

Daily Pilot

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 2024 /// dailypilot.com



Photos by Eric Licas

SPENCER BUCHANAN, from left, boat owner Brett Scott and Adam Bradley rig the Blitzen on Friday in preparation of the Long Point Yacht race from Newport Harbor to Catalina and back. It is the last competition of the Newport Harbor Yacht Club's racing season this year.

Team aims for a strong finish in racing season

BY ERIC LICAS

Challenges confronted the crew of the Blitzen from day one in their inaugural year competing in the Newport Harbor Yacht Club's racing season. Their halyard broke during the opening day race in May, sending the wind-catching kite propelling their boat from Long Beach Harbor to Newport Pier tumbling into the ocean.

"There was no hesitation between this team," Blitzen's owner Brett Scott said. "Everyone grabbed the kite and in 20 seconds it was up and flying again."

She has been sailing since she was 5. But her first year at the head of a team has taught her a lot about managing schedules, the personalities aboard the boat and finances, she said.

"Whenever something breaks it adds up, so I'm definitely not doing this for the money," Scott said with a laugh. "Don't take investment advice from me. But we've really bonded as a team, and I think that's our greatest achievement."

See **Finish**, page A3



BRETT SCOTT, right, and crew member Scott Buchanan with the Blitzen ahead of the Long Point Yacht Race.

Heated contest for city clerk in H.B.

Regina Blakenhorn and Lisa Lane Barnes are engaged in contentious run to replace retiring Robin Estanislau.

BY MATT SZABO

For the first time in more than eight years, Huntington Beach voters will seat a new city clerk when the general election is held in November.

Current City Clerk Robin Estanislau is retiring, and two candidates — Regina Blankenhorn and Lisa Lane Barnes — are vying for a four-year term.

The first couple of weeks of the campaign have already proven contentious.

Barnes hired an attorney to challenge Blankenhorn's ballot designation of "city executive coordinator." Her team argued that this was misleading, since Blankenhorn held that position in the city of Tustin — not in Huntington Beach.

"The ballot designation is very important, and when you use the word 'city' ... it implies that you work in that city," Barnes said. "Your ballot designation cannot be misleading, and that is misleading."

The issue did not require litigation. On Monday, Estanislau agreed to reject Blankenhorn's initial ballot designation and change it to her second alternative "municipal executive coordinator."

Blankenhorn said she re-

See **Clerk**, page A4

ALSO FROM THE DAILY PILOT:



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

LOS AMIGOS FOOTBALL LIGHTS UP SCOREBOARD IN SEASON OPENER PAGE A4

Randall Preserve gets state boost

\$600K grant will help stewards of the open space plan for its future.

BY ERIC LICAS

State officials awarded a \$600,000 grant on Thursday to develop plans for the future preservation of Frank and Joan Randall Preserve.

The 387-acre space just east of the Santa Ana River and north of Pacific Coast Highway is near the borders of Huntington Beach, Newport Beach and Costa Mesa. The former oil-field is considered one of the last undeveloped plots of coastal real estate in Orange County, and is a habitat for burrowing owls, fairy shrimp, peregrine falcons and other wildlife.

"The Preserve is home to more than 18 sensitive, threatened or

See **Preserve**, page A3

Kontrapunktus to tap into spirituality of music

BY ANDREW TURNER

Chamber music originating from the Baroque period will be played in downtown Laguna Beach tonight, when Kontrapunktus makes its return to Orange County.

The nine-piece orchestra of promising young musicians will perform inside the sanctuary at Laguna Presbyterian Church, where it first appeared in 2017.

Back in those days, Kontrapunktus experienced a few obstacles. At least locally, the group dealt with relative anonymity and a showtime that was less than ideal. The performance took place in front of a couple dozen people on a Sunday afternoon.

Since that day, Kontrapunktus Executive Director Raymond Jacobs says, the turnouts in Laguna Beach have been outstanding, Jacobs said the attendance, as well as the time slot, are a sign of how far they have come.

