

Daily Pilot

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2023 /// dailypilot.com



Photos courtesy of Newport-Mesa Unified School District

CONSTRUCTION BEGAN last Friday on a new \$42-million performing arts complex at Estancia High School in Costa Mesa.

Theater breaks ground following years of drama

BY SARA CARDINE

Nearly two decades after promising to build a state-of-the-art performing arts complex at Estancia High School, Newport-Mesa Unified School District officials have broken ground on the \$42-million project.

Construction began last Friday on the east end of the Costa Mesa campus along Placentia Avenue, an act being celebrated by those who've long awaited an arts venue comparable to other NMUSD high schools.

"This new theater represents the start of an exciting new chapter, where lifelong memories will be created for students and audience members who step through the new doors," Estancia drama director and instructor Am-

See *Theater*, page A4



ESTANCIA HIGH School students join NMUSD officials and administrators Friday to celebrate construction.

H.B. meets again to discuss charter

City Council bandies possible voter ID requirements and other issues at the second of four special meetings.

BY MATT SZABO

Should Huntington Beach require voters to show identification when voting?

Like so many issues in the charter amendment process the city is currently undergoing, that depends on who you ask.

City Councilmen Dan Kalmick and Casey McKeon had a spirited discussion on the subject Thursday night from the dais, in the second of four special meetings relating to charter amendments.

"You're making it more difficult for people without resources to vote," Kalmick said to those proposing the change in voting protocol.

McKeon had a quick response. "Vote by mail then," McKeon responded. "In every aspect of your life you have to show ID."

Voter ID requirements, more polling locations and supervision of voting drop boxes were three of the election-related issues debated Thursday as the council continued the process.

Informal straw voting could take place at the next special meeting on Sept. 28, along with the bundling of the amendments

See *Charter*, page A4

ALSO FROM THE DAILY PILOT:



James Carbone

OCEAN VIEW PROLONGS DRIVES, LIMITS POSSESSIONS IN WIN OVER PIONEER PAGE A6

Laguna council to discuss varied agenda

Council members will look at an underground utility district for the Woods Cove neighborhood, an idea that first appeared before them in 2014, and welcome new City Atty. Megan Garibaldi.

BY ANDREW TURNER

When the Laguna Beach City Council convenes on Tuesday, it will mark the first regularly scheduled meeting of the panel in more than a month.

The panel has met in the interim, with those proceedings leading to the departure

of Shohreh Dupuis from her city manager role via a separation agreement. The council appointed Sean Joyce to serve as the interim city manager on Sept. 5.

Community members had a chance to discuss the issue of wildland fire prepared-

See *Laguna*, page A4

Gourmet toast, juice and smoothie franchise comes to Balboa Island

BY SARAH MOSQUEDA

Balboa Island in Newport Beach is home to some of the area's oldest and most iconic businesses, like Sugar n' Spice, selling frozen bananas since 1945, and the Balboa Island Ferry, which has shuttled motorists and passengers to and from the island for more than 100 years. But resident Lesley Capolino thought it

was time to add something new to her beloved Balboa neighborhood.

"We are Balboa Island residents, my husband Tony and I, and we have just come to love Balboa," said Capolino, "but we noticed the marina needed a little bit of a zhuzh."

Capolino has teamed up with

See *Gourmet*, page A5



Courtesy of Toastique

WASHINGTON D.C.-founded gourmet toast and juice bar Toastique has opened its first West Coast location in Newport Beach.



LONGTIME EMPLOYEE Jose Andrade works the sandwich countertop during lunch hour at Gallo's Italian Deli in Corona Del Mar on Thursday. The eatery is marking 50 years in business.

Don Leach Staff Photographer

Gallo's marks 50 years serving up subs

BY LILLY NGUYEN

As usual, the Thursday lunch rush was no joke at Gallo's Italian Deli in Corona del Mar.

Customers filtered in and out to place their orders at the counter. Regulars made their usual orders, and new customers eyed the options on the menu even as they debated the ingredients in case they wanted to make their own.

Front-end manager Melissa Granoien said the deli counts its customers by the amount of bread they go through in a day.

On Thursday they used 130 pieces of bread, about average for an off-season day in the beach town.

During summers and the holiday rush, that number can go up to anywhere from 165 to 185, including the bread used in catering orders, she said.

