

Daily Pilot

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Court rejects Ohio House lawsuit

Costa Mesa notches win in sober living home battle, as 9th Circuit says city has a right to create rules on group homes.

BY SARA CARDINE

Since Costa Mesa began drafting local laws in 2014 to regulate sober living homes putting down stakes in residential neighborhoods, the city has been the target of numerous lawsuits that have been litigated in federal courts.

Operators have alleged the crackdown on residences where addicts live and convalesce — through the implementation of permitting requirements and a 650-foot buffer between businesses — discriminates against those whose substance abuse constitutes a disability.

Meanwhile, the city has spent nearly \$20 million, Costa Mesa Mayor John Stephens estimated Thursday, responding to legal challenges and defending local statutes.

But while business proprietors claim discrimination, the nation's top legal minds take a different view. Multiple rulings in Costa Mesa's favor have found municipalities have the right to enact laws to preserve the character of neighborhoods and address the noise, traffic and parking impacts of group homes.

Such was the case this week, when a panel of judges with the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals issued an opinion in a dispute between the city of Costa Mesa and operators of the Ohio House, a sober living facility serving about 45 residents at 115 E. Wilson St.

Affirming previous decisions by a federal court judge and a jury, the panel contended that the city was within its right to create and enforce regulations around the operation of group homes.

"Whether the residents of high-density group-living facilities are disabled or not does not inherently dictate whether such facilities will contribute to higher traffic, lack of sufficient parking or increased noise," they reasoned in a 69-page opinion released Wednesday.

"There is sufficient evidence adequate to support the jury's conclusion that the city did not unlawfully interfere with Ohio House's right to provide housing for disabled individuals."

Costa Mesa city leaders lauded the opinion.

"The 9th Circuit is the highest federal court in the land in 23 states, and it becomes a very persuasive authority for state courts," Stephens said Thursday. "So, we basically got approval on how

See *Lawsuit*, page A3



Photos courtesy of Wildlife Jewels

PEOPLE PLANT flowers to attract pollinator species at Castaways Park during Wildlife Jewels' Plant for Hummingbirds and Butterflies Celebration held on National Butterfly Day in March.

Day of gardening set to benefit pollinators

BY ERIC LICAS

A nonprofit invites people to get their hands dirty at an educational day of gardening at Castaways Park in Newport Beach on Sunday in support of hummingbirds, butterflies and other pollinator species critical to the environment.

Wildlife Jewels will host its Plant for Hummingbirds & Butterflies Celebration from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Attendees will spend the afternoon planting varieties of plants like white milkweed, Bowman's fuchsia and bright orange *mimulus aurantiacus*, the organization's founder and executive director Azi Sharif told the Daily Pilot Thursday.

The plants produce nectar that feed species like hummingbirds and butterflies. The birds and insects play an essential role in maintaining the environment, and their populations have seen dramatic declines over the past 25 years, according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.



PARTICIPANTS OF Wildlife Jewels stand at Castaways Park.

"Their health is an indicator of the ecosystem," Sharif said. "They are very sensitive to pesticides and pollution and also habitat loss."

Wildlife Jewels became a nonprofit in 2023, and Sunday will be the second time it has held a planting event at Castaways Park. The day's activities will be set against the scenic backdrop of Newport Harbor and accompanied by displays of

artwork inspired by hummingbirds and butterflies and informative presentations about them. Members of the organization will share stories of injured birds they have rescued and give tips on how to care for them, Sharif said.

More information can be found at wildlifejewels.org.

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Costa Mesa council seats new dais, bids farewell to outgoing members

BY SARA CARDINE

Sidestepping aspersions cast on the integrity of Orange County's electoral process, the Costa Mesa City Council Thursday certified the results of the November election, swearing in two incumbents and two newcomers while celebrating two others leaving the dais.

Mayor John Stephens, elected

at large, and Councilman Loren Gameros, who represents Council District 2, recognized their families, associates and residents for reelecting them into office.

"I want to thank constituents for having faith in me to represent them," said Gameros, who ran unopposed. "I look forward to being there for each and every one of you through thick

and thin, good and bad."

Mike Buley and Jeff Pettis took the oaths of office to serve the city's 1st and 6th council districts, respectively, taking up the mantles of outgoing members Don Harper, who did not seek reelection, and Mayor Pro Tem Jeffrey Harlan, who came up 83 votes short of a second

See *Council*, page A2

Suspect arrested, charged in SoCal crimes

Authorities say South L.A. man committed several armed robberies, including one outside South Coast Plaza.