Kontrapunktus is nearing the end of its current string of shows, during which the chamber music orchestra is performing music from composers Georg Philipp Telemann and Johann Sebastian Bach.

Notably, the performances tend to take place in houses of



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

THE SANCTUARY and stage at Laguna Presbyterian Church will serve as the stage for the Kontrapunktus chamber music concert, featuring nine young musicians, at 7:30 tonight.

worship. Grace First Presbyterian Church in Long Beach was booked for Friday.

The Laguna Presbyterian show on Saturday begins at 7:30 p.m.

The concert schedule concludes on Sunday evening with an appearance at Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels in Los Angeles.

"You have to look at the origins of the music and what inspired the music," Jacobs said

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MUSIC

Continued from page A1

when asked about the selection in venues. "During the Baroque era, the clergy were a major influence on society at large. Most people were almost required to go to church every Sunday. It wasn't necessarily a subculture. I think it was more of a culture where even the most prolific composers were involved in some capacity in working with the clergy, Bach being principal among them.

"Bach basically dedicated his whole life to writing choral music, sacred music, as it's now called. I try to find atmospheres that bring out the spirituality of the music, for people to feel a greater connection with the music in that environment."

The musicians performing on Saturday night will include Cameron Alan-Lee (concertmaster), Leonard Fu (first violin), David Chang (second principal violin), Haesol Lee (violin),



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

THE JERUSALEM limestone chancel inside the sanctuary of Laguna Presbyterian Church.

Cassia Drake (viola), Ethan Moffitt (double bass), Osheen Manukyan (cello), Keika Mori (harpsichord) and Aubree Oliverson (vi-

olin soloist). Laguna Presbyterian, which was founded in 1917, will be the site for an official recording performance

of the current production, "Bach and Telemann: Collegium Musicum."

The sanctuary was completed in 1928, and the

chancel upon which the musicians will be playing was expanded in 1948. Restoration efforts for the sanctuary were finished in January 2010. That project included a resurfacing of the chancel with Jerusalem limestone.

Various features help set a tone, including four thematic stained-glass windows. The Ferris Window, which looks out toward 2nd Street, was donated by the children and grandchildren of Sylvanus and Sabra Ferris, who established the founding congregation of the church by hosting bible studies on their front porch in the 1890s.

There are also the Four Gospel, the St. Paul and the Good Shepherd windows.

"I think what our church provides is a much more intimate setting," said Beth Pinney, an associate pastor for Laguna Presbyterian. "It seats probably 300 [people on the ground floor]. They've had 250, maybe, in there, which is even bigger than an audience would typically be for chamber

musicians." Pinney pointed to the history of the church and its congregation, noting that it has had an appreciation for art and divine creation. Plein air painter Anna Hills was among the members when the church was formally organized in 1917, according to church records. Hills' influence remains in the sanctuary via the color palette of the windows.

Given that history, Pinney says that is reason enough to support young artists in a variety of mediums.

"If I take you around to show you the paintings that the church has, you could go back and just listen to the excellent music that has been created by this congregation over 107 years, it's really astounding," Pinney said. "I think that's the connection. I think we love good art, we love wonderful, exceptional music."

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Bids Wanted

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 Before 2:00 PM on the 12th day of September 2024, at which time such bids shall be opened and read for

CENTRAL LIBRARY KITCHEN REMODEL Contract No. 9394-1 \$182,800 Engineer's Estimate 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

MANDATORY PRE-BID SITE WALK: A mandatory job walk will be conducted for this project on August 28, 2024 at 8:00 a.m. at Newport Beach Central Library located at 1000 Avocado Ave, Newport Beach, CA 92666

Hard copy plans are available via Mouse Graphics at (949) 548-5571 659 W. 19th Street, Costa Mesa 92627

Contractor License Classification(s) required for this project: "B" For further information, call Kyle Aube, Project Manager at (949) 644-3296

BID INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ON THE CITY WEBSITE https://www.newportbeachca.gov/government/data-hub/online-services/bids-rfps-vendor-registration

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.