Gallo's Italian Deli is celebrating 50 years in its same location on East Coast Highway this year. Owner Eric Hanna said they aren't sure of the exact date the first sub was served from behind the counter, as his family are the shop's third owners, the first be-

ing the eponymous Joe Gallo.

The story goes that Gallo used to walk up and down Big Corona selling sandwiches out of his backpack before he settled into the brick-and-mortar of today.

Hanna said his family owned the commercial lot just next door to Gallo's, and the deli's previous owners didn't want to see the business shut down when they left Corona del Mar to live in Spain. On the condition that Hanna's family promised to keep Gallo's open, the own-

See *Gallo's*, page A5

UCI welcomes new students

Another school year, another new set of Anteaters to welcome to UC Irvine.

Friday morning was move-in day for a number of students who will live in campus housing. It marked the beginning of Welcome Week, which will include a number of events and open houses to help students familiarize themselves with the campus.

Chancellor Howard Gillman will deliver remarks to new students at the Bren Events Center next Tuesday as part of the New Student Convocation.

With classes set to begin on Sept. 28, dozens of families and students made their way to the university's various student housing complexes to unpack and give their sometimes weepy goodbyes. Thousands of applications were reported to come into the university this year, and while numbers are not yet finalized, estimates as of late August place first-year students at around 7,100 and transfer students at 3,000 — an overall student increase by about 700 over 2022.

About 10,230 beds were available for students this year — 3,505 for graduate students and 6,725 for undergraduates.

The university houses about 49% of its enrolled



Photos by Steve Zylius | UCI

UC IRVINE VICE CHANCELLOR for Student Affairs Willie Banks, center, chats with families moving their students into Mesa Court housing on campus.



THE MARCELO FAMILY moves freshman Isabella, right, into her dorm in Mesa Court at UCI on Friday morning.

students, 64% of them graduate students and 46% undergrads. The goal is to bring the total percentage up to 60% as part of the Irvine Campus Long

Range Development Plan, first approved in 2007 by the University of California Regents and last amended in 2019.

— Lilly Nguyen

AROUND TOWN

Celebrate Coastal Cleanup Day with OC Coastkeeper

The nonprofit OC Coastkeeper is hosting a beach cleanup at Huntington State Beach from 9 a.m. to noon today, when they'll meet at Tower #10.

Coastal Cleanup Day is one of the biggest volunteer events in the state, and OC Coastkeeper is currently helping organize around 30 other events in and around inland and coastal Orange County. Last year, more than 2,500 volunteers removed 10,700 pounds of trash in a single day.

The Huntington Beach event will feature a live DJ, sustainability fair and an

artist showcase. A list of all other OC Coastkeeper cleanup events is available at coastkeeper.org/cleanup-day.

Hoag Hospital Foundation to hosts H.E.R. Summit

The Hoag Hospital Foundation will host its second annual H.E.R. Summit, an event that focuses on the health, wellness and empowerment of women at all stages of life.

This year's keynote speaker is Rebecca Minkoff. Several panels will be held at the VEA Newport Beach, where the event will be taking place on Sept. 26. It

See **Around**, page A6

THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

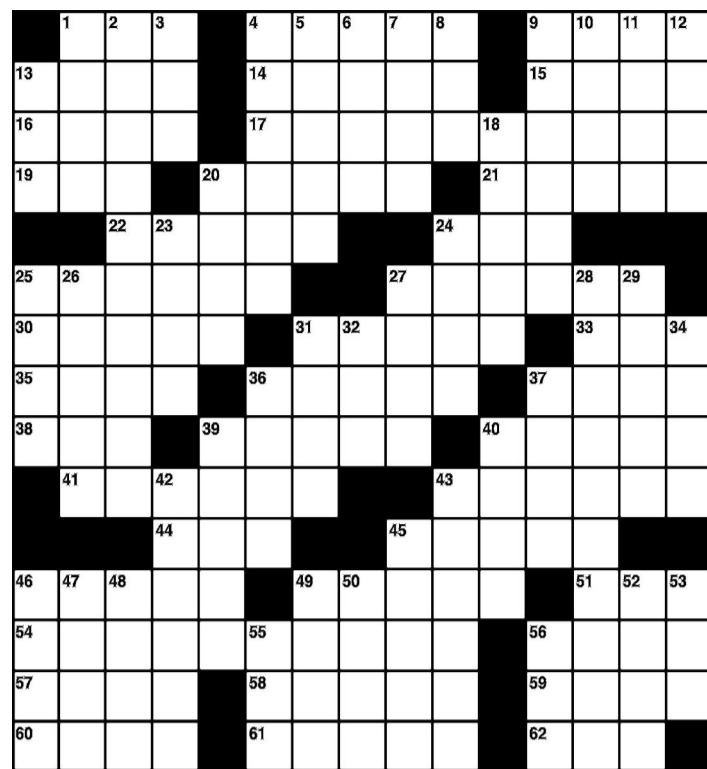
By Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS

- 1 Salary
- 4 "Remember the _!"
- 9 Disgusting
- 13 Sensible
- 14 Intestinal part
- 15 Nary a one
- 16 Play miniature golf
- 17 Sympathy
- 19 "_ Baba and the Forty Thieves"
- 20 Uptight
- 21 Desires
- 22 Uncouth
- 24 Great weight
- 25 Loathsome
- 27 Astute
- 30 Bus station
- 31 Tire ridge pattern
- 33 Actor Linden
- 35 "Phooey!"
- 36 Martin or Charlie
- 37 Metropolis
- 38 Gel
- 39 Move furtively
- 40 Baffling question
- 41 Buster or Diane
- 43 Pass, as time
- 44 Gangster's gun
- 45 Babble
- 46 Glossy-black bird
- 49 Aerosol
- 51 _ of; no longer burdened by
- 54 Shocking
- 56 Quote as a source
- 57 Portable shelter
- 58 Winnie the Pooh's creator
- 59 Picnic spoiler
- 60 _ up; finishes the last of
- 61 Couch potato
- 62 Not long _; recently

DOWN

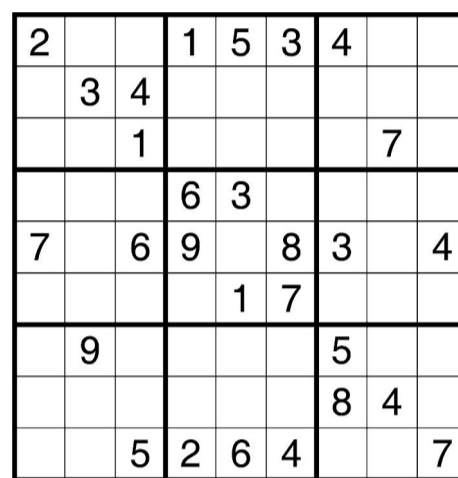
- 1 Simon or Newman
- 2 Look forward to
- 3 Nonetheless
- 4 Way in
- 5 Diving birds



SUDOKU

By the Mepham Group

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit sudoku.org.uk.



For answers to the crossword and Sudoku puzzles, see page A4.

- 6 "Sell what you possess and give _" (Luke 12:33)
- 7 Pout
- 8 "Put _ Happy Face"
- 9 Wacky
- 10 Bit of change
- 11 Shoelace

- problem
- 12 Cravings
- 13 Mineral spring
- 18 Zorro's weapon
- 20 Stretched tight
- 23 Tooth part
- 24 Other _; besides
- 25 Bettor's

- numbers
- 26 Baseball's Jeter
- 27 Search for
- 28 Speaking very softly
- 29 Brown fruits
- 31 Slender
- 32 Cartoon dog
- 34 Minstrel's instrument
- 36 Opening for mail
- 37 Garment from Burlington
- 39 Couldn't _; hated
- 40 Drama
- 42 Safeco employees
- 43 Boo-boo remover
- 45 Dried fruit
- 46 File drawer, perhaps
- 47 Big spades
- 48 Weathercock
- 49 Went down a chute
- 50 Gallup survey
- 52 "Leave _ Beaver"
- 53 _ Moines
- 55 "What Kind of Fool _?"
- 56 Pres. Arthur's monogram

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THE CROWD | B.W. COOK

Gentlemen's Smoker at Balboa Bay Club raises scholarship funds

One of America's reinvented grand gatherings toasting the bygone era of gentleman's social jockeying and camaraderie recently transformed the bayfront lawn of the Balboa Bay Resort into a 21st-century version of the 19th-century formal, by-invitation only, Gent's Smoker.