BY CITY NEWS SERVICE

A South Los Angeles man was in custody Thursday in connection with a series of violent armed robberies in parking lots in Los Angeles and Orange counties, including a heist in which he allegedly shot a victim twice outside the South Coast Plaza shopping mall.

Oshae Pollard, 21, of the Manchester Square neighborhood of Los Angeles, is charged with interference with commerce by robbery — known as a federal Hobbs Act crime — and use of a firearm in furtherance of a crime of violence. He was arrested Wednesday, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office.

From Aug. 25 to Sept. 22, Pollard targeted victims in parking lots in Southern California in a series of crimes — at least three armed robberies and one attempted armed robbery, federal prosecutors allege.

The first robbery occurred on the night of Aug. 25 at the Hustler Casino parking lot in Gardena, where Pollard ran toward a woman and pushed her to the ground, court papers allege.

The victim held onto her purse and yelled for help. Pollard allegedly began pulling on the victim's purse and pulled out a black semiautomatic pistol, placed it into the victim's mouth — breaking her teeth — and said, "If you yell again, I'll kill you," according to charges filed in Santa Ana federal court.

A witness began yelling, and Pollard grabbed the victim's

See *Crimes*, page A4

ALSO FROM THE DAILY PILOT:



James Carbone

EDISON FOOTBALL STANDOUT JULIUS GILICK RUNS FOR HIS LATE FRIEND PAGE A4

THE CROWD: FASHION SHOW AND LUNCHEON BRING OUT DONORS TO HELP FOOD BANK MEET ITS MISSION PAGE A3

Light a Light of Love returns to Huntington Beach Pier



Photos by James Carbone

PEOPLE WALK up and down the Huntington Beach Pier enjoying the lights during the annual Light a Light of Love ceremony in 2022.

BY MATT SZABO

The Waymakers Light a Light of Love parade and snowflake-lighting ceremony has become a time-honored tradition in Huntington Beach.

The 28th annual event returns downtown Sunday, with events including a children's parade at 4 p.m. and entertainment at Pier Plaza and photo opportunities with Santa Claus at 5.

But the highlight is right at 6 p.m., when 82 large snowflakes will be lit simultaneously on both the pier and Main Street. They stay up until at least the first week of January.

Nancy Galeana is the program director of the Waymakers Huntington Beach Youth Shelter, which the event benefits. She was happy to report that all sponsored snowflakes had been accounted for as of Thursday, rais-



THE MARINA High School band smile as they wait for the Light a Light of Love ceremony to start in 2022.

ing thousands of dollars for the shelter.

Still, the youth shelter, which provides services for runaway, homeless, abused and at-risk youth ages 11 to 17, is seeking donations to continue operations.

Snowflake merchandise, including wands, necklaces and

headbands, will be on sale Sunday at Pier Plaza for a suggested donation of \$10.

"It's family friendly, and everyone can come out and support the shelter and learn about the shelter," Galeana said. "We always

See *Light*, page A4

COUNCIL

Continued from page A1

term. Harper, a conservative, wished his colleagues well, reflecting on often being the lone voice on a largely Democratic council, and expressed gratitude to city staff for their hard work and dedication.

Harlan said he was proud to have run a “positive, hopeful and honest campaign.”

“This is probably the last place that I want to be tonight,” he said. “But there’s no place I’d rather be. I’m not going anywhere — I will continue to serve in whatever capacity I can, and I am ever grateful to this community.”

The ceremonies and remarks followed a volley of accusations, delivered in public comments by Stephens’ mayoral competitor James Peters and a handful of speakers who demanded Costa Mesa’s election results be overturned.

Peters claimed a software glitch counted ballots that had been marked as having bad signatures and suggested that during a Nov. 8 bomb scare at the county registrar’s Santa Ana office, vote trends changed after two white vans dropped off ballots.

“This election is a total fraud, and it is violating all of our state laws and federal laws,” he said. “To certify a false election is a federal crime, and you know that Trump is coming into office, so you don’t want to be in his path.”

A Zoom speaker, identifying himself as Joe Acosta, echoed a similar warning. “This is the Trump gold-



James Carbone

COSTA MESA Mayor John Stephens takes the oath of office during a reorganizational meeting of the City Council on Thursday evening.

en age,” he said, “Kash Patel is coming in as FBI director, and you’re going to be prosecuted. You know what happens when you do treason? You get hanged. So just be aware, what’s coming you can’t stop. Just wait for justice.”