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Legal Notices

CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Thursday, September 05, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. or soon thereafter as the matter shall be heard, a public hearing will be conducted in the Council Chambers at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach. The Planning Commission of the City of Newport Beach will consider the following application:

Wild Strawberry Cafe Outdoor Dining Area Expansion - A request for a conditional use permit to increase the authorized area used for outdoor dining at an existing restaurant from 75 square feet to approximately 658 square feet and to waive the additional parking spaces required for the expanded area. Alcohol service would be offered on a portion of the expanded outdoor dining area through the restaurant's existing Type 41 (On-Sale Beer and Wine - Eating Place) Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) License and the alcohol service area would be delineated with planters. Hours of operation are proposed to remain from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., daily. Aside from the expanded outdoor dining and alcohol service area, there are no other operational changes proposed. If approved, this Conditional Use Permit would supersede all prior approvals.

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/planningcommission.

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 5:00 p.m. on the business day immediately before the meeting. This allows time for the Planning Commission to adequately consider the submitted correspondence.

For questions regarding this public hearing item please contact Joselyn Perez, Senior Planner, at 949-644-3312, jperez@newportbeachca.gov, at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660.

Project File No.: PA2021-309 Activity: Conditional Use Permit Zone: Office-Regional (OR) General Plan: Regional Commercial Office (CO-R) Location: 240 Newport Center Drive, Suite 100 Applicant: Natasha Kazic of Wild Strawberry Cafe Tristan Harris, Secretary, Planning Commission, City of Newport Beach

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Legal Notices

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL) CASE NUMBER (Número del Caso): 24VECV00197

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): Miguel Santos Marcela, Samy M. Gerges and DOES 1-25, inclusive

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE) Gonzalo Garcia Rojas

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.

AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.

Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de extensión de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia. Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos extensos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 o más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Van Nuys Courthouse East 6230 Sylmar Ave. Van Nuys, CA 91405

The name, address, and telephone number of the plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): F. Jay Rahimi, Esq. (SBN 305286), Los Angeles Legal Solutions, 17200 Ventura Blvd., #115, Encino, CA 91316, 818-510-0555

Date: 01/16/2024 David W. Slayton Executive Officer/ Clerk of the Court (Secretario) A. Salcedo Deputy (Adjunto)

Published in the Los Angeles Times 8/3, 8/10, 8/17, 8/24/2024

Legal Notices

LEGAL NOTICE CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Thursday, September 05, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. or soon thereafter as the matter shall be heard, a public hearing will be conducted in the Council Chambers at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach. The Planning Commission of the City of Newport Beach will consider the following matter:

Amendment to the 6th Cycle Housing Element - A narrowly focused amendment to the City's adopted and certified 6th Cycle Housing Element that would revise portions of Section 3 (Housing Constraints, Resources, and Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing) and Section 4 (Housing Plan) to change the narrative and implementing actions to remove the requirement for a vote of the electorate pursuant to Charter Section 423. At the September 5, 2024, meeting, the Planning Commission will consider making a recommendation regarding adoption to the City Council.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that all significant environmental concerns for the City's Housing Element and its implementation have been addressed in a previously certified environmental document (Housing Element Implementation Program Environmental Impact Report [EIR] - State Clearinghouse Number 2023060699). The City intends to use said document for the above-noted Amendment. Copies of the previously prepared environmental document are available for public review and inspection at the Planning Division or the City of Newport Beach website at www.newportbeachca.gov/ceqa within the "Housing Implementation Program EIR" folder.

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/planningcommission. 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 5:00 p.m. on the business day immediately before the meeting. This allows time for the Planning Commission to adequately consider the submitted correspondence.