Gone were the hallowed men's club walls of paneled and polished walnut replaced by round tables dressed in white linen over grass, surrounded by gold-toned Chiavari chairs. Gone were the tuxedos and starched white collared shirts, replaced by California prep blue blazers worn over bold Hawaiian print shirts and khaki pants.

The 25th almost annual Newport Beach Gentlemen's Smoker hosted by the Balboa Bay Resort Hotel in conjunction with the founding smoker team from Balboa Bay Club led by BBC Governor and chairman of the board **John Wortmann**, seated some 200 patrons donating \$500 and more to be a part of the revival of a sacred male-bonding tradition.

The event was launched some 25 years ago by hotelier **Henry Schielein**, a former Balboa Bay Club president who was also instrumental in creating a similar men's gathering on the East Coast at the Ritz-Carlton, Boston.

Schielein attended his signature gathering, joining Wortmann along with **Kory Kramer**, instrumental in raising the bar on the event to what some enthusiastically labeled "world-class." The overall experience is considered by experts in the arenas of food and wine, hospitality, spirits and appreciation for the finest cigars, one of just two exemplary private smokers in the United States, again attributed to the classic vision of



Photos by Tony Lattimore

HENRY SCHIELEIN, founder of the Gentleman's Smoker, Danny Thomas and his son, Jake Thomas, at the Balboa Bay Resort's recent event, held for the 25th time.

Schielein.

In the modern view, the smoker is dedicated to a significant purpose. Since its inception, money raised has benefited college scholarships awarded to deserving students from the Newport-Mesa public high schools.

At the same time that the smoker was created, Balboa Bay Club, under the helm of its past ownership led by Beverly Ray, created the 1221 Scholarship Fund in conjunction with a ladies auxiliary under the same "1221" label (the street address on PCH). The smoker has been a mainstay of contribution to that fund helping to raise close to \$2 million in grants awarded to hundreds of students.

This season, Wortmann and fellow organizers including **Aaron Trent**, **Melanie Hertrick**, **Francine Slosser**, **Katy Pool**, **Nick Guzzetta**, **Jason Hsieh**, and BBR executive chef **Prabeen Prathapan** delivered an exceptional evening.

Made possible by the support of Eagle-Four Partners, ownership of Balboa Bay Resort and Balboa Bay Club, including attending family members **Todd Pickup** and **Kevin Martin**. They were joined by **Joe Moody**, as well as **Michael Fuerstman**, from the Pendry Hotel family ownership group.

Special guests included Newport Beach dignitaries; **Noah Blom**, **Will O'Neill**, **John Moorlach**, **Steve Rosansky** and **Gary Sherwin**. Also front and center were **Richard Moriarty**, **Craig Barto**, **Thom McElroy**, **Mario Marovic**, **Cory Alder** and **Carl Nolet** from Ketel One Vodka. In the lofty world of spirits, Ronnie Newman represented Louis XIII and **Jordan Otterbein** from the popular A Restaurant was also there.

Kramer, Wortmann and team paid special note to VIP attendees including **Rocky Patel**, **Dave Bullock** and **Ron Wagner**, who brought to the event the No. 2 cigar in the world for

2022, performing the traditional "cut and light."

Arthur Hirsch and **Lincoln Salazar**, publisher of *Enthusiast Report*, donated the majority of the cigars for the event, contributing mightily to the scholarship bottom line.

The rallying cry for support also found **Daniel Daou** from his winery of the same name, offering his prized "Soul of the Lion" vintage along with very special magnums donated as prizes during the dinner. Celebrity **Mark Wahlberg** stepped up with bottles of his new brand of tequila, and if that was not enough, all guests were encouraged to bring their best and favorite bottle of wine to share with dinner companions.

Following the cocktails and hors d'oeuvres reception Chef Prathapan and staff served a very special curated four-course formal dinner. That was one tradition not lost in the modern version of the Gent's Smoker. Guests including **Donald Wise**, **Jim McGee**,



GARY SHERWIN, Visit Newport, left, with **John Moorlach** support the Balboa Bay Club and Resort's Gentleman's Smoker benefiting the 1221 Scholarship Fund.

Gregson Hall, **Mike Farah**, **Jared Miller** and **John Wortmann IV**, son of the host, all raved over the dinner service.