Still other speakers, even self-described conservatives, apologized for such comments and extended a welcome to both the returning and incoming council members.

Mike Buley, endorsed by the Republican Party of Orange County, thanked his family for their support in the campaign and said he planned to conduct himself with honesty and integrity.

Pettis shared how, after he unsuccessfully ran against Harlan in 2020, he began to carefully study the city and its inner workings.

“I lost and I watched. I came to the meetings and I came to understand how it works,” he said. “And that’s something I wouldn’t trade in for anything.”

Closing out remarks, Stephens praised the city and the continuing work of its leaders.

“We approach this thing with good will and a good heart. We’re trying to do what’s best for the community and will continue to do it,” he said. “And it’s the honor of my life to preside over this city and be the mayor. I’m very grateful.”

Also during Thursday’s reorganizational meeting, panelists selected 4th District Councilman Manuel Chavez to serve as the city’s next mayor pro tem.

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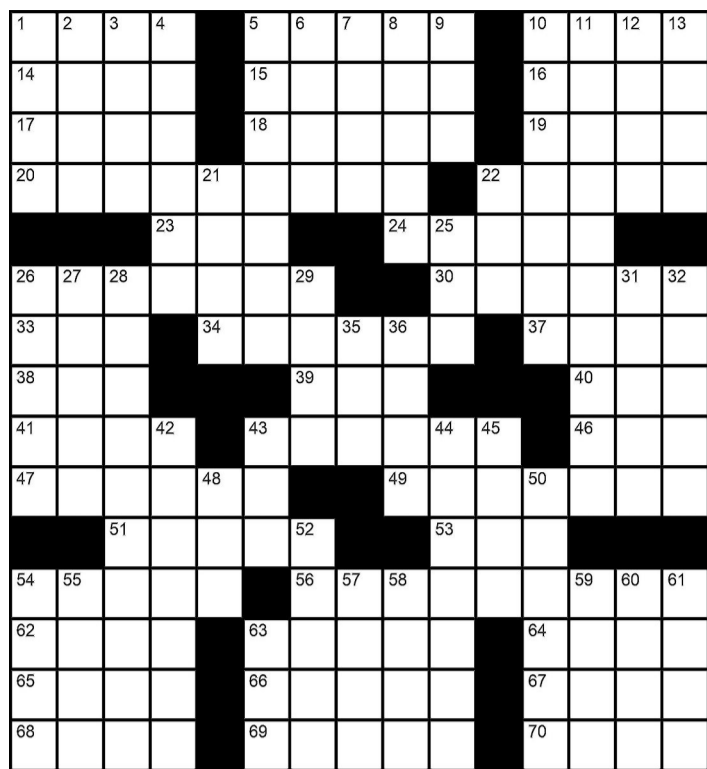
THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Stella Zawistowski

ACROSS

- 1 Gets older
- 5 Porterhouse or sirloin
- 10 Thing
- 14 Exchange for money
- 15 Aquarium fish
- 16 Extinct bird
- 17 Soul singer Thomas
- 18 Drive nuts
- 19 Thus
- 20 Capital of the Netherlands
- 22 Merchandise
- 23 NYC summer clock setting: Abbr.
- 24 Striped stone
- 26 File of documents about a person
- 30 Actors’ reps
- 33 Pen liquid
- 34 Dog’s rewards
- 37 One-pot meal
- 38 “The Old Man and the _”
- 39 Life story, for short
- 40 Intense anger
- 41 Trims with scissors
- 43 Loving touch
- 46 Actor Butterfield
- 47 Swimsuit brand
- 49 Up-and-coming actress
- 51 Sanctify
- 53 Bitter beer
- 54 Mock
- 56 Fish stories: 2 wds.
- 62 Bangkok native
- 63 Close competitor
- 64 Plunge into a pool
- 65 Name for Ireland
- 66 By oneself
- 67 Tied up
- 68 Sports safety gear
- 69 Cried like a kitten
- 70 Take a breather

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.