For questions regarding this public hearing item please contact Benjamin M. Zdeba, AICP, Planning Manager at 949-644-3253 or bzdeba@newportbeachca.gov, at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660.

Project File No.: PA2022-0245 Zone: Various Location: Citywide Applicant: City of Newport Beach Tristan Harris, Secretary, Planning Commission, City of Newport Beach

Legal Notices

LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND 15-DAY PUBLIC REVIEW FOR THE CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH DRAFT CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION REPORT 2023-2024

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Tuesday, September 10, 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, and the City Council of the City of Newport Beach will receive public comments and consider this matter.

DRAFT CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION REPORT (CAPER) 2023-2024 - The City prepared the draft CAPER for the Fiscal Year, beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024, as required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The draft CAPER provides a detailed account of how the City utilized its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds in Fiscal Year 2023-24 to pursue the strategies, goals, and objectives proposed in the 2023-2024 Action Plan to address the housing and community development needs identified in the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan. The purpose of the Public Hearing for the CAPER is to allow the public the opportunity to comment on the draft CAPER.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the review and approval of the draft CAPER is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(2) (the activity will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment) and 15060(c)(3) (the activity is not a project as defined in Section 15378) of the CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, because it has no potential for resulting in physical change to the environment, directly or indirectly.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the publication of this notice commences a minimum 15-day public review period. Copies of the draft CAPER will be available during the public review and comment period from August 24, 2024, through September 10, 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 September 10, 2024. Copies of the 2023-2024 draft CAPER will be available for public review on the City's website at www.newportbeachca.gov/CDBGreports and at the following locations:

Table with 3 columns: 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)

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, to inform us of your needs and to determine if accommodation is feasible.

The City does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, military status, or other protected class status in any of its activities or operations.

All interested parties may appear and present testimony at the public hearing in regard to this matter. If you challenge this matter 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 matter may be continued to a specific future meeting date, and if such an action occurs additional public notice of the continuance will not be provided. The immediate Friday prior to the public hearing the agenda, staff report, and documents may be reviewed on the City of Newport Beach website at www.newportbeachca.gov. Individuals not able to attend the meeting may contact the Community Development Department or access the City's website after the meeting to review the action on this matter.

Questions concerning the draft CAPER or the hearing and written comments may be addressed to Priscila Dávila, CDBG Consultant, at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660, or via telephone at 562-673-3388. You may also contact Lauren Wooding Whittinger, Real Property Administrator, at 100 Civic Center Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660, or by telephone at 949-644-3236, with any questions concerning this notice.

Leilani I. Brown, MMC, City Clerk, City of Newport Beach
Publish: August 24, 2024

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A SQUARE PIZZA, sometimes called a "grandma slice," at award-winning Truly Pizza in Dana Point.



Photos by Sarah Mosqueda

Truly Pizza plans location in Laguna

BY SARAH MOSQUEDA

Truly Pizza has truly enjoyed a successful first year.

In June, the Dana Point restaurant was one of only two in Orange County named on 50 Top Pizza's list of the 50 Best Pizzerias in the USA, and its Champion Cheese Pizza, designed by pizzaiolo Sergio Balderas, took home the Best Traditional Pizza award at this year's World Pizza Championship in Italy.

On Monday night, a cluster of hopeful diners crowded the host stand hoping to get a table on Truly's lemon-tree-shaded patio. Earlier in the day, the pizzeria's owners announced plans to open a second location in Laguna Beach next year, expanding on the success so evident a few hours later.

"Bringing Truly Pizza to Laguna Beach feels like coming

home," said Truly Pizza co-founder Donna Baldwin in a press release. "We believe in creating a space where pizza brings people together, and our new location on PCH is the perfect place to make that happen."

Baldwin, who has been a resident of Laguna Beach for 20 years, opened Truly Pizza with World Champion of Pizza winners John Arena, Chris Decker and Michael Vakneen in the summer of 2023.