Then came a live auction to top all others. A private jet for 5 on a Citaton XLS with tickets to a Vegas Golden Knights game with VIP treatment. A one-night stay at the Aria Sky Suites with concierge. Two nights at Pendry Hotel San Diego. Dinner for four at Pendry's Lion Fish Restaurant. VIP table service at Pendry's Oxford Club with bottle service.

Michael Fuerstman, co-founder and creative director for Pendry Hotels offered an "over-the moon" package for bidding with a two-night suite at the new Pendry Newport, dinner for four at Set Steak and Sushi, and VIP tables and bottle

service at the new Pendry Elwood Club.

Finally, celebrated artist **Michael Bryan**, who has been a donor and sponsor of the smoker since its inception, once again offered to create a painting including the portrait of the winning bidder inserted into one of his iconic modern scenes of Ian Fleming's James Bond 007 in the Aston Martin DB5 known the world over by both movie fans and art enthusiasts.

Quite the night out for guys on the Newport bayfront. At last count some \$150,000 was raised for the 1221 Scholarship Fund. Bravo!

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



**NEWPORT
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FILM FEST

THEATER

Continued from page A1

ber Marroquin said in a statement Wednesday. "It will be a joyous day when the theater opens."

Funded by a \$27-million allocation from the \$282-million Measure F school bond passed in 2005, the theater was sidelined in the wake of rising construction costs for other projects.

Adamant about delivering on their promise, the NMUSD Board of Trustees in 2019 approved a concept design for a new arts complex on the southeast corner of campus.

But when students learned building the theater in the proposed location would require the demolition of a nearly 1-acre senior lawn, whose mature shade trees provided much-needed green space, some protested.

Costa Mesa city officials



Courtesy of Newport-Mesa Unified School District

A RENDERING OF a new theater at Estancia High School on the northeast end of campus near Placentia Avenue.

entered into the fray, filing a lawsuit in 2021 claiming the district did not seek adequate public input on the project's environmental impacts. The case wound its way through the court system, delaying the build even further.

To settle the matter, school officials last April invited the public to give

feedback on various locations, subsequently agreeing to a northward relocation of the 46,000-square-foot performing arts complex and its 350-seat theater, lobby, classroom space and black box theater.

District and school officials met informally at the site Friday to celebrate a milestone years in the mak-

ing. "We look forward to bringing a world-class theater to the Estancia campus," Principal Michael Halt said in a statement ahead of the meeting. "We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the exceptional leadership of [Supt. Wes Smith] and the school board for their unwavering commitment to providing our students the performing arts center they truly deserve, all while preserving the green space cherished by our school and community."

Drama student and EHS junior Jose Gomez shared Halt's enthusiasm.

"This theater isn't just a building that's being added onto our school," he said. "It's the beginning of a new era for the Arts in Estancia, and I'm more than proud to be a part of it."

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LAGUNA

Continued from page A1

ness in a town hall meeting earlier this week. Underground utility lines has been a major topic of discussion as the town looks to mitigate its fire risk.

As part of its agenda Tuesday, the council will consider whether to adopt a resolution of intent to form an underground utility district for the Woods Cove neighborhood. Residents first approached the council with a petition requesting the formation of a district for the area in September 2014, according to a staff report.

Utility companies had to redesign plans for a potential district after additional properties were included in the Woods Cove boundary. The planning commission ap-

proved the revised plan on Sept. 7, 2022.

City staff have noted that there are 380 parcels in the proposed underground utility district for Woods Cove. That includes two city-owned parcels — Fire Station No. 2 (285 Agate Street) and Bluebird Park.

Also Tuesday, the council is expected to declare September as Hunger Action Month in Laguna Beach. Another proclamation to declare September as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month is on the consent calendar.

The meeting will also be the first for new City Atty. Megan Garibaldi, who succeeded Phil Kohn in the position following his decision to retire.

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CHARTER

Continued from page A1

into ballot measures. At the final meeting on Oct. 4, the council would take formal votes to put the measures onto the primary ballot next March for the voters to decide.

The Huntington Beach City Charter has not been amended since 2010. Four measures on the 2022 gen-

eral election ballot, put there by the previous City Council, were shot down by voters.

Most public speakers at Thursday night's meeting, which lasted about five hours, also were not in favor of any amendments to the charter. Of 38 people who gave comments before the council deliberated, 34 were against charter amendments. Two supported voter IDs, and one

said she supported some proposed amendments but not others.