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

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

- 1 Largest continent
- 2 Infectious bug
- 3 Shade trees
- 4 Candidate lists
- 5 Appetizer
- 6 See to
- 7 Sicilian volcano
- 8 Nice smell
- 9 Jewelry store
- chain
- 10 Forms thoughts
- 11 Heavy, as rain
- 12 Competitive advantage
- 13 Cows’ sounds
- 21 Revise writing
- 22 Dog’s tail movement

- 25 Car fuel
- 26 Frisbees, e.g.
- 27 Do better than
- 28 Conveyance for Tony Hawk
- 29 Singer McEntire
- 31 Using few words
- 32 Blood, _, and tears
- 35 What we breathe
- 36 Foot parts
- 42 Some social media photos
- 43 Trig function: Abbr.
- 44 At a standstill
- 45 Seasoning in a shaker
- 48 _ Leppard
- 50 Magazine subscriber
- 52 Subway entrance
- 54 Ladder part
- 55 _ seed (healthy additive)
- 57 Firmly state
- 58 Country road
- 59 Dwell
- 60 Nights before holidays
- 61 Mailed
- 63 Sheep with horns

Tribune Media Services

FOR THE RECORD

A description of the sculpture “A Novel Idea” in a story in the Nov. 28 edition of the Daily Pilot was based on a photo of an older version of the piece, which made reference to a different collection of books and authors referenced. Titles listed in the piece exhibited in Newport Beach will include “Newport!” by Lenard Davis, “The Grapes of Wrath” by John Steinbeck, “Pride and Prejudice” by Jane Austen, “The Old Man and the Sea” by Ernest Hemingway and “The Art of Body Surfing” by Judge Robert Gardner.

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THE CROWD | B.W. COOK

Fashion show and luncheon bring out donors

What began as a passion project between civic-minded young women raising young children some three-plus decades ago, supporters celebrated a remarkable and formidable anniversary of note this fall in Orange County.



The Harvester's 32nd annual fashion show and luncheon unfolded in considerable style in the grand multi-level foyer of the Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall in Costa Mesa.

Some 340 guests displaying their fashionable best converged in support of the Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County. Reported fundraising totals will reach approximately \$1.6 million enabling the food bank to deliver "dignified, equitable and consistent access to nutritious food in collaboration with its partners."

"For 32 years, Harvesters has stood by Second Harvest Food Bank in its mission to provide nutritious food to families and children in need in Orange County," said **Jassel Kaye**, Harvesters chair. "We are grateful for the extraordinary generosity of our underwriters and donors. Each year, every single dollar raised during the Harvesters Fashion Show & Luncheon goes directly to Second Harvest Food Bank, ensuring hungry neighbors across Orange County are fed and nourished."

The day began with a stunning champagne reception hosted by South Coast Plaza's Mikimoto, the renowned purveyor of the world's highest-quality

pearls and pearl jewelry. The space was decorated with florals capturing the mood and the message of the celebration and included a photo gathering where guests connected during the reception.

The crowd peered the mobile silent auction, offering exclusive items such as the Mikimoto Petit Soleil Akoya cultured pearl earrings, luxury handbags from Ferragamo and Loewe and an afternoon tea experience at Michelin-starred Knife Pleat, donated by acclaimed chef **Tony Esnault** and Restaurateur **Yassmin Sarmadi**.

The auction also featured travel experiences including a Four Seasons Resort getaway in Cabo San Lucas and a private tasting experience at the Napa Valley Reserve.

"With nearly 50% of food-insecure households above the poverty line but still struggling to make ends meet, it's clear that the need for Second Harvest Food Bank's services hasn't decreased in recent years," said **Monica Wood**, Harvesters co-chair. "The pressure to choose between rent and groceries has become commonplace for hardworking families, and Second Harvest has been at the forefront providing relief. We're proud to know that Harvesters' donations play a critical role in helping feed O.C. and are crucial in moving Orange County toward food security for all."

The South Coast Plaza runway show followed, held in the Samuelli Theater across the plaza featuring



Loreen Sarkis

DEBRA GUNN DOWNING and Stephanie Rogers from South Coast Plaza support the Harvesters 32nd annual fashion show and luncheon.

over 35 looks from Balmain's Fall/Winter 2024-25 collections. Following the fashion event, guests reconvened in the concert hall lobby for a gourmet seated luncheon.

"For over two decades, South Coast Plaza has been honored to partner with Harvesters' mission to support Second Harvest Food Bank," shared **Debra Gunn-Downing**, executive director of marketing at South Coast Plaza. "Our sponsorship of the runway show is a highlight of our year and we're proud to play a role in an event that so elegantly combines style with substance, helping to feed our neighbors in need across Orange County."

