

Daily Pilot

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Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

HUNTINGTON BEACH City Council member Casey McKeon, center, flanked by Mayor Tony Strickland and City Atty. Michael Gates, speaks on Tuesday. The city is preparing a lawsuit against the state to challenge the city's Regional Housing Needs Allocation number of 13,368 units.

Housing fight continues, despite state warnings

BY MATT SZABO

The city of Huntington Beach and the state of California might be in a race to file lawsuits against each other over housing issues.

Huntington Beach City Atty. Michael Gates said at a press conference Tuesday that his office is preparing a lawsuit against the state, challenging Surf City's Regional Housing Needs Allocation number of 13,368 units for the current cycle. He was authorized to do so at the Dec. 20 City Council meeting on a 4-3 vote.

The lawsuit will be unveiled in the next couple of weeks, Gates said.

At the same press conference, Councilman Casey McKeon said Huntington Beach leaders are, begrudgingly perhaps, working with the state Housing and Urban Development office to meet that minimum number of 13,368 units. But McKeon and the three other newly elected conservatives on the City Council, including Mayor Tony Strickland, partially ran on a platform of "unleashing" Gates to challenge the state's housing requirements.

"This is a two-prong process," Strickland said. "Obviously we're doing what the state has said is our minimum that we have to do, but on the other end, we do believe this is

unfair to the city of Huntington Beach ... As someone who's served in Sacramento, someone who's been in the California state Senate and the state Assembly, I think it's pretty clear that Sacramento wants to urbanize Huntington Beach. The people of Huntington Beach don't want this to be an urban community. They like the suburban, coastal community that it is today. The bottom line is, we're going to fight."

McKeon said Huntington Beach is waiting for a response from HUD on its housing element map and the details thereof, which

See **Housing**, page A2

Trial on hold in doctor's killing

Judge orders mental health evaluation and hearing to determine whether suspect is fit to face murder charges.

BY ERIC LICAS

Criminal proceedings against a motorist accused of striking a Laguna Beach doctor riding a bicycle in Dana Point and then stabbing him to death were put on hold Wednesday pending the results of a hearing to determine whether the defendant is psychologically competent to stand trial.

Vanroy Evan Smith, 39, of Long Beach, faces one count of murder in connection with the death of 58-year-old Dr. Michael Mamone on Feb. 1. The defendant had been restrained by bystanders at the scene of the crash and attack near Pacific Coast Highway and Crown Valley Parkway in Dana Point, according to Orange County Sheriff's officials.

Investigators did not believe any prior connection existed between the two men, and any possible motive in the attack remained unclear as of Wednesday. However, one of Smith's relatives

See **Trial**, page A4

Plans for CdM walkway progress

Residents give input on enhancements for areas along Ocean Boulevard in a study session in front of City Council.

BY LILLY NGUYEN

Plans to enhance Ocean Boulevard in Corona del Mar are beginning to take shape, the Newport Beach City Council learned in a study session Tuesday.

Initial discussions within the city began in June 2021 after Joy Brenner, then a member of the City Council, asked to add a presentation to the agenda on an Ocean Boulevard walkway before the Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission.

Brenner, at the time, said the proposal came from the Corona del Mar Residents' Assn., whose

See **Walkway**, page A3

Topanga Scherf named Miss Fountain Valley

BY ANDREW TURNER

Fountain Valley has a new pageant queen.

Topanga Scherf won the title of Miss Fountain Valley in a competition held at Golden West College on Saturday.

Along with the title, Scherf, a sophomore at CSU Long Beach, was awarded a \$5,000 scholarship from the Fountain Valley Community Foundation.

The 19-year-old Scherf received a \$500 talent award after showcasing her abilities in dance, which she is majoring in at her college. For her 90-second talent piece in the pageant,

she choreographed a lyrical dance set to "A Million Dreams," a song that appeared in "The Greatest Showman."

She was awarded another \$200 for being the Miss Congeniality of the competition. The Miss Fountain Valley winner was also gifted a diamond pendant from Mimi's Jewelry.