"There are a few changes within the charter amendment document I saw that could make sense," resident Brenda Glim said. "But you nullified the entire document by adding right-wing, white-nationalist voting provisions. We spent years working to make Huntington Beach a beautiful, safe, inclusive

place to live and visit, and you are tearing it down faster than a jackrabbit on a hot griddle."

Another speaker, Amory Hanson, introduced an idea that seemed to be well-received by the council. It would require a special election when there is a vacancy on the panel, unless the departing council member's term would soon expire and a general election would be held to

elect his or her successor.

"With increasing public interest in our local government, it is important that we the people always be able to participate in electing our councilmen and other elected officials," Hanson said.

Members of the City Council who weren't on this year's charter ad hoc committee also introduced possible new charter amendments to consider.

Kalmick's included allowing for council to have staff and increasing the pay of council members themselves.

"The majority of the city are hard-working, blue collar folks, and we don't necessarily represent them that way," Kalmick said. "I mean, everybody up here owns a home, and 50% of the city rents ... The financial burden of being on City Council stops a lot of people from running."

Councilwoman Rhonda Bolton suggested amending Section 307 of the charter to state the City Council could not review or remove content in the city's libraries.

That amendment would be a direct response to Mayor Pro Tem Gracey Van Der Mark's interest in reviewing library books, a hot topic item set to have city staff return with suggestions at a meeting next month.

"We've done a lot of talk about, if it ain't broke, don't fix it," Bolton said. "Based on the debate we've had about the libraries and the community's response, it looks like something that might be broken. We may as well consider a charter amendment and put it to a vote of the residents about the library issue."

The council punted discussing amending the charter to only allow government flags, the POW/MIA flag and possibly the Olympic flag on city property until next week's meeting. The proposer of that amendment, Councilman Pat Burns, was absent Thursday.

Earlier this year, the conservative majority on the City Council passed an ordinance with that language, which caused an outcry among some since it stopped the city's flying of the LGBTQ+ Pride flag each June in recognition of Pride Month.

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CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS

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

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

Los Angeles Times

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GALLO'S

Continued from page A1

ers agreed to sell it to them in 1994.

They've been running it ever since.

Being a restaurateur isn't Hanna's main line of work, which is commercial development. Hanna said the reason Gallo's has managed to endure is partly because of its longtime, generational customer base.

"The grandparents are bringing their kids here and that's why we've been able to stay in Corona del Mar. It's just because of the community," he said.

"The guys in the store have been working there for two decades now and they're very much part of the community's families too," said Hanna, who took over ownership from his family in 2002. "They saw the kids when they were small, and now they're serving their children sandwiches. There's a good community camaraderie there, and there's no plans to shut down Gallo's ever. One day, my son will be running or overseeing it."

Granoien has been working at Gallo's since 2016. She said she started working on the register but now does inventory in ad-



JAIMEE SOTO, right, builds a few sandwiches during lunch hour at Gallo's Italian Deli in Corona Del Mar on Thursday.

dition to a number of other responsibilities as the manager. She's joined by fellow longtime employee Jose Andrade, who is the operations manager and has been at Gallo's since 1989.

Gallo's is run by a small but mighty staff, with about five people total. Three are always on-hand manning the sandwich counter. Granoien said she sees at least 20 of their regulars on a daily basis.

"I love the family and the job is really good and my customers are excellent. I grew up on a farm and my grandparents had a restaurant; I used to work there. So, I know how it is with a family-owned business. It

works for me. Everyone's really nice. All my coworkers are really nice. We all get along," Granoien said.

To celebrate its 50-year anniversary, Gallo's is doing a 50% off promotion on any sandwich in the store through the end of 2023. Customers are asked to leave a memory that they had at Gallo's on a review and show it to the employees. It can be a recent memory or go as far back as to the days they were children.

Hanna said a few things have changed since the store opened. Most significantly was its interior, which underwent a lengthy remodel. The shop closed in the fall of 2018, then re-



Photos by Don Leach | Staff Photographer

OWNER ERIC HANNA, with employees Jose Andrade, Jamie Soto, and Melissa Granoien, from left, at Gallo's Italian Deli in Corona Del Mar on Thursday.

opened in April 2021. The arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic caused delays and affected supply chains for materials, but the shop managed to reopen to fanfare.

