

# Daily Pilot

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 2024 /// dailypilot.com

## Police return product seized in raid

Se7enleaf owners see return of nearly \$1M in cannabis-related goods nearly a month after settlement with city.

BY SARA CARDINE

After obtaining a court order for the return of nearly \$1 million in product seized during a Sept. 7 raid on two Costa Mesa legal cannabis businesses, the owners of Se7enleaf finally received the goods during a delivery Thursday.

Costa Mesa police and city employees trucked more than 100 pounds of cannabis flower, boxes of oil cartridges and vaporizers along with documents, devices and security equipment held in police storage to Se7enleaf's Cadillac Avenue facility.

The hand-off comes nearly a month after owners Michael Moussalli and Matteo Tabib reached a settlement agreement with the city, whose attorneys had been mounting an offense against what they believed was illegal commerce taking place at the site.

Temporarily detained by police during the raid and present Thursday, Tabib said the delivery came after a week of wrangling, attorney emails and discussions with police.

"They didn't like that they had to return the stuff," he said.

See **Return**, page A2

## ALSO FROM THE DAILY PILOT:



James Carbone

**H.B. SOFTBALL DEALT FIRST SUNSET LEAGUE LOSS BY LOS ALAMITOS** PAGE A3



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

**TOURNAMENT LEADER** Thongchai Jaidee hits a long driver on No. 15 at the Hoag Classic at Newport Beach Country Club on Friday.

## 'Let's go!': Jaidee leads after first round at Hoag Classic

BY MATT SZABO

Thongchai Jaidee had a hot start on Friday at the Hoag Classic golf tournament at Newport Beach Country Club.

"Sizzling" might be a better way to describe a front nine that included five birdies and an eagle at hole No. 3 for the Thai pro.

"You're seven-under after nine?" a fan asked Jaidee's caddie incredulously as the caddie zoomed down the path in a golf cart at No. 10. "Let's go! Oh, my God!"

Jaidee cooled off somewhat but still did enough to grab the first-round lead at the PGA Tour Champions event.

He carded a nine-under par 62, matching his best round on the Champions tour and taking the outright lead by a stroke.

"If you play a low score, the golf course is fantastic," Jaidee said. "Today was not very difficult, and the wind is not very strong. I mean, this is my fourth year here, I know a little bit about the course."

English golfer Paul Broadhurst and Irish standout Padraig Harrington are both a shot behind, at -8. Spaniard Miguel Angel Jimenez is in fourth place, at -6.

The first round was played under partly cloudy skies, though some rain is in the forecast for both Saturday and Sunday. Tee times Saturday have been moved up about an hour.

A bogey on par-four hole No. 16 was the



**PAUL BROADHURST** hits it close to the pin on the 18th hole during the Hoag Classic on Friday.

only hiccup for Jaidee, who hit all 18 greens in regulation. He's had a long-term back injury and recently took a three-week break from golf but said he's feeling good heading into the weekend.

Broadhurst is off to a quick start this season on the PGA Tour Champions, with two top-10 finishes in his first four events. His round included birdies on four straight par-four holes, from Nos. 9 through 12.

"I guess that was probably the easiest 63

I've had," Broadhurst said. "When I got the wedge in my hand, I hit it really close."

He said his round was fairly stress-free until he bogeyed the par-three 17th hole.

"I didn't play a great bunker shot and just lipped out from 5 feet," Broadhurst said. "That happens toward the end of the day on poa annua greens, they get a little bit crusty. I

See **Leads**, page A4



Susan Hoffman

**FROM LEFT**, Kent, Craig and John Scudder compare memories of their beloved grandmother, Laura Scudder, with a vintage photo collection in the background at the Balboa Island Museum on Thursday.

## Museum fetes woman behind 'the noisiest chips in the world'

BY SUSAN HOFFMAN

In honor of Women's History month, three grandsons of Laura Scudder, the woman behind the eponymous food brand famous for its potato chips and peanut butter, addressed a members-only event at the Balboa Museum Thursday night.

The museum was packed to hear John, Craig and Kent Scudder share not only their grandmother's accomplishments but their memories of her.

"I'm interested in hearing the whole Scudder family story as told by the three brothers," said Balboa Island resident Dennis

Bress, one of the crowd enjoying the festive party held in advance of their talk. Another resident of the island, Lisa Jimenez, concurred with Bress, adding that she wanted to support the Scudder family legacy and to acknowledge women's accomplishments.