Plans were expected to be filed with Laguna Beach last week for a location at 320 N. Coast Hwy, not far from the Laguna Art Museum.

The new 2,000-square-foot venue is expected to have outdoor seating for 100 guests and is anticipated to have the same design sensibilities as the original with the same team working to craft the space. Think open-air,

THE OWNERS OF Truly Pizza plan to open a location in Laguna Beach next year with the same design sensibilities as its original Dana Point restaurant, pictured above.

shoreline dining reminiscent of the Amalfi Coast in Italy.

Truly has made a name for itself in the industry, both locally and internationally, with two distinct styles of pies: a 12-inch inch American Artisan that is crispy and airy and baked in the hearth, and a square pizza sometimes referred to as a "grandma slice" with an equally light crust.

"First and foremost, our dough and our technique is the foundation to everything," Decker told TimesOC in May.

As a partner and head pizzaiolo for Truly Pizza, Decker said the developed dough and local California ingredients are what makes Truly's pies stand out.

"There is thought and intention behind every menu item, for

example taking a sausage and mushroom pizza and elevating it in a new creative way — the La Foresta," said Decker, referring to a menu favorite topped with fresh and aged whole milk mozzarella, fontina, roasted mushrooms, sausage and herb ricotta. "I also think our unwavering dedication to the highest-quality products and serving it at reasonable prices also sets us apart."

Along with expertly crafted pizza, the menu offers other Italy-by-way-of-California dishes like an Italian tuna sandwich with tomato, pickled celery and red onion served on house-baked focaccia bread and a salumi chopped salad with little gem lettuce dressed in sliced salami, soppressata, red onion, shaved

fennel, beans, fresh mozzarella, olives and a drizzle of Calabrian chili vinaigrette.

The forthcoming location will serve the same thoughtful menu including Truly's premium soft-serve desserts. The beverage program will continue the restaurant's favor of regional craft beers and small-batch wineries' and the Laguna Beach location will also offer a selection of cocktails and mocktails from a full bar.

Truly Pizza's new location is projected to open in 2025.

"We are looking forward to sharing our love for authentic, quality pizza with even more people," said Baldwin.

sarah.mosqueda@latimes.com
Twitter: @SarahNMos

FINISH

Continued from page A1

There were plenty of smirks, side-eye and playful jabs as she and the crew rigged the Blitzen Friday in preparation of Long Point Race week. The three-day race is the last competitive event of the yacht club's season.

The first leg starts in Newport Harbor and ends at Catalina Island. Boats then sail to the opposite end of the island and back on day two before returning to Newport Harbor on day three.

Blitzen's Baddies, as the crew refers to themselves on Instagram, are all experienced sailors and were optimistic about finishing strong in their first season as a team. They've had some success this summer, including third-, second- and first-place finishes in their class during the three days of Long Beach Racing Week in June.

"We keep getting better," Scott said.

Crew member Tyler Macdonald said the hard-



Eric Licas

THE CREW OF the Blitzen prepares the boat Friday ahead of the Long Point Yacht Race.

est part about the season has been "dealing with Adam and Spencer," drawing laughs from Adam Bradley, Spencer Buchanan and the rest of the team aboard the Blitzen on Friday. Teammate Matt Whitfield said the real challenge of each race lies in "the hangover afterwards." Coincidentally, he said his favorite activity while sailing is when they crack open some beer mid-jour-

ney. There's no shortage of banter aboard the Blitzen. And the irreverent sense of humor of her crew is half the reason Scott chose to have them aboard.

She grew up in Reno and

traveled to Newport Beach every summer as a child to sail with her family. She fell in love with both the ocean and the tavern-style warmth of the community that welcomed her into the sport.

Her father, Bart Scott, said he wasn't surprised to see her move to Newport Beach. He's proud to see her fulfill her lifelong dream of owning a boat and fielding a racing team. And although she has a sense of humor, she runs a tight ship and commands the respect of her crew.