"It just thrived as soon as we opened and it's still doing it. It's a wonderful place," Granoien said cheerfully.

The menu's also changed a bit.

Hanna said it's been expanded by six sandwich

specials. Granoien said the most popular orders are the Gallos Combo, the Italian Star, the Genoa Special and, for hot sandwiches, the Hot Pickler, the Napoleon and the Meatball.

"For me, [the appeal of Gallo's] is the nostalgia. I'm a resident of Corona del Mar. I own a home on the same street I grew up on and it's just a block away from the sandwich shop. I'm raising a family here; I'm a surfer, and the beach

has been a part of my life. This is the community I grew up running around, the 'flower streets' — it's cool to see the wheel keep spinning," Hanna said. "I think for the community and for future generations to come to have a place to go to get your money's worth ... [Gallo's is] true to its roots. A giant sandwich for a relatively fair price."

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GOURMET

Continued from page A1

her husband, Anthony Capolino, alongside relatives and longtime Newport Beach residents Lyndon Baptiste and Rhea Cayenne to found Orange Seed LLC, a company investing in high-caliber food and beverage brands. Capolino said the group came across Toastique, a gourmet toast, smoothie and juice franchise, and felt like it was the right fit for their community.

"We wanted healthy options," said Capolino. "It is something new to bring to the island to capture the breakfast and lunch market."

Located at 226 Marine



Courtesy of Toastique

HEALTH-FRIENDLY concept Toastique is now open in Newport Beach at the former location of a Starbucks.

Avenue, Toastique is now open in a space formerly occupied by a Starbucks, serving fruit smoothies, cold-press juices and acai

bowls. The Toastique concept was developed in Washington D.C. in 2018 by founder Brianna Keefe and has lo-

cations in Colorado, Florida, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Utah and Virginia. Balboa Island's Toastique is the first on the West Coast, ahead of a forthcoming location in Bakersfield opening this winter.

Toastique takes its name from the gourmet toast options they offer, like its dressed-up version of avocado toast, dubbed the avocado smash, which piles avocado, watermelon radish, marinated tomatoes, chili oil and microgreens on multigrain toast. Other fancy options include the spicy crab toast, with lump crab, melted swiss and fontina cheese, sriracha aioli, tomato, bibb lettuce, jalapeño, microgreens and a twist of lemon

served on rustic toast.

"For me, my favorite is the Tuscan tuna," Capolino said of the toast made with a tuna salad dressed with sundried tomatoes, capers, scallions, herb vinaigrette, balsamic glaze, kalamata olives, tomato and bibb lettuce.

There are also acai bowls on the menu, ranging from the simple, like the OG acai topped with blueberries, bananas, strawberries and granola, to the inventive, like the black mystique, made of activated charcoal, berries, coconut water and topped with granola, kiwi, coconut and Goji berries.

Capolino said even the green juices and smoothies will win over tough critics, like herself.

"I normally don't like

green juices, but our green machine is so good," Capolino said of the green smoothie that blends banana, pineapple, mango, spinach, kale with hemp seeds, flax seeds, lime and coconut water.

Orange Seed LLC has plans to open more Toastique locations in Orange County's coastal cities, but mostly Capolino said she hopes to offer something new to the Balboa community.

"Balboa is a very special place with an island feel in a big city," said Capolino. "I like that the Toastique idea is so unique and something new to bring to the island."

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NONLEAGUE FOOTBALL

Ocean View notches 14-7 win over Pioneer

BY ANDREW TURNER

WHITTIER — Ocean View proved perfectly that beauty is in the eye of the beholder in its nonleague football game at Whittier Pioneer on Thursday night.

The Seahawks' opening drive showed little in terms of dazzling offensive performance, only one play going for double-digit yardage. What it did do was eat up the clock, a 15-play drive allowing them to keep the ball for the first 11 minutes of the game.

Complementary football helped Ocean View get past Pioneer, 14-7, on the road, as the Seahawks won consecutive games for the second time this season.

Fullback Gaige Prichard crashed into the end zone from 7 yards out at the conclusion of the drive, accounting for the only score of the first half.

"It set the tone," said Jayden Trujillo, who was utilized heavily in the run game in the first half. "I like the first drive that we did,

scoring a touchdown."