"I have so many different dreams of dance, but I think probably the biggest would be to become a Radio City Rockette," Scherf said.

Catherine Liang, last year's Miss California who hailed

See **Scherf**, page A3



Courtesy of Cathleen McGrath

BIANCA SINGER, who was Miss Fountain Valley in 2022, crowns Topanga Scherf Miss Fountain Valley 2023.

Calico Fish House a new creation for H.B. chef Andrew Gruel

BY MATT SZABO

Celebrity chef Andrew Gruel and his wife, Lauren, last summer sold their interest in Slapfish, a fast-casual seafood concept they launched in 2012.

More than a decade went into that journey, which expanded the concept to 22 units in 10 states. It only took a day for the next concept to come about for the Huntington Beach couple, dragging them back into seafood like a lobster claw.

The Gruels got a call about an opportunity in Sunset Beach.

"We were forced into this, right?" Andrew Gruel said. "It's a great space in Sunset Beach. We felt that location was perfect for a full-service model, especially after speaking to a couple of people in the neighborhood. That's what they were looking for."

Calico Fish House, a full-service restaurant in Sunset Beach, had a soft opening last month. A grand opening is expected in the coming weeks, Lauren Gruel said.

The restaurant serves seafood,

See **Creation**, page A3

CUSTOMERS

ENJOY their meals in the outside dining space at the recently opened Calico Fish House in Sunset Beach.



Photos by Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

A BACON-WRAPPED lobster dog at the recently opened Calico Fish House in Sunset Beach.

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THU, FEB 23
ACE FREHLEY



FRI, FEB 24
JOHN TESH



SUN, FEB 26
YASMIN WILLIAMS



SUN, MAR 5
SONNY LANDRETH

- 2/16 **THE GILMOUR PROJECT**
AN ALL-STAR BAND PERFORM PINK FLOYD'S "THE DARK SIDE OF THE MOON" 50TH ANNIVERSARY
- 2/17 **LED ZEPAGAIN (LED ZEPPELIN TRIBUTE)**
- 2/18 **JOURNEY USA (JOURNEY TRIBUTE)**
- 2/19 **THE FOOZ FIGHTERS (FOO FIGHTERS TRIBUTE) / BLINK 180TRUE (BLINK 182 TRIBUTE)**
- 2/23 **ACE FREHLEY**
- 2/24 **JOHN TESH – BIG BAND LIVE**
- 2/25 **DENNIS TUFANO / CANNIBAL AND THE HEADHUNTERS**
- 2/26 **YASMIN WILLIAMS**
- 3/2 **DAVE ALVIN & JIMMIE DALE GILMORE AND THE GUILTY ONES**
- 3/3 **WAR**
- 3/4 **THE GARTH GUY (GARTH BROOKS TRIBUTE)**
- 3/5 **SONNY LANDRETH w/ CINDY CASHDOLLAR**
- 3/8 **THE WHEELAND BROTHERS / OF GOOD NATURE**
- 3/9 **ALBERT CUMMINGS**
- 3/10 **JD SOUTHER ALL THE HITS. SOME OF THE STORIES.**
- 3/11 **THE SMITHEREENS**
WITH GUEST VOCALIST ROBIN WILSON
- 3/16 **HOT CLUB OF COWTOWN AND TYLER HILTON**
PERFORMING ELVIS PRESLEY'S SUN STUDIO RECORDINGS
- 3/17 **THE FENIANS**
- 3/18 **SERGIO MENDES**
- 3/19 **GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA**
- 3/23 **PETTY CASH**
(JOHNNY CASH & TOM PETTY TRIBUTE)
- 3/24 **SUPER DIAMOND (NEIL DIAMOND TRIBUTE)**
- 3/25 **GENE LOVES JEZEBEL / BOW WOW WOW**
- 3/26 **BIG MOUNTAIN**
- 3/31 **BEATLES VS STONES - A MUSICAL SHOWDOWN**
- 4/6 **COLIN HAY ACOUSTIC / LAZIO**
- 4/7 **G. LOVE & SPECIAL SAUCE**
- 4/8 **WILD CHILD (THE DOORS TRIBUTE)**
- 4/15 **THE 5TH DIMENSION**
- 4/16 **HERMAN'S HERMITS FEATURING PETER NOONE**