"Once we all come together on what a problem is there's not a lot of back and forth or arguing," Scott said. "They all just recognize what we each need to do and get it done."

After Long Point, Blitzen's Baddies plan on participating in small casual races while preparing for next season. They hope to com-

pete in the Transpacific Yacht Race from San Pedro to Honolulu next July.

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Twitter: @EricLicas

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PRESERVE

Continued from page A1

endangered species, has the significant potential to serve as a buffer for coastal climate-related impacts, and is adjacent to nearby disadvantaged communities ready for passive recreational use on this land," Melanie Schlotterbeck of the nonprofit Power In Nature's Southland Regional stated in a news release announcing the award. "This planning grant is a huge win!"

The Banning Ranch property was acquired and set aside for preservation by two nonprofits, the Trust for Public Land and the organization currently known as the Coastal Corridor Alliance, in 2022. The funding awarded by the state's Wildlife Conservation Board on Thursday will help the Alliance and the preserve's current titleholder, the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, plan for the future of the open space.

"It also provides the non-federal match required by the \$1 million previously awarded to the Alliance by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation with support from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration," according to Schlotterbeck.

The grant contributes to a total of \$1.785 million the

nonprofits have secured to develop strategies to manage resources, protect beachfront portions of the preserve from erosion and maintain sustainable access to the public.

"Creating a nature preserve in an area with so many rare species requires the best possible plan," stated Terry Welsh, president of Coastal Corridor Alliance's board. "The Wildlife Conservation Board grant will help fund the necessary work to design a world-class nature park at Randall Preserve/Genga that allows human access, traditional Tribal practices, and rare and sensitive species to thrive."

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CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS

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

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

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Sports

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To report scores of high school and college games, or other newsworthy items from youth to pro sports, contact the Daily Pilot sports staff.

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 2024

A4

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Los Amigos takes flight in season opener

BY ANDREW TURNER

GARDEN GROVE — Los Amigos hit the ground running in its season opener, leaving little doubt of the outcome after the first quarter against Santiago on Thursday night.

The Lobos found the end zone four times in the opening period en route to a 46-7 rout of the Cavaliers in a nonleague football game at Michael A. Monsoor Memorial Stadium.

“The expectation is high because it has to be,” Los Amigos coach Romel Guess said. “When you’re led by as many seniors as we’re led by, we’re kind of putting all our eggs into this basket this season to make a run. We know we needed to start tonight.”

Senior Isaac Galindo rushed for 91 yards and three touchdowns, scoring twice in a first quarter that saw the Lobos jump out to a 26-7 lead.

Senior Raul Cruz, who had 95 rushing yards and two touchdowns, sprinted across the goal line for 33 yards out to open the scoring for Los Amigos (1-0).

After Ozzy Granados tied it up with a 59-yard dash to the end zone for Santiago (0-1), the former Garden Grove League rival of Los Amigos, Galindo would convert back-to-back offensive plays into touchdowns. Both came on red-zone carries, the second immediately following a special teams miscue with the punt team on the field for the Cavaliers.

“It is pretty fun,” Galindo said. “It’s a lot to handle, coming from maybe seven carries a game, but it’s nice.



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

ISAAC GALINDO (30), seen against Walnut on Nov. 10, rushed for 91 yards and three touchdowns against Santiago Thursday.

“I’m really looking forward to taking over this offense.”

Senior wide receiver Chris Flores worked for yards after the catch on his first three grabs. After Jayvin Le converted a fourth-and-5 with his legs, the junior quarterback took a deep shot, and Flores came down with it in double coverage. The duo connected on a 3-yard touchdown on the next play, giving Flores five catches for 102 yards with four seconds left in the first

quarter.

“I just saw the ball up there,” Flores said of his downfield catch that set up a touchdown. “I’m trying to give [Le] a good look, and he’s giving me a good look.”

Le threw for 176 yards and a touchdown without committing a turnover. The Edison transfer also carried the ball eight times for 45 yards.