To her grandsons, who are now all in their 70s, she was "Madre," while to everyone else she was Laura Scudder, creator of the crunchy snack that carried a marketing slogan pronouncing them "the noisiest chips in the world."

John Scudder recalled for the

See **Woman**, page A2



**A FLEET** of a dozen delivery trucks wrapped around the original Laura Scudder food product factory in Monterey Park.

John Scudder

AROUND TOWN

Newport Harbor High to host community event

Newport Harbor High School will host a community event Wednesday where after school programs that span youth athlete programs and cheer teams from across Newport Beach and Costa Mesa will gather to show off their skills and talents.

Also present will be the Newport Harbor boys' sports teams as special guests. The event will begin at 5:30 p.m. and end at around 6:30 p.m.

CdM Residents' Assn. to hold annual meeting

The Corona del Mar Residents' Assn. announced this week that its annual meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 2, at the Sherman Library & Gardens. The meeting will be from 5 to 7:30 p.m. and will begin with a community social and expo. Representatives from the city of Newport Beach and local

community organizations will be present. The speakers' program will begin with Councilwoman Lauren Kleiman at 6 p.m.

The featured speaker will be former Newport Beach Mayor Nancy Gardner, who will address housing issues. Doors open at 5 p.m. Attendees are asked to enter through the rear entrance at the back of the facility through the parking lot. More information is available at [cdma.org](http://cdma.org). RSVPs are encouraged.

Rivian Theater to screen film on Laguna Beach

Village Laguna announced earlier this month a screening of "Sawdust and Sand: Douglas Miller's Laguna Beach" at the Rivian South Coast Theater on South Coast Highway on Monday. The documentary spans almost 50 years of Laguna Beach as it's transitioned over the years.

Miller and cinematographer, producer and director Jason Blalock will introduce the film. The screening will begin at 7 p.m. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Seating is limited and reservations are required at [events.rivian.com/sawdustandsand](http://events.rivian.com/sawdustandsand).

See **Around**, page A4

RETURN

Continued from page A1

"They didn't like that they were wrong, and they didn't like that they were embarrassed and that nobody was charged. They gave no consideration that me and Michael and our employees' lives are not in a good place right now."

Co-founders of Se7enleaf, Tabib and Moussalli are collectively majority owners of the retail dispensary High Seas Cannabis boutique, located at 1921 Harbor Blvd., which opened to friends and family Wednesday ahead of an April 1 grand opening.

Store owners had been waiting for a cannabis business permit, a final step delayed as city prosecutors and police processed the aftermath of the raid and an earlier inspection that discovered High Seas-branded product at a local cannabis delivery that had been co-packaged by Se7enleaf.

Moussalli maintains the company was testing the marketplace ahead of the dispensary's opening and not doing anything illegal. Since it opened in Costa Mesa after voters approved Measure X in 2016, Se7enleaf has engaged with the city's chamber of commerce and even helped inform the 2020 retail cannabis ballot initiative Measure Q.

"In many ways we're still treated as the stepchildren of businesses in the city," said Moussalli, who says he has never engaged in black market cannabis operations. "We just want the same basic opportunities and rights as businesses that are regulated



Eric Licas

SE7ENLEAF CO-FOUNDER Matteo Tabib with a bulletin board displaying certificates and plaques from the Costa Mesa Chamber of Commerce and Costa Mesa Police Assn.



SE7ENLEAF LAB Director Mark Lopez helps unload between \$600,000 and \$700,000 worth of cannabis products and other items related to the business Thursday.

in the same ways as ours, like liquor stores."

Costa Mesa city leaders are undergoing a review of the city's retail cannabis ordinance, considering amendments that would establish a buffer between

dispensaries and residential properties and cut back on costly employee badge requirements.

During a public hearing Tuesday, Costa Mesa Police Chief Ron Lawrence told the City Council since

January 2022, the department has logged a total of 48 calls for service from cannabis businesses, though a majority of reports pertained to security alarms and suspicious individuals in the vicinity.

Moussalli said Thursday while he appreciated the council's reconsideration of laws that have proven to be onerous for operators, there is still a ways to go.