THU, MAR 9
ALBERT CUMMINGS



FRI, MAR 10
JD SOUTHER



SAT, MAR 11
THE SMITHEREENS



THU, MAR 16
HOT CLUB OF COWTOWN

- 4/28 **SKELETON CREW (GRATEFUL DEAD TRIBUTE)**
- 4/29 **CREAM OF CLAPTON**
- 5/2 **BETH HART**
- 5/3 **MORGAN JAMES**
- 5/5 **OINGO BOINGO FORMER MEMBERS**
- 5/7 **METALACHI**
- 5/12 **QUEEN NATION (QUEEN TRIBUTE)**
- 5/19 **JOHN CAFFERTY & THE BEAVER BROWN BAND**
- 5/21 **LET'S HANG ON!**
(FRANKIE VALLI & THE FOUR SEASONS TRIBUTE)
- 6/3 **JUDY COLLINS**
- 6/9 **AL DI MEOLA**
- 6/17 **AMBROSIA**
- 7/1 **MICK ADAMS & THE STONES**
- 7/19 **THE JERRY DOUGLAS BAND**
- 7/22 **Y & T**
- 7/29 **KIDS OF CHARLEMAGNE**
(STEELY DAN TRIBUTE)
- 8/18 **SPYRO GYRA**
- 8/19 **MADELEINE PEYROUX**
- 10/7 **RONDSTADT REVIVAL (LINDA RONDSTADT TRIBUTE)**
- 10/15 **JOURNEYMAN (ERIC CLAPTON TRIBUTE)**



FRI, MAR 17
FENIANS



SAT, MAR 18
SERGIO MENDES



SUN, MAR 19
GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA



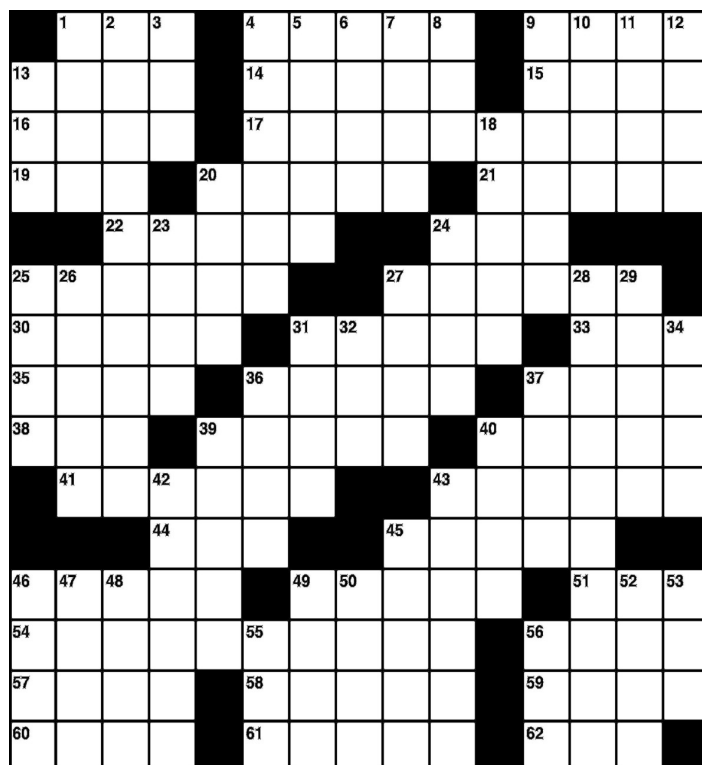
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THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Mathews