"This year, post-luncheon festivities continued at an exclusive after party at the newly remodeled Park Club, where Harvesters underwriters, guests and friends enjoyed light fare, the "Stylishly Skinny Mar-

garita," a signature cocktail crafted with Cincoro Tequila and music by DJ Mike Soltani. The celebration extended the spirit of giving and community into the evening, bringing together all who attended in a shared commitment to philanthropy and connection," offered **Kristin Scheithauer**, representing the Harvesters.

"Orange County is facing a hidden hunger crisis, with one in ten residents experiencing food insecurity — a rate rising faster than the



CLAUDIA BONILLA KELLER, CEO of Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County, left, stands with donor **Michelle Merage** at the 32nd annual Harvesters event.

Frank Salas

state average," said **Claudia Bonilla Keller**, chief executive officer of Second Harvest. "We're incredibly grateful for Harvesters' unwavering support. This Fashion Show & Luncheon will make an enormous difference in the lives of the approximately 442,000 residents we serve monthly. Harvesters' dedication is truly helping us not only meet the need, but to also anticipate what is to come."

Among those spotted in the fashionable crowd were Harvesters co-founders **Jill**

Johnson-Tucker and **Jennifer Van Bergh**, board member Second Harvest Food Bank, **David Hasenbalg** of City National Bank, **Clara Paye**, founder, **UNiTE Food**, **Jennifer Niccol**, **Sunny Reelhorn Parr**, from Ralphs and **Food 4 Less**, and **Dareen Khatib**, Orange County Department of Education, all front and center for the event.

B.W. COOK is editor of the Bay Window, the official publication of the Balboa Bay Club in Newport Beach.

CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS

A	G	E	S		S	T	E	A	K		I	T	E	M
S	E	L	L		T	E	T	R	A		D	O	D	O
I	R	M	A		A	N	N	O	Y		E	R	G	O
A	M	S	T	E	R	D	A	M		W	A	R	E	S
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D	O	S	S	I	E	R			A	G	E	N	T	S
I	N	K		T	R	E	A	T	S		S	T	E	W
S	E	A			B	I	O				I	R	E	
C	U	T	S		C	A	R	E	S	S	A	S	A	
S	P	E	E	D	O			S	T	A	R	L	E	T
			B	L	E	S	S		A	L	E			
S	C	O	F	F		T	A	L	L	T	A	L	E	S
T	H	A	I		R	I	V	A	L		D	I	V	E
P	A	D	S		M	E	W	E	D		R	E	S	T

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

LAWSUIT

Continued from page A1

we've handled this and how our ordinances are crafted. That's a great result for the city."

Since 2012, Ohio House has offered housing for men in substance-abuse recovery on a property comprising five 2,400-square-foot, two-story detached units with outdoor space, a garage and parking area.

When the city drafted rules for group homes and boarding houses, officials sought to apply those laws to sober living homes already doing business, requiring them to get the necessary permits.

But the operators of Ohio House were denied a use permit because there was already a legal sober living home within 550 feet of the property line. When they sought a reasonable accommodation waiver of the distance requirement, that too was denied.

Appeals were denied by the Costa Mesa Planning Commission and the City Council, the latter of which in August 2019 gave Ohio House until Sept. 18 to cease operations.

Instead, on Sept. 6, 2019, the operator filed a lawsuit in the U.S. District Court's

Central District, alleging city laws discriminated against group homes serving addicts with disabilities, created barriers to minority housing and interfered with federal and state fair housing laws, among other claims.

"As a group, the city's policy-makers ... conspired for the purpose of depriving, either directly or indirectly, a class of person, identified as disabled persons in recovery, of the equal protection of the laws," the 2019 complaint reads.

A 2022 summary judgment from U.S. District Court Judge James V. Selna, along with a subsequent determination by a jury, denied Ohio House operators' claims of discrimination and in favor of Costa Mesa's ordinances.

The 9th Circuit opinion issued Wednesday affirms those actions, a move praised by Orange County Supervisor Katrina Foley, a former mayor of Costa Mesa, who called it "a great day for the rule of law."

"The message from the Ninth Circuit is clear: local governments have the right to regulate recovery residences," Foley said in a statement, castigating sober living home operators for posing risks to their clients and the community.

"We look to the future for state legislation that will give further tools to local governments to reasonably regulate the industry."

First elected to the Costa Mesa City Council in 2016, Stephens described how sober living houses, incentivized by state and federal compensation policies, accounted for about 300 separate businesses inside city limits.