"I'm concerned they're going to impose more regulations on us that they don't understand the consequences of," he said. "I just implore them to engage in more conversations with the industry, so we can avoid situations like the Se7enleaf/High Seas fiasco."

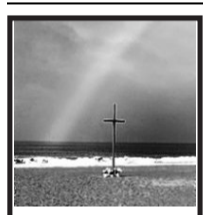
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CITY OF COSTA MESA SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 2024-02 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on January 16, 2024, the City Council gave first reading to proposed Ordinance No. 2024-02 on a 4-2-1 vote with Council Member Chavez and Mayor Pro Tem Harlan voting no and Council Member Harper absent. The City Council will consider adoption of the proposed ordinance at the regular meeting on April 2, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/ENTERTAINMENT 500

Religious Announcements



Easter Sunrise Service Join us Sunday, March 31st, at 6:30am for Easter Sunrise Service. The service will be held at the 14th Street Beach in Newport Beach with a continental breakfast following at our church. All are welcome! There will also be a 10:00am service in the Sanctuary. christytheseanb.org

Thank you St Jude & Sacred Heart of Jesus for prayers answered-CM

MERCHANDISE 800

Miscellaneous Merchandise

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CITY OF COSTA MESA SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE NOS. 2024-03 and 2024-04 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on March 19, 2024, the City Council held a public hearing to consider proposed Ordinance Nos. 2024-03 and 2024-04. The City Council will give first reading to the proposed ordinances at the regular meeting on April 2, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

CITY OF COSTA MESA SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE TITLE 13 (PLANNING, ZONING, AND DEVELOPMENT), CHAPTER IX (SPECIAL LAND USE REGULATIONS), ARTICLE 21 (LOCATION OF CANNABIS DISTRIBUTING, MANUFACTURING, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, TESTING LABORATORIES, RETAIL STOREFRONT AND RETAIL NONSTOREFRONT USES) OF THE COSTA MESA MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO CANNABIS STOREFRONTS

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-04 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COSTA MESA, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING TITLE 9 (LICENSES AND BUSINESS REGULATIONS) OF THE COSTA MESA MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO CANNABIS BUSINESSES Certified copies of the full text of Ordinance No. 2024-03 and Ordinance No. 2024-04 are posted and may be read in the City Clerk's Office, 77 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa. Brenda Green, City Clerk, City of Costa Mesa Published on: March 23, 2024

LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND 30-DAY PUBLIC REVIEW FOR THE CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH 2024-2025 DRAFT ANNUAL ACTION PLAN NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at 4:00 p.m., or soon thereafter as the matter shall be heard, a public hearing will be conducted in the City Council Chambers at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach. The City Council of the City of Newport Beach will receive public comments and consider the following: 2024-2025 DRAFT Annual Action Plan for the upcoming fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025. The Action Plan is a grant application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the last year covered by the City's current 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan. The Action Plan will appropriate Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding of approximately \$399,000 from program year 2024-2025 funds and \$305,774.04 in program income to specific activities for the 2024-2025 fiscal year to address Strategic Plan goals included in the Five-Year Consolidated Plan. NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the publication of this notice commences a minimum 30-day public review period as required under Federal Regulation 24 CFR 91.105(b)(2) and the City's Citizen Participation Plan. This public review and comment period begins March 23, 2024, and runs through April 23, 2024. The public is invited to submit written comments on the draft document to the Community Development Department no later than 2:00 p.m. on April 23, 2024. Copies of the 2024-2025 DRAFT Annual Action Plan will be available for public review on the City's website at <http://www.newportbeachca.gov/CDBGreports> and at the following locations: City Clerk's Office 100 Civic Center Drive Newport Beach, CA 92660 (949) 644-3005 Community Development Department 100 Civic Center Drive Newport Beach, CA 92660 (949) 644-3200 Central Library 1000 Avocado Ave Newport Beach, CA 92660 (949) 717-3800 NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the approval of the 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan is categorically exempt pursuant to Section 15301, of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, because it has no potential to have a significant effect on the environment. ACCESSIBILITY TO MEETINGS AND DOCUMENTS It is the objective of the City to comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the ADA Amendment Act of 2008, the Fair Housing Act, and the Architectural Barriers Act in all respects. If you require public documents in an accessible format, the City will make reasonable efforts to accommodate your request. If you require a disability-related accommodation to attend or participate in a hearing or meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the City Clerk's Office at least 72 hours prior to the meeting at (949) 644-3005. All interested parties may appear and present testimony in regard to this application. If you challenge this project in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you raised at the public hearing or in written correspondence delivered to the City, at or prior to, the public hearing. The application may be continued to a specific future meeting date, and if such an action occurs additional public notice of the continuance will be provided. Individuals not able to attend the meeting may contact the City Clerk or access the City's website after the meeting to review the action on this application. Questions and written comments may be addressed to Lauren Wooding Whittinger, Real Property Administrator at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660. You may also call Ms. Wooding Whittinger at (949) 644-3236 with any questions concerning this notice. /s/ Lellani I. Brown, MMC City Clerk City of Newport Beach Published: March 23, 2024