- ACROSS**
- 1 Very late bedtime
 - 4 Beach souvenir
 - 9 Have nothing to do with
 - 13 Exhibit
 - 14 Check recipient
 - 15 Neighbor of Ecuador
 - 16 Put on the payroll
 - 17 "Beaver State" residents
 - 19 Know-; expertise
 - 20 Dictionary entries
 - 21 Nervous
 - 22 Enlighten spiritually
 - 24 By way of
 - 25 Hardships
 - 27 Guy
 - 30 Lithe
 - 31 Rains hard
 - 33 Vigor
 - 35 Apartment
 - 36 Short publicity notice
 - 37 City in Nevada
 - 38 Heavy weight journal
 - 40 Feeling ho-hum
 - 41 Fish hawk
 - 43 Pass, as time
 - 44 Part of USAF
 - 45 Steam bath
 - 46 Neckwear
 - 49 Clobber
 - 51 Group tub
 - 54 Cave in
 - 56 Previously owned
 - 57 Ripens
 - 58 "Oh, I wish I were an Oscar _ wiener"
 - 59 _ up; arranges
 - 60 Net fabric
 - 61 Pile up
 - 62 Mule's father
- DOWN**
- 1 Akron's state
 - 2 Some Scandinavians
 - 3 Woolly mama
 - 4 Parodies
 - 5 Meghan Markle's man
 - 6 Viewed
 - 7 Table supports
 - 8 Actor _ G. Carroll
 - 9 Of the backbone
 - 10 Orderly
 - 11 Coffee
 - 12 Tied up
 - 13 "Quiet!"
 - 18 Carpenter's boxful
 - 20 Metal thread
 - 23 Blockhead
 - 24 Part of speech
 - 25 White water



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.

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

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

- rapids transport
- 26 Dome-shaped home
- 27 Rage
- 28 Upper levels of crossing freeways
- 29 Merlot & Chablis
- 31 DVD remote button
- 32 " _ Day Will Come"
- 34 A la _; with ice cream
- 36 Coffin stand
- 37 Reddish horse
- 39 Wander aimlessly
- 40 Melancholy
- 42 Pastor's territory
- 43 Odor-; shoe inserts
- 45 Locations
- 46 Con man's racket
- 47 Canary's home
- 48 Gorillas
- 49 Close in anger
- 50 Angelou or Rudolph
- 52 Gerbils & greyhounds
- 53 Commercials
- 55 _ Thurman
- 56 Canada's neighbor: abbr.

Tribune Media Services



Photos by Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

HUNTINGTON BEACH City Council member Casey McKeon speaks during Tuesday's press conference addressing the state's housing requirements.

HOUSING

Continued from page A1

could take 60 to 90 days. City staff and consultants had developed a housing element that would have likely been deemed compliant last fall, but the new council didn't vote on it once seated in early December.

This lack of compliance with state law has opened the city up to "builder's remedy" applications, which can be used to circumvent local zoning laws. The Planning Commission voted Tuesday night to recommend an ordinance that would ban these applications, though state representatives have warned the city that this violates California law.

The previous City Council voted against suing the state in April 2021. Legal challenges posted by other cities in the past have been unsuccessful, but Gates said he believed Huntington Beach has a unique set of circumstances. It is one of 121 charter cities state-wide, and Gates said he believes that authority supersedes the state law in the case.

"Let the free market dictate what the demand is per city," McKeon said. "Why is the government forcing housing down our throats? ... We're just fighting for our local control, as



HUNTINGTON BEACH MAYOR

Tony Strickland discusses the city's battle with the state of California over housing laws.

a charter city, especially. We're going to fight for our residents and our constituents that elected us."

The state, meanwhile, may be preparing a lawsuit against Huntington Beach on a separate but related issue.

The Planning Commission voted 4-2-1 on Tuesday to recommend approval of the "builder's remedy" zoning text amendment. Chairperson Tracy Pellman, Vice-Chair Butch Twining and Commissioners Rick Wood and Don Kennedy were the "yes" votes, while Commissioners Oscar Rodriguez and Kayla Acosta-Galvan voted against. Commissioner Ian Adam was absent.