Officials worked tirelessly to draft an ordinance that would balance the needs of people recovering from substance abuse, while addressing impacts to neighborhoods, he said.

"We were all on the same page, knowing this regulatory framework we put together was serving the people who needed to get well and serving the neighbors," Stephens added. "The only people it adversely affected were those who wanted to profit off of people suffering addiction in Costa Mesa."

City officials confirmed Wednesday Ohio House has continued to operate throughout the legal battle but indicated once a federal court ruling was final, the sober living home would be forced to close.

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HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Edison standout Julius Gillick runs for his late friend

BY SCOTT FRENCH

Julius Gillick was forced to sit out last week as Edison claimed a CIF Southern Section football championship, all over some dumb stuff, leaving it in teammates' hands whether he'd again pull on the green jersey.

They got him through, rolling to a 35-21 victory over Simi Valley in the Division 3 final. The senior running back, a generational talent for the Chargers (10-4), will be back on the field this weekend as the CIF Southern California Regional playoffs kick off. Another triumph, he'll be back again a week later in the state championship game.

This means everything to Gillick, but the rewards that winning brings are just a piece of that. Most important is the opportunity, at least one more time, to honor "one of the best dudes you'd ever meet."

Gillick has barreled through or sprinted past foes for 2,112 yards — just 156 off Kerwin Bell's 45-year-old single-season school record — and 32 touchdowns this year wearing a No. 9 jersey with Amarr Murphy-Paine's name across the back, where Gillick's would go. "Forever" and "Amar" are etched on the black strips under his eyes, and every play begins with a nod to the tattoo on his left arm. It reminds him of home



James Carbone

EDISON'S JULIUS GILICK (9) breaks a tackle against Palos Verdes in a nonleague game on Sept. 13.

and how things used to be.

"He was real special energy, him and [his father, Arron] — I call him uncle — they just bring this joy to every situation," said Gillick, who met Murphy-Paine when they were 12, bonded over music a couple of years later, and were more or less inseparable until Gillick's family, escaping rising violence in inner-city Seattle, moved last year to Huntington Beach. "He was someone that was always there, and there's not a lot of people like that. Unconditionally, just a really, really good dude."

The aspiring rapper and junior football player at Garfield High School was shot to death last June while trying to break up a fight in the campus parking lot. Gillick received the

news from friends, while at school, almost in real time. It was, he said, "the worst pain I ever felt in my life."

Gillick switched from No. 18, in which he rushed for 1,596 yards and 15 touchdowns as a junior, to Murphy-Paine's No. 9 and entered this season on a mission.

"Amarr always had this phrase: 'They can't mess with us. They'll never be able to be us,'" Gillick said. "It wasn't egotistical. It wasn't cocky. It wasn't anything other than just confidence, where every situation he would be in, he would know he was the best at it. And that confidence is something that I feel I lacked until he passed away. And then when he did, he kind of bestowed that onto me, somehow.

"I don't think I'm a cocky person. I'm aware that there are people that can do things that I can't. I'm grateful for what I have, but I feel that nobody can mess with me. I've been given a confidence that I never had, that I always recognized in him. So every single time I run the ball, it's with him in my mind."

The charismatic Gillick, whom star linebacker Matt Lopez calls "literally the heart of our team," has run it down opponents' throats all season, topping 200 yards five times and 300 once, the attacking yin to Edison's lockdown defense's yang. He is the school's career rushing leader.

"He's special," head coach Jeff Grady said. "He's got a great combination of skills — good feet, he's big, he's physical, he's got good burst, he's downhill — and he uses them all."

Gillick, who this week decommitted from Montana, describes himself, as a back, as "someone that gets stuff done."

"I'm not the fastest. I'm not the strongest. I'm not the toughest," he said. "I'm really not anything. I just feel capable. And that I want it more than most people. ... I think unique is the best word, because you can go a lot of places and you can find someone maybe that's better, but you can't find anybody like me."

His teammates discovered that once he opened up to them.

"I got here and I didn't really feel like talking or making any friends," he said. "I didn't really want to leave Seattle. I was kind of forced out of my city. I was not safe — if I had stayed, I probably wouldn't be here telling this story — and I was like, 'I'm here for football. I'm going to do my thing. I'm going to be a good teammate and I'm going to get out of here,' you know? And I ended up meeting some great people and found some friends that I'm sure I'll keep the rest of my life."

Lopez said that Gillick is a character, one of the funniest guys on the team.