WOMAN

Continued from page A1

Daily Pilot a special afternoon he once spent with "Madre."

"I was about 10 years old, and I asked if I could take her to lunch. I had just received my first wallet, and I had \$5," John said. "We went to a real swanky restaurant and we looked at these long menus, and I could see my \$5 evaporating very quickly."

When young Johnny ordered a hamburger, Madre did the same, respecting his modest means.

"She was over 70 years old and she was so sweet she didn't want to embarrass me," said John, who lives on Balboa Island. "And we just sat there together the two of us and we had our hamburgers."

Laura Clough was born July 19, 1881, in Philadel-



FEMALE EMPLOYEES filled and sealed ironed wax paper bags with chips in the Monterey Park plant.

John Scudder

phia. After attending nursing school, she worked as a nurse at Mercer Hospital in Trenton, N.J., where she met a patient named Charles Scudder. They became a couple, and in 1908 they were wed. In time, they became the parents of four.

The Scudders lived briefly in Seattle, where they struggled to survive, not even having a nickel to

buy Christmas gifts. Upon moving to Ukiah, Calif., Laura took an interest in law and studied for the bar exam while she and Charles ran a restaurant.

Laura passed the exam and became the first female attorney in Ukiah, although she never practiced. In 1920, the couple then moved to Monterey Park where they ran a gas station. The station was attached to a brick building and, in 1926, Laura decided to use the building to manufacture potato chips, later adding peanut butter and mayonnaise to her line. She became a widow in 1928.

At the time she started her business, potato chips were sold in barrels or tins, which didn't keep them fresh. Laura, wanting to preserve quality, taste and freshness, discovered the advantages of wax paper to improve potato chip packaging. The process began when she asked her female employees to take home sheets of wax paper and hand iron them into the shape of bags that could be sealed, allowing customers to enjoy crisp chips. Competitors later picked up on her idea.

Notably, Laura Scudder was also the first company to place freshness dates on its food products.

As a female entrepreneur

during the Great Depression, Laura faced her share of obstacles. When she searched for a policy to insure a delivery truck, she was told by male insurance agents that a woman would not reliably pay premiums. A female insurance agent got the job done and insured the company's fleet as it grew.

By 1953, with 1,000 employees, she had cornered 50% of the potato chip market.

Laura, who died March 13, 1959, at the age of 77, earned a well-deserved place in history as a pioneer for her many accomplishments that paved the way for women in business. But it was her deep devotion to her family and to those who worked for her that forever endeared a place in their hearts. So much so that when she sold the company in 1957 she ended up settling for less money to an agreeable buyer in order to secure jobs for her employees.

"Being the youngest of the four Scudder brothers, I had the shortest period of time to get to know Madre before she became ill," recalled Kent Scudder. "However, there are memories that still stick with me, most of these were at her 50-plus acre ranch/farm in La Puente.

"We went there for Thanksgiving one year, and I remember bolting through the front door, trying to get ahead of my brothers, and I ran through the living room and dining room and into the kitchen and was swallowed up in Madre's apron as I tried to wrap my arms around her to hug her, and she giving me an even bigger hug. I can still smell the turkey and the stuffing that was roasting in the oven." His brother, Craig, chimed in. "She was a really good cook, and we still use her dressing recipe today."