The vote came a day after state Atty. Gen. Rob Bonta issued a warning letter to Gates, advising him the zoning text amendment violated the state's Housing Accountability Act by hampering affordable housing projects.

"The city of Huntington

Beach's proposed ordinance attempts to unlawfully exempt the city from state law that creates sorely needed additional housing for low- and moderate-income Californians," said Deputy Atty. Gen. David Pai, writing on behalf of Bonta, in the letter. "With today's letter, we're putting the city on notice that adopting this ordinance would violate state law. I urge cities to take seriously their obligations under state housing laws. If you don't, we will hold you accountable."

"Builder's remedy" happens when developers can take advantage of cities that have their housing element out of compliance, as Huntington Beach currently does. It allows project developers to submit housing projects without regard to local zoning and general plan standards, if 20% of units are designated affordable housing or 100% projects.

See **Housing**, page A4



Courtesy of Cathleen McGrath

TOPANGA SCHERF showcases her dancing talent during the Miss Fountain Valley pageant on Saturday at Golden West College. Scherf is majoring in dance in college.

SCHERF

Continued from page A1

from San Francisco, came to the proceedings. Bianca Singer, who won the local competition last year, placed the crown on Scherf's head.

Scherf will represent Fountain Valley at the Miss California pageant on July 1 at the Visalia Convention Center.

She spent 11 years as a Girl Scout, earning a Gold Award for a project on food allergy awareness.

"I think it's really a cool experience to be able to continue the work that I

did with Girl Scouts in earning my Gold Award as a young adult with the Miss America organization," said Scherf, who plans to continue to raise awareness of food allergies. "Those two organizations are so similar. They're both encouraging young women to become role models and to build these career skills. I just think it's a gift to be able to continue that work now."

The Miss Fountain Valley Scholarship Program pageant featured eight contestants, and there were more than \$10,000 in scholarships awarded dur-

ing the evening. Each contestant performed a talent, walked the red carpet and participated in a 10-minute interview before five judges.

Delilah Cunneen received \$1,500 as the runner-up, as well as a \$500 award for academics. Alexis Brown took home \$1,000 for placing third and an additional \$700 for her work in American sign language education and media accessibility.

Delaney Cunneen and Dahlia Cunneen each received \$200, for the community service award and the Spirit of Miss Fountain Valley award, respectively.

Sandi Licata, the executive director of the Miss Fountain Valley Scholarship Program, said that the pageant winner makes numerous public appearances during the year, including at the city's Easter egg hunt, Summer Fest and the Christmas tree-lighting event.

The program draws contestants from several nearby colleges, including UC Irvine, Concordia and Vanguard universities, and Golden West and Orange Coast community colleges.

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Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

A WOMAN looks out over Corona del Mar State Beach Park seated on a bench at Larkspur Avenue, along Ocean Boulevard, in Newport Beach. Plans to enhance the boulevard are taking shape after a study session held Tuesday.

WALKWAY

Continued from page A1

members hoped to enhance existing walkways and viewpoints.

The area proposed for improvements includes Little Corona, Inspiration Point, the scenic lookouts at Dahlia, Carnation, Larkspur and Iris avenues and Lookout Point.

In September 2021, members of the association presented their ideas for the boulevard, which runs along the coast between Carnation and Poppy avenues. Ideas have since been refined to those presented this week at a study session with further direction from the dais.

Of those ideas, the Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission suggested the naming of scenic points all along the street as Ocean Boulevard Park. It also suggested linking the existing scenic viewpoints by providing wider sidewalks. Commissioners also discussed the importance of improving pedestrian safety in the area, especially near the Corona del Mar beach access ramp, which could be achieved by providing slope stabilization and a new scenic overlook point.

Other items under discussion included creating a uniform landscape palette to unify the walkway between these scenic points and for the commission to ensure no access is lost within the public right of way. Also suggested were improvements at the scenic points by providing seating and expanding some of the green areas consistently with the adjacent environment. Signage would also be needed.