Amari’e Maddox, a junior transfer from Long Beach Jordan, had four

catches for 52 yards.

Los Amigos, which matched its season-high scoring mark from a year ago in a 46-14 win at Bolsa Grande, accumulated 283 rushing yards. An offensive line anchored by right tackle Aaron Barba and left tackle Jesus Contreras also included center Bryant Merida, and Steven Cortes and Issacc Vergera at the guard positions.

Guess called the offensive line the “catalyst” for the Lobos, adding that all

five starters had at least three games of starting experience on the line coming into the season.

“I like defense, but I was always an offensive player,” said Barba, who is a junior. “For motivation this year, I think we have a great team. We can make it far.”

Hector Arroyo capped the scoring with a goal-line run in the final minute.

Los Amigos won its third consecutive game over Santiago. Prior to that, the Cavaliers had won five in a

row against the Lobos from 2017-2021, which came on the heels of a seven-game winning streak in the series for Los Amigos from 2010-2016.

The Lobos played their first game on campus last season. Los Amigos will host Yermo Silver Valley on its turf field on Friday, Aug. 30. Los Amigos athletic director Chris Sandro said next week’s football game is the only one scheduled to take place on campus this fall.

ADDITIONAL RESULTS FROM THURSDAY

Costa Mesa 35, Magnolia 0: Sophomore running back Gavin Garza rushed for 220 yards and two touchdowns, as the Mustangs blew out the Sentinels in a nonleague game at Handel Stadium in Anaheim.

Costa Mesa (1-0) won a season opener for the first time since 2019, when the Mustangs earned a 21-18 victory over Santiago.

Junior quarterback Andrew Waiss threw a touchdown pass to junior tight end Caden Oliver. Waiss also scored a rushing touchdown.

Costa Mesa will take on Estancia in the Battle for the Bell rivalry game on Aug. 30 at Jim Scott Stadium. It will be the season opener for the Eagles.

The countywide reorganization for football broke up the Orange Coast League, placing Costa Mesa in the Tango League and Estancia in the Sigma League.

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THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Stella Zawistowski

ACROSS

- 1 Best possible
- 6 Spherical shapes
- 10 Date tree
- 14 Powerful engine
- 15 Game played on horses
- 16 Shampoo additive
- 17 Fiend
- 18 Hammer or hoe
- 19 Male deer
- 20 “Fences” playwright: 2 wds.
- 23 Five-and-__ store
- 24 Quick swim
- 25 Tim Scott’s title: Abbr.

- 28 Piece of postage
- 32 Hunt illegally
- 36 Casual Italian eateries
- 39 Gameplay guideline
- 40 St. Louis landmark
- 41 Swiss chocolate brand
- 42 Trampled (on)
- 43 Golf warning
- 44 Growing smaller
- 46 Not stale
- 48 Oozes out
- 49 Average grade
- 50 __ and gown
- 52 “Monk” channel, once
- 54 Leaping insects
- 60 Solid fossil fuel
- 61 Abode
- 62 Weeper of Greek myth
- 65 A single time
- 66 Tailless primates
- 67 Makes less wild
- 68 Casual tops
- 69 Left
- 70 Catch some Z’s

DOWN

- 1 “__ be an honor!”
- 2 Expected in

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18					19			
						20					21			
						22								
						23					24			
25	26	27		28		29	30	31		32		33	34	35
36			37							38		39		
40						41						42		
43						44						45		
46						47		48					49	
						50		51			52		53	
						54	55			56	57	58		59
60						61					62		63	64
65						66					67			
68						69					70			

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.

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

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

- 3 Humorist
- Bombeck
- 4 Regarding
- 5 Most extended
- 6 Decides (to)
- 7 Plant’s anchor
- 8 Spend recklessly
- 9
- Three-dimensional
- 10 Travel documents
- 11 Choral voice part
- 12 Mortgage, e.g.
- 13 “Little Women” sister
- 21 Umpteen

CLERK

Continued from page A1

spected the decision.