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CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS

Crossword grid with answers: PROS, LENA, CITED, RIDE, OMAR, OLIVE, IDEE, RARE, MILVAN, MECHANICAL, BULL, OVAL, AIM, SCARE, BEGIN, SHE, PANS, LAUDE, YEA, ANGEL, ARE, DARN, MAR, ASSTS, LACE, SLR, BATHS, ACHE, CON, AERO, BOARDING, SCHOOL, RANGE, COAT, ORSO, ULGER, BRIE, LESS, NEEDS, MANE, SOOT

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

# Laguna Beach seeks creative ideas for Promenade project

BY ANDREW TURNER

Orange County creatives can now apply to have their artwork put on display in downtown Laguna Beach.

The Laguna Beach Arts Commission, looking to have a temporary sculpture or stage-floor mural installed at the performance stage of the Promenade on Forest, has put out a call for artists.

Potential projects would be on view at the corner of Forest Avenue and Glenneyre Street. The Arts Commission is requesting

that the installation highlights sea-life conservation, as well as Laguna Beach's place in promoting those ideals. Contest organizers urge those entering to utilize recycled or repurposed materials.

Installations should be durable, appropriate for and safe to the public and not interfere with the ability to have live music performances on the stage.

The contest is open to Orange County residents who are at least 18 years of age. An honorarium of \$5,000 will be awarded to the selected artist.

Applicants should submit their designs to [lagunabeachcity.slide-room.com](mailto:lagunabeachcity.slide-room.com) by April 1. For more information, contact arts program coordinator Michael McGregor at [mmcgregor@lagunabeachcity.net](mailto:mmcgregor@lagunabeachcity.net).

## Laguna Beach police honor their own at awards banquet

The Laguna Beach police department on Monday held its annual awards banquet, where fallen Officer Gordon French was

posthumously awarded the Police Cross.

French's daughter, Linda O'Keefe, accepted a plaque on behalf of the police department, authorities said.

"We will forever remember Officer Gordon G. French for his service to the city and his sacrifice for the community of Laguna Beach," an inscription on the plaque read.

French's end of watch came on Feb. 13, 1953, when a suspect being booked into the Laguna Beach jail fired a round into his stomach during an escape attempt. French

succumbed to his injuries as co-workers transported him to Hoag Hospital, according to information on the city website.

Also at Monday's banquet, Police Cpl. Antonio Manzano received the honor of Officer of the Year. Community Services Officer Rosie Santana was named Professional Staff Member of the Year, and Sgt. David Gensemer received the title of Supervisor of the Year.

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## SOFTBALL

# Los Alamitos deals H.B. first Sunset League loss

BY ANDREW TURNER

A pair of familiar foes did battle on the diamond Thursday afternoon, the stakes as they tend to be when the softball powerhouses collide in a Sunset League clash.

Los Alamitos showed just how well it has gotten to know Zoe Prystajko, doing what few have been able to do in causing problems for Huntington Beach's hard-throwing, left-handed ace.

The Griffins pushed two runs across in the fourth and sixth innings, leading to a 5-2 win for Los Alamitos over visiting Huntington Beach in their first meeting of the season.

Huntington Beach (8-2, 5-1), which entered the week at No. 4 in the CIF Southern Section Division I poll, will play host to eighth-ranked Los Alamitos (13-3, 6-0) in the season finale on April 23.

Catcher Allyssa Ramos led off each of the multi-run innings for Los Alamitos, supplying a double in the fourth and a single in the sixth. Further down the lineup, third baseman Gabby Terrones and first baseman Cienna Kowaleski — both left-handed batters — each had two hits and combined for three runs



Photos by James Carbone

**HUNTINGTON BEACH'S** Macy Fuller (27) gets Los Alamitos' Allyssa Ramos (12) out at second in a Sunset League game at Los Alamitos High on Thursday.

batted in.

"We knew we needed to get ahead in this game and start early and get the upper hand in league," Terrones said. "This is a big game for us."

Terrones singled before being lifted for pinch runner Cameron Gill in the second. Kalie Matsuno moved Gill to third with a

fly out to right, Kowaleski took advantage of a pitch in the strike zone with an opposite-field hit for the game's initial run.

Huntington Beach jumped in front in the top of the fourth. Ashley Long drove a double to left field. An intentional walk was issued to Prystajko, who had doubled in her prior at-bat.

With two outs, Preslee Brower tripled to the gap in right-center field, giving the Oilers a 2-1 lead.