Corona del Mar Residents' Assn. President Debbie Stevens said she was thankful to the commission for refining the ideas of residents, adding that the association was getting the word out on the Ocean Boulevard project and so far hasn't heard much negative feedback. But, she said, the organization was cognizant that more outreach was necessary.

"It's important to protect that which is public, but it's also important to protect that which is private," Stevens said.

The commission recommended the City Council authorize the formation of an ad hoc committee to guide concept development, final plans and specifications and estimates for landscape and

park improvements for public areas between Poppy and Carnation avenues, which bookend Ocean Boulevard. It also asked the allocation of about \$60,000 for preparation of the plan, to secure a design consultant and approve the improvement recommendations as suggested.

Council members gave the go-ahead to roll forward with development of the plan.

Councilwoman Lauren Kleiman raised questions about pedestrian safety in the area. While no specific data was immediately available, deputy works director Jim Houlihan said the speeds along Ocean Boulevard are relatively low, especially during the summers.

"It's those interfaces where there's crossings. We want to look at those for any opportunities that we can enhance," Houlihan said, adding the street typically has slower traffic as it is often congested. "We'll dig into that a little bit more, especially at [the Corona del Mar beach access] ramp and the other ramp at China Cove."

Councilwoman Robyn Grant said she was glad to see that public workshops were being organized to

gather input from residents and homeowners.

In his remarks on the item, Mayor Pro Tem Will O'Neill said, "I think it's worth moving forward. I agree with Councilmember Grant. There's a lot of room to kind of work through with residents on some of the touch points ... but one of the things, I went for a great walk with Ron [Yeo], and I had to keep up."

"I'd look at this project as kind of a short-medium-long-term. The short-term, we have some maintenance that badly needs it ... on the medium-side, I'm sure that there's going to be a lot that we can do including building up a lot of the grassy area, and then in the long-term, I suspect we're going to be talking about some of the entrance chokepoints — when we're talking China Cove and the area down by Big Corona, that will take a little bit of extra work for sure," O'Neill said.

"I think we can move forward pretty quick and make it look pretty nice in the short-term, very nice in the medium and then awesome in the long-term," he added.

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SAWYER JR., A MAN AS HIS SOLE AND SEPARATE PROPERTY, as Trustor(s), in favor of MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., as Beneficiary, as nominee for EVERBANK as Beneficiary, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER, in lawful money of the United States, all payable at the time of sale, that certain property situated in said County, California describing the land therein as: SEE EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF EXHIBIT "A" LOT 22 AND THE SOUTHWESTERLY 14.00 FEET OF LOT 21 IN BLOCK 1 OF TRACT NO. 772, IN THE CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH, COUNTY OF ORANGE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AS SHOWN ON A MAP RECORDED IN BOOK 23, PAGE(S) 5 AND 6, OF MISCELLANEOUS MAPS, IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER OF SAID COUNTY. EXCEPTING THEREFROM THE SOUTHWESTERLY 10 FEET OF SAID LOT 22. ALSO EXCEPTING THEREFROM THAT PORTION THEREOF LYING BELOW A PLANE DISTANT 500 FEET BELOW THE SURFACE OF SAID LAND, AS EXCEPTED BY SIGNAL PROPERTIES, INC., IN THAT DEED RECORDED IN BOOK 11872, PAGE 1198, OFFICIAL RECORDS, AS INSTRUMENT NO. 44869. 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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 Lien 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 Nationwide Posting & Publication at 916.939.0772 for information regarding the Trustee's Sale or visit the Internet Website www.nationwideposting.com for information regarding the sale of this property, using the file number assigned to this case, CA08001164-22-1. 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 Website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. Notice to Tenant: NOTICE TO TENANT FOR FORECLOSURES AFTER JANUARY 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 916.939.0772, or visit this internet website www.nationwideposting.com using the file number assigned to this case CA08001164-22-1 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 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. Date: January 31, 2023 MTC Financial Inc. dba Trustee Corps TS No. CA08001164-22-1 17100 Gillette Ave Irvine, CA 92614 Phone: 949-252-8300 TDD: 866-660-4288 By: Loan Quema, Authorized Signatory SALE INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED ONLINE AT www.nationwideposting.com FOR AUTOMATED SALES INFORMATION PLEASE CALL: Nationwide Posting & Publication AT 916.939.0772 NPP0420972 To: NEWPORT HARBOR NEWS PRESS COMBINED WITH DAILY PILOT 02/16/2023, 02/23/2023, 03/02/2023

CREATION

Continued from page A1

yes, but also steaks, salads, sandwiches and a diverse variety of other items. The menu changes weekly now, but daily is the goal in the not-too-distant future.

