and is working to identify possible impacts to the shoreline and environmental protection strategies. No oiled wildlife had been observed as of Friday afternoon.

Those who see affected animals are asked not to approach them, but to call the Oiled Wildlife Care Network at (877) 823-6926.

Environmental organization US Ecology was contracted to help with the beach cleanup ef-

fort, Coast Guard representative Richard Uranga said, and was planning a 60-person cleanup at Bolsa Chica State Beach at first light on Saturday. Bolsa Chica has limited access, and there is no call for volunteers, he added.

Huntington Beach Mayor Gracey Van Der Mark said the city was deferring to the Coast Guard and waiting for details like everyone else. She said she took Pacific Coast Highway to come to the office and noticed people enjoying the beaches.

"It just looks like a regular day in Huntington Beach so far ... [but] we're taking it seriously," she said.

The sheen is not believed to pose a threat to neighboring Newport Beach, spokesman John Pope said in an email Friday. However, Newport Beach police and lifeguard personnel are deployed on vessels and monitoring the shoreline.

State Sen. Dave Min (D-Irvine) was the author of SB 559, which called for the immediate shutdown of offshore drilling. The bill was killed in the Senate's Appropriations Committee earlier this year.

"While we are still awaiting further details, I just want to emphasize that the offshore oil platforms off the coast of California are ticking time bombs," said Min, whose district includes Newport Beach, Laguna Beach and part of Huntington Beach, in a statement Friday. "They were built in the 1960s and 1970s, and are long past their expected lifetimes ... There will be more oil spills unless and until these operations are shut down."

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Photos by Don Leach | Staff Photographer

PEYTON KIBBEY, 6, plants a succulent with her mom during the annual Arbor Day festival at Boat Canyon Park in Laguna Beach on Thursday.

TREES

Continued from page A1

community and spread awareness for the role they play in our lives," Mayor Sue Kempf said. "They not only add beauty to our city and build civic pride for Laguna. They are also critical infrastructure."

Kempf added that the Public Works Department planted 37 trees in the last year, while also repairing and restoring dozens of tree wells in the downtown area to allow them more room to grow.

City arborist Matthew Barker recognized the students who participated in a youth art contest, for which he said the theme was "Thank you trees." He added the contest received the most entries this year than in the four it has taken place.

"We had so many entries, I had to go out and buy more prizes," Barker said. Those who received honorable mention went home with bonsai trees.

About a dozen grade-school children assisted city officials in the planting of a native tree. Barker tied his tips for those planting trees at home into the afternoon's ceremonial tree planting. He started by advising that the planting hole should be twice as wide as the container for the tree.

"This is a 24-inch box Torrey pine, so we planted about a 4-foot planting hole," Barker said. "Make sure you plant it at grade and give it plenty of water to really get out all the air pockets in the soil, tamp the soil down really well."

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CHERYL CZYZ and Linda Mayer of Laguna Canyon Conservancy answer questions at their table display during the Arbor Day festival.

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California State Parks seasonal lifeguard Sierra Fockler discovered a 14-inch Pacific football fish around 2:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 13, near the lifeguard station located at Crystal Cove State Park in Orange County. It's the second such case of the fish washing ashore over the last three years. (Courtesy of California State Parks)

Good morning. It's Wednesday, Oct. 25. I'm Carol Cormaci, bringing you this week's [TimesOC newsletter](#) with a look at the latest local news and events.

Watch where you're stepping on O.C.'s famed sands, because you may encounter a rare specimen of marine life. One, in fact, that has very sharp teeth.

That's what happened on a recent afternoon to lifeguard Sierra Fockler, who found a spooky-looking black angler fish, specifically a Pacific football fish, while she was walking near the lifeguard headquarters building on Moro Beach, located within Crystal Cove State Park.