In the bottom half of the inning, Terrones doubled and Kowaleski singled, each of the one-out hits driving in a run to put the Griffins back in front.

Prystajko struck out Morgan Fitzpatrick, then was



**HUNTINGTON BEACH'S** Liah Lummus (22) runs out to center field to make a catch against Los Alamitos.

the beneficiary of a phenomenal play by her battery mate. Catcher Emma Johnson caught the ricochet of a pitch that had gone to the backstop, breaking back to the plate in time to tag out the advancing runner.

Huntington Beach coach Jeff Forsberg said the team was in need of a catcher who could handle Prystajko. He indicated that Johnson, a late addition to the varsity team, has saved the day.

"I learned that I should be fired as a player personnel [evaluator] because I always thought that I knew talent," Forsberg joked. "She was going to play JV the whole year. She, in my

opinion, next to Ramos, is the best catcher in this league. She is legit. She's thrown five kids out."

The Oilers would not be so fortunate with runners in scoring position in the sixth. A wild pitch brought in a run, and the Griffins stole another run when Terrones broke for home with Prystajko walking back to the circle.

"I told Gabby when she got to third, 'Hey, if [Prystajko] puts her glove underneath her arm, you're breaking for the plate,'" Los Alamitos coach Rob Weil said. "She takes her [protective face] mask off and takes her glove and puts it underneath her arm. The catcher wasn't paying attention. I was watching the entire game. She did it, and Gabby didn't hesitate and broke for the plate."

Prystajko had nine strikeouts over six innings. All five runs against her were earned.

Liah Lummus had three hits for the Oilers, and Brower had two hits.

Cari Ferguson allowed two earned runs on eight hits while striking out seven in a complete game for Los Alamitos.

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GOOD  
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MARCH 29th  
at 7 p.m.

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REQUIEM  
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A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Trustor: JOSEPH HRUBOVCAK, A SINGLE MAN Duly Appointed Trustee: COUNTY RECORDS RESEARCH, INC. Recorded 3/11/2014 as Instrument No. 201400090057 in book, page of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Orange County, California, and pursuant to the Notice of Default and Election to Sell thereunder recorded 12/1/2023 in Book Page, as Instrument No. 2023000298537 of said Official Records. Date of Sale: 4/4/2024 at 9:00 AM Place of Sale: On the front steps to the entrance of the Orange Civic Center located at 300 East Chapman, Orange, CA 92866 Estimated amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$180,846.64 Street Address or other common designation of real property: 374 WOODLAND PLACE COSTA MESA, CA 92627 NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. 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](http://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](http://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 Mortgagee, 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](http://www.stoxposting.com) HOAI PHAN COUNTY RECORDS RESEARCH, INC., TRUSTEE DIVISION

**CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH**

**NOTICE INVITING BIDS**

**Sealed bids shall be submitted electronically via PlanetBids to office of the City Clerk, 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660 By 3:00 PM on the 10th day of April, 2024, at which time such bids shall be opened and read for**

**AS-NEEDED SPORTS & RECREATIONAL FIELD LANDSCAPE SERVICES**

**Contract No. 9529-1**

**\$250,000.00**  
Estimated Annual Bid Value



Approved by  
**James M. Houlihan**  
Deputy PWD/City Engineer

**Prospective bidders may obtain Bid Documents, Project Specifications and Plans via PlanetBids: <http://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=22078>**

**Hard copy plans are available via (Select One) Santa Ana Blue Print at (949)756-1001 Located at 2372 Morse Avenue, Irvine, CA 92614**

**Contractor License Classification(s) required for this project: "C-27"**  
**For further information, call Kevin Pekar, Parks and Trees Superintendent, at (949) 644-3369**

**NOTICE:**  
*No contractor or subcontractor may be listed on a bid proposal for a public works project (submitted on or after March 1, 2015) unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to Labor Code section 1725.5 [with limited exceptions from this requirement for bid purposes only under Labor Code section 1771.1(a)].*

*No contractor or subcontractor may be awarded a contract for public work on a public works project (awarded on or after April 1, 2015) unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to Labor Code section 1725.5.*

*This project is subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations.*