"He doesn't really have a filter, and that's kind of what makes him unique," Lopez said.

Said receiver and defensive back Jacob Martin: "He lightens up the room every time he walks in, and he brings the team up with him. Anytime were at practice and we need someone to lean on, we're going to go to Julius for that."

Gillick was suspended from the Division 3 final after his ejection from the semifinal win over Vista Murrieta for two unsportsmanlike-conduct penalties.

"It hurt really bad, to be honest with you," said Gillick, who was flagged for spinning the ball in the end zone after one of his six touchdowns and entering the field, to celebrate with a teammate, without his helmet. "But at the end of

the day, we got a victory, so all that really matters is the ring I got."

Along with a few lessons.

"[I learned that] my actions really do have consequences, and I need to pay more attention to stuff," he said. "It was a humbling experience, knowing that because of what I do, who I am, people pay more attention to my actions, and I really need to be a better example. I need to follow the rules more, show a lot more class, because people watch, people see, people take note. And I need to be the best person I can be, both on and off the field."

Gillick returns Saturday night against San Diego Section Division I champion Granite Hills (11-2) at Huntington Beach High. Win that, and the Chargers head to the CIF State 1-AA Bowl, against Fresno Central (11-2) or San Francisco's St. Ignatius (10-2), Dec. 14 at Saddleback College.

Murphy-Paine will be alongside him.

He always is.

"I still find ways to talk to Amarr," Gillick said. "You could scope through my messages, I've got about 700, 800 unanswered texts on his phone right now. I still try to keep him updated, you know? It's not going to get a response, but I message him every day. I tell him I love him all the time."

Scott French is a contributor to Daily Pilot Sports.

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Customer Name	Auction Date	Unit
Sean Reilly	12/11/2024	108
Elaine Theiss	12/11/2024	1224
Daniel Tapia	12/11/2024	407
Alaura Oballes	12/11/2024	418
Nacho Delagarza	12/11/2024	401

CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on **Thursday, December 19, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.** or soon thereafter as the matter shall be heard, a public hearing will be conducted in the Corona del Mar Conference Room (Bay E-1st Floor) at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach. The Hearing Officer of the City of Newport Beach will consider the following application:

101 Bayside Place – Request for an extension of a three-year construction limit for **Building Permit No. XR2019-1744** and related permits outlined in Newport Beach Municipal Code (NBMC) Section 15.02.095 (Administrative Code - Addition of Sections 105.3.3, 105.3.4, and 105.3.5). The scope of work for the permit NEW 5,857 S.F. SINGLE-FAMILY DWELLING WITH BASEMENT AND ATTACHED 2,022 S.F. GARAGE, 778 S.F. MECHANICAL ROOMS, 1,904 S.F. DECK & SHORING. The applicant intends to request an extension until June 16, 2025, to complete the construction.

The project is categorically exempt under Section 15301 under Class 1 (Existing Facilities) of the State CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) Guidelines.

All interested parties may appear and present testimony regarding 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 before, the public hearing. Administrative procedures for appeals are provided in the Newport Beach Municipal Code Chapter 20.64 (Appeals). The application may be continued to a specific future meeting date; if such an action occurs, additional public notice of the continuance will not be provided.

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/hearingofficer. 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 12:00 p.m. on the business day immediately before the meeting. This allows time for the Hearing Officer to adequately consider the submitted correspondence.

For questions regarding this public hearing item please contact Debi Schank, at 949-644-3284, at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660.

Permit No.: X2019-1744	Activity: Three-Year Construction Limit Extension
Zone: R-2 (Two-Unit Residential)	General Plan: RT (Two Unit Residential)
Location: 101 Bayside Place	Applicant: Dayne Mossel

CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on **Thursday, December 19, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.** or soon thereafter as the matter shall be heard, a public hearing will be conducted in the Corona del Mar Conference Room (Bay E-1st Floor) at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach. The Hearing Officer of the City of Newport Beach will consider the following application:

515 W 36th Street – Request for an extension of a three-year construction limit for **Building Permit No. XR2023-0561** and related permits outlined in Newport Beach Municipal Code (NBMC) Section 15.02.095 (Administrative Code - Addition of Sections 105.3.3, 105.3.4, and 105.3.5). The scope of work for the permit NEW 4,082 S.F. DUPLEX AND 422 S.F. GARAGE. The applicant intends to request an extension until June 6, 2025, to complete the construction.