Ocean View (4-2) had five possessions for the whole game, scoring on its opening drives of both halves. The second was equally as long and physical, as the Seahawks ran the ball on 13 of 15 plays to cover 80 yards. Frankie Armenta executed a quarterback sneak to retake the lead on the first play of the fourth quarter.

For the evening, Ocean View ran the ball 46 times, compared to just 10 passing plays. The Seahawks did so behind an offensive line of left tackle Zack Wojtaszek, left guard Randy Leal, center Elijah Armenta, right guard Emanuel Cantoran and right tackle Pedro Maldonado.

"They're awesome dogs," Prichard said. "The only reason I'm able to get yards is because they're pushing everybody."

Pioneer (2-3) ended the shutout bid after the Seahawks turned the ball over on a punt return. Amanti McCormick pounced on

the fumble. Two plays later, Amiri Resendiz found Aaron Gutierrez in space to his right for a 23-yard touchdown.

The Seahawks closed the game out with a three-and-out and an interception by Frankie Armenta in the Titans' last two possessions. Elijah Armenta also recovered a fumble on defense.

"Close game tonight, so I think losing to [Lakewood] Artesia two weeks ago really helped the kids tonight because they're in another close game, and they had to learn how to finish," Ocean View coach Daniel Hernandez said. "... You can only practice those situations so much. ... They found a way to finish. I'm extremely proud of them."

Ocean View remains on the road to face Pomona Garey (0-5) in its final non-league game on Sept. 29. The Seahawks open the Pac 4 League at Laguna Beach on Oct. 13.

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James Carbone

OCEAN VIEW'S Gaige Prichard (46) runs in for a touchdown against Pioneer on Thursday in a nonleague game.

AROUND

Continued from page A2

begins at 9:30 a.m. and ends at 2 p.m. Tickets are available at hoaghospitalfoundation.org/hersummit for \$150 for general admission with a "bring a friend" price of \$225 for two tickets.

UC Irvine partners with Be Well OC

UC Irvine announced last week a partnership with Be Well OC to launch a mobile crisis intervention team to support mental health on campus.

Two crisis counselors will be a part of the team, which will be dedicated to responding to mental health calls through campus police non-emergency and 911 lines.

Be Well OC has partnerships with several cities in Orange County.

Banff Film Festival returns to Orange Coast College

The Orange Coast College Friends of the Library will host a Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour screening on Wednesday, Sept. 27. The event will begin at 7 p.m. and feature a selection of films that show outdoor adventures and por-

traits. The festival is a flagship program of the Banff Center in Canada.

Advanced tickets can be purchased for \$15 online or \$18 at the door. Current OCC students can purchase tickets for \$8 with ID.

Readers can buy tickets at occtickets.universitytickets.com.

KidWorks hosts fourth annual Rosé on the Bay

A fundraiser will be held at the bayfront home of Heidi Mendoza on Saturday, Sept. 30 for the benefit of nonprofit KidWorks, which provides academic, personal development and leadership programs

for children and teens in under-resourced neighborhoods. This will be the fourth annual Rosé on the Bay. Last year's event raised \$25,000.

"I am truly inspired by the leadership, generosity, and hospitality of these amazing women. Because of them, I'm confident this annual event will again be an overwhelming success," said chair of the Rosé on the Bay committee and Newport Beach resident Sue Willet in a statement last week.

To RSVP or for sponsorships, readers are encouraged to reach out to Lisa Gels at (714) 834-9400 at the extension 126, or email her at lisa.gels@kidworksoc.org.

— From staff reports

Today! 40th Annual Mesa Verde Garage Sale

September 23rd

8:00 AM
2:00 PM

Mesa Verde sales specialists with Coldwell Banker Global Luxury are once again hosting their phenomenal Mesa Verde Garage Sale. The annual neighborhood garage sale will be held on Saturday, September 23rd, from 8:00am to 2:00pm. Now in its 40th year, the Mesa Verde Garage Sale continues to get bigger and better each year, hosting as many as 100+ individual garage sales.

"The residents of Mesa Verde consider this annual garage sale as one of their most anticipated activities and look forward to it year after year," states the sales specialists.

To attend the garage sale, follow the signs or visit www.MesaVerdeGarageSale.com for specific maps of each participating home.

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