**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](http://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.**

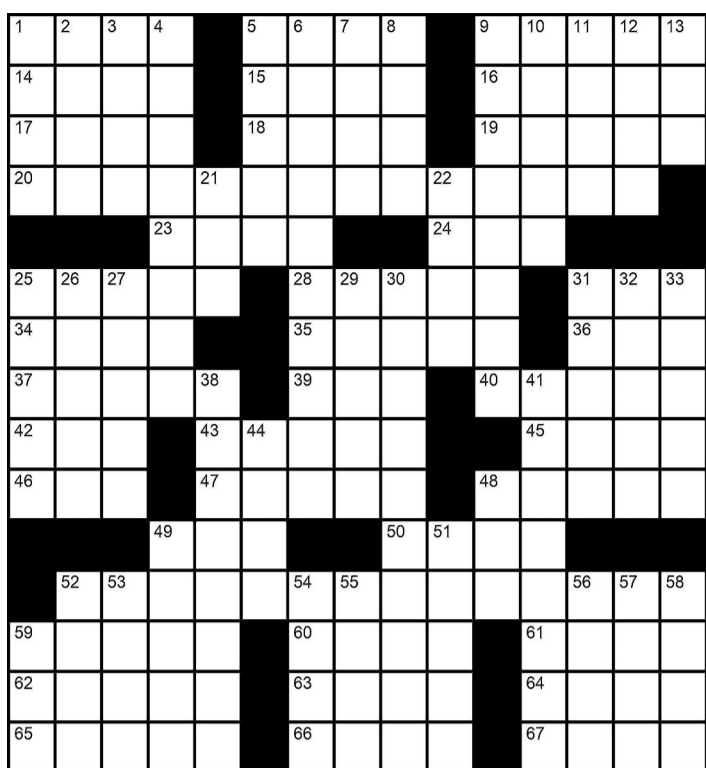
**You may examine the file kept by the court.** If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request 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

## THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Mathews

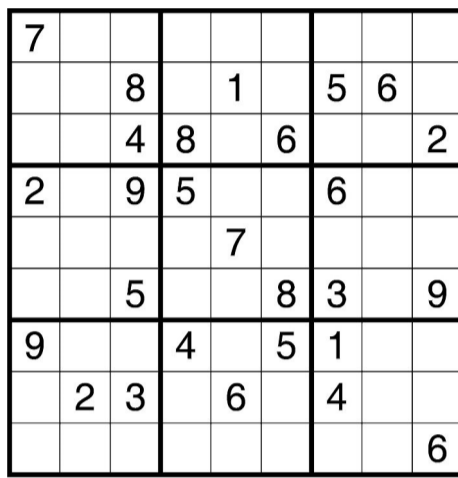
**ACROSS**  
1 Paid players  
5 Miss Horne  
9 Referred to  
14 Ready to eat  
15 Epps of "House, M.D."  
16 Fruit that's a source of oil  
17 Awareness  
18 Steakhouse order  
19 Italian fashion capital  
20 Ride at some Tex-Mex restaurants: 2 wds.  
23 Track shape  
24 Intent  
25 Frighten  
28 Jump in  
31 Feminine pronoun  
34 Bad reviews  
35 Magna cum \_  
36 Yes vote  
37 Early investor  
39 Exist  
40 Fixes, as socks  
42 Do damage to  
43 Helpers: Abbr.  
45 Bridal gown fabric, often  
46 Cunning  
47 Relaxing soaks  
48 Felt sore  
49 Felon, for short  
50 Bubbly chocolate brand  
52 Place to eat, sleep, and learn: 2 wds.  
59 "Home on the \_"  
60 Winter outerwear  
61 Thereabouts: 2 wds.  
62 Stomach ailment  
63 French cheese  
64 More or \_  
65 Requires  
66 Horse's hair  
67 Chimney residue