The project is categorically exempt under Section 15301 under Class 1 (Existing Facilities) of the State CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) Guidelines.

All interested parties may appear and present testimony regarding 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 before, the public hearing. Administrative procedures for appeals are provided in the Newport Beach Municipal Code Chapter 20.64 (Appeals). The application may be continued to a specific future meeting date; if such an action occurs, additional public notice of the continuance will not be provided.

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/hearingofficer. 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 12:00 p.m. on the business day immediately before the meeting. This allows time for the Hearing Officer to adequately consider the submitted correspondence.

For questions regarding this public hearing item please contact Debi Schank, at 949-644-3284, at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660.

Permit No.: XR2023-0561	Activity: Three-Year Construction Limit Extension
Zone: R-2 (Two-Unit Residential)	General Plan: RT (Two Unit Residential)
Location: 515 W 36th Street	Applicant: Bill Chow

LIGHT

Continued from page A1

tell them, it's a way of shining a light for Orange County's children and youth in need."

Huntington Beach native Izzy Talbot was formerly one of those youth in need. She came to the Waymakers Huntington Beach Youth Shelter in 2021, just past her 17th birthday, after dealing with anxiety and depression and an incident that she called a turning point.

Since her time in the shelter, Talbot has graduated from high school and taken a year of college before settling in working at a bakery. Her next stop is Oregon, she said.

She learned valuable organizational skills at the shelter and now keeps three different planners and still has the coping-skills box she received at the time. A donated, durable pair of thick black socks she also got while in the shelter serve as a reminder.



Courtesy of Nancy Galeana

COPING-SKILLS boxes like these are given to children at the Waymakers Huntington Beach Youth Shelter, with the kids able to decorate and personalize them.

"Every time I put them on I think of my time there, and honestly it kind of makes my heart warm," Talbot said. "Life is hard in general, but when you get to that point and you need that support, the little things really matter. The doctors and the staff at

Huntington Beach seriously go above and beyond and truly just have the best in mind for these kids."

For more information or to donate online, visit waymakers.org.

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 Twitter: @mjszabo

CRIMES

Continued from page A1

pollard, stealing between \$1,000 and \$2,000, retreated to a car and drove away, prosecutors contend.

The U.S. Attorney's Office also alleges that during the early morning of Aug. 26, Pollard and an accomplice robbed a taxi driver sitting inside his cab in the parking lot of a Winchell's Donut House in Carson, struck the victim in the face, entered his car, and held the victim at gunpoint until he handed them his wallet and Samsung cellphone.

Late night on the same day, prosecutors say, Pollard and an accomplice approached two victims standing near their Rolls-Royce and Ferrari vehicles.

Pollard allegedly pointed a semiautomatic pistol at the victim standing near the Rolls-Royce and demanded all of the victim's cash. The victim handed over a luxury watch, a wallet and the keys to the Rolls-Royce.

Federal prosecutors allege that when the other victim started the Ferrari and attempted to drive away, Pollard ran to the driver's door of the Ferrari and fired one round from his pistol into the car, barely missing the victim. The victim drove to a nearby gas station and asked the gas station clerk to call police, who later recovered one 9-millimeter shell casing from the scene.

The total value of the items stolen was about \$44,000, court papers show.

On Sept. 22, Pollard approached a victim who was entering his car at the South Coast Plaza shopping mall in Costa Mesa and demanded, "Give me the watch. Give me the ring. Give me the car," and

later threatened to shoot the victim, according to the affidavit.

When the victim didn't comply, Pollard allegedly shot the victim in the left hand, then pointed his pistol at the victim's chest and said, "You're a dead man," prosecutors said.

Pollard then shot the victim in the left thigh as the man began removing his watch, the U.S. Attorney's Office contends.

Court papers say the victim then kicked Pollard, who fell to the ground. The man then kicked Pollard several more times, fought with him for up to 15 seconds, then got back into his car and drove away, documents show.

Pollard allegedly ran to a Kia Forte and fled the scene. The victim survived the gunshot wounds.

If convicted of all charges, Pollard would face a sentence of up to life in federal prison, prosecutors noted.

"These are crimes of violence that not only terrorize the intended targets, but our community as a whole, making shoppers think twice about whether a trip to the mall will erupt in gunfire," Kimberly Edds, director of public affairs for the Orange County district attorney's office, said in a statement, adding that the arrest "continues to send a strong message that crime doesn't pay in Orange County."

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