“Executive coordinator is my job title, and I work for a city,” she said. “I thought it made sense. They said it was misleading, that people would think I was appointed to something or that I worked in Huntington Beach. I was like, everyone Googled me already and found out I worked for Tustin.”

For the record, Barnes’ ballot designation lists her as “businesswoman/Huntington Beach commissioner.”

Blankenhorn has been an executive coordinator for Tustin for 11 years, providing support to its city manager and city council in their dealings with the public and outside agencies, including media, while ensuring that policies and procedures are adhered to by the council.

A 25-year resident of Huntington Beach, she was previously an instructor in the Coastline Regional Occupational Program. She’s currently the chairperson for the Enterprise Corp. for the Coast Community College District, a for-profit corporation that operates the swap meets at Orange Coast and Golden West colleges.

Blankenhorn, who said she was listed as No Party Preference for years before recently registering as a Democrat, believes her experience in municipal government sets her apart.

“I want to make sure that a person who’s in there is experienced, because that person is going to be a department head and they’re going to have to lead that department and staff,” she said. “It’s not just a matter of conducting city council meetings. The city clerk is the elections official, and they’re also the records keeper.”

Among Blankenhorn’s endorsements are the city clerk of Laguna Beach, Ann Marie McKay.

Blankenhorn said that when she found out that Barnes was the only one running at the time, she decided to throw her hat in the ring.

“I didn’t know her name,” Blankenhorn said. “I just knew someone was running that was a Realtor in town and had absolutely no municipal government experience. I thought that was wrong. As a resident myself, I would not want to have an inexperienced person in that position. So that’s why I decided to run.”

Barnes countered that she directly serves the City Council in her current role

as a Community and Library Services Commissioner, a position to which she was appointed by Councilman Tony Strickland in 2022.

Her background is in business. She said she previously worked for a global chemical manufacturing company before settling in as a local real estate agent two years ago.

“It’s always been one of my goals to be deeply involved with my community,” said Barnes, who has lived in Huntington Beach for a dozen years. “When I was working corporately, I did a lot of travel, and that really prohibited spendi-5

ng as much time as I would like to within our community. When that changed and I became a Realtor, it was a great opportunity for me to really anchor myself in the city and just become involved.”

She sees becoming the city clerk as an extension of that. As to Blankenhorn’s contention that she is unqualified, she noted that she’s proud to be on a commission that advises the City Council on what to do with Huntington Beach’s 78 parks, five libraries and one golf course.

Barnes said she has conservative values. She has endorsements from the Republican Party of Orange County, Mayor Gracey Van Der Mark, Mayor Pro Tem Pat Burns, City Atty. Michael Gates and state Sen. Janet Nguyen, whose District 36 includes Huntington Beach.

“I’m embedded in the fabric of this community,” Barnes said. “I’ve never met [Blankenhorn], I’ve never seen her at a City Council meeting. I’ve never seen her at a city event in Huntington Beach, because she’s in Tustin.”

As the conductor of municipal elections, the city clerk could see increased importance in Surf City in future years.

In March, Huntington Beach voters approved Measure A, which means the city could require voter identification, provide more in-person voting locations and monitor ballot drop-boxes starting in 2026. Weeks later, California Atty. General Rob Bonta and Secretary of State Shirley Weber filed a lawsuit in Orange County Superior Court, arguing that Measure A was illegal and preempted by state law.

Blankenhorn said she’d be ready to go on day one if elected.

“When I don’t know something, I’m going to have my staff to help me, guide me and direct me,” she said. “And I’ll have other city clerks that I can turn to. I know city clerks.”

Barnes also believes she is qualified, adding that the livelihood and well-being of the community were important to her.

“When I became involved, I loved it,” she said. “I absolutely loved it, and I wanted to do more for our community ... I believe I am the best candidate.”

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