## SUDOKU

By the Mephram Group

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



**For answers to the crossword and Sudoku puzzles, see page A2.**

## DOWN

1 Strait-laced  
2 Bus trip, e.g.  
3 Crude-shipping grp.  
4 Fish with a curly tail  
5 \_ Doone cookies  
6 Message for a big group: 2 wds.  
7 Bust agent  
8 Calculus calculation  
9 Mixed together  
10 Ancient Troy  
11 Work, as soil  
12 Assessment, for

short  
13 Lion's home  
21 Wide st.  
22 Put down, as tile  
25 Sends in bulk  
26 Waterway  
27 Hopping mad  
29 Our planet  
30 "You're wrong!": 2 wds.  
31 Red wine variety  
32 Therefore  
33 Made simpler  
38 People at work  
41 Some organic solvents  
44 Golf trap material  
48 Parenthesis, e.g.  
49 Behind bars  
51 Cosmetician  
Lauder  
52 Unit of hay  
53 A single time  
54 Silo weapon: Abbr.  
55 Romance writer Roberts  
56 Twistable cookie  
57 Veal \_ buco  
58 Took the L  
59 Baseball score

Tribune Media Services

## LEADS

Continued from page A1

putted well all day and I just had one that just wobbled a little bit offline."

Harrington surged late, earning three straight birdies on Nos. 15, 16 and 17 before a par on 18. After the round, a reporter told him that Irish weather was coming in the next couple of days.

"If I wanted Irish weather, I would have stayed in Ireland," he quipped. "I'm getting it anyway, and I'm in California."

But Harrington, 52, who has split time between the PGA Tour and PGA Tour Champions this season, had to be pleased to be in contention.

"[The two tours are] very different," he said. "Out here, there's a certain level of comfort that I know if I play my game I'm going to be in and around the leaderboard. I go back and play with the young guys, and I feel under pressure that I have to have my very best game."

Among other local favorites, Long Beach native



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

**JOHN DALY** hits out of a green-side bunker on day one of the Hoag Classic at Newport Beach Country Club on Friday.

Paul Goydos is tied for 16th after an opening round score of -3. Newport Beach resident Fred Couples, one of seven World Golf Hall of Fame members in the event, is tied for 28th after carding a -2.

Defending champion Ernie Els scored a -1, which tied him for 42nd place. But don't count him out, as he also started last year with the same score before rallying for victory.

Couples is scheduled to tee off first from No. 1 at 9:25 a.m. Saturday, in a group that includes Jim

Furyk and Michael Wright. Jaidee, Broadhurst and Harrington are in the final group at 11:25 a.m.

Saturday is Military Appreciation Day at the tournament. The Celebrity Challenge also will take place around 2 p.m., beginning at No. 10. The pairing includes former Major League Baseball pitcher Jim Abbott and football stars Reggie Bush, Marshall Faulk and Matt Barkley.

[matthewszabo@latimes.com](mailto:matthewszabo@latimes.com)  
Twitter: @mjszabo

## AROUND

Continued from page A2

### College students recognized for performances

Golden West College announced Thursday that two of its students have been recognized by the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival for their performances in "Psycho Beach Party," which ran from March 8 to 17 at the campus theater. Students Tessa Sarvis and Ian Pedersen have been invited to the Region VIII festival in February 2025 to compete for scholarships and possible advancement to the finals in Washington, D.C.

"This is a wonderful way to end another successful run of show in the Theater Arts Department at GWC," acting dean of arts and letters Martie Ramm Engle said in a statement. "We are

all very proud of Tessa, Ian, Lydia and Rainbow for their exceptional work, as we are proud of the entire cast, crew, and design team that made 'Psycho Beach Party' a great ride!"

### 'One County, One Book' program announced

OC Public Libraries announced the start of "One County, One Book" program, which focuses on "Wandering Stars" by author Tommy Orange. Readers of all ages are invited to celebrate the book through film screenings, cultural presentations, story times and book club discussions. The author will be present at a speaking engagement on April 7 at 6:30 p.m. at the Norma Hertzog Community Center in Costa Mesa.

No registration is required and all ages are welcome. For more, visit [ocpl.org/one-county-one-book](http://ocpl.org/one-county-one-book).

### Unified Sports Golf Tournament raises \$13K

Through its annual golf tournament, the Huntington Beach Union High School District raised \$13,000 for its Unified Sports program, which provides opportunities for students with and without disabilities to play in sports together. More than 100 golfers participated this year.

"Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Unified Sports Golf Tournament as a golfer, donor, or volunteer," HBUHSD Unified Sports Liaison Courtney Gillett, said in a statement. "Because of your contributions, we're able to provide life-changing experiences for our students and partners alike, and we look forward to the impact this program will continue to have for years to come."

— From staff reports

**FIND**  
an apartment  
through classified!