Calico, located in the space of the former Fish Camp restaurant, got its name because the Calico sea bass is a fish that's local to Southern California.

The fish house promises local eats, too.

"We've got fishermen that fish out of Long Beach, live in Huntington Beach, drive by the restaurant every day and drop seafood off for us," Andrew Gruel said.

Calico only serves farmed seafood certified sustainable by the Aquaculture Stewardship Council.

The local theme doesn't stop there, with Calico featuring jidori free-range chicken raised at farms in California and vegetables sourced from Melissa's Produce.

"[Two weeks ago] we actually got spiny lobsters from the coast of Santa Barbara Island," Lauren Gruel said. "That was fun,

you don't really see that too often."

The restaurant seats about 55 people inside, including a full bar in the middle of the dining area, and 80 people outside.

It proves that the Gruels aren't done with the seafood world quite yet. Under their restaurant group American Gravy, they're soon set to launch a Calico Fish House, Lolo's Tacos and 101 Burger in a space at the Kitchen United MIX on the Third Street Promenade in Santa Monica.

"Our message, since 2011, has been to get people to eat more seafood," Andrew Gruel said. "The per capita consumption of seafood in the U.S. is one of the lowest in the world, if not the lowest, of developed nations. I don't think that's a coincidence that also we have the highest amounts of hypertension, diabetes, obesity, all of these kind of Western ailments, illnesses, diseases, because we eat so much processed, Omega 6-rich food. Eating seafood obviously balances that out, and that's essential."

The Gruels hope to expand the Calico brand in



Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

A DOUBLE ORDER of the chilled poached lobster at the recently opened Calico Fish House in Sunset Beach.

the next couple of years. Doug and Vickie Miller, who live in downtown Huntington Beach, came by the restaurant recently for lunch.

They shared a seafood cocktail — featuring scallops, shrimp and calamari — and an "angry lobster pocket" before splitting a large fish sandwich.

The dog-wrapped lobster bag has also been an early favorite for customers.

"It's a great location, and we drive by quite often," said Doug Miller, adding that he had been to Fish

Camp in the same location many times. "What I noticed on the menu is that he's got something for everybody. I think this place is going to be a hit."

Andrew Gruel said he sees the restaurant as a fun, whimsical seafood spot with a lot of different meats and vegetables that will constantly change.

"We've got the views, we've got the community," he said. "We're pretty lucky, so we're pumped about this."

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BOYS' BASKETBALL

Pacifica Christian books CIF semifinal bid

BY MATT SZABO

The Pacifica Christian High boys' basketball team put the emphasis on the word "team" as it headed into Tuesday's playoff quarterfinal game against visiting Sonora.

The Tritons were without their top overall player, Northwestern-bound senior point guard Parker Strauss, who leads the squad in each statistical category.

Of course, statistics don't measure things like grittiness and toughness, and Pacifica Christian exhibited both of those in the second half.

The Tritons went on a big run, turning a close game into a 76-56 victory in the CIF Southern Section Division 2A quarterfinal game.

No. 2-seeded Pacifica Christian (23-8) will play at No. 3 La Mirada (24-8) in the semifinals Friday night. The Tritons will be seeking their third CIF finals appearance, and first since 2019.

Junior forward Alex Stewart helped them get there Tuesday. Stewart shot 10 of 10 from the field for a game-high and career-high 23 points.

"We played how we envision ourselves to play," Stewart said. "We play as a



Photos by Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

PACIFICA CHRISTIAN'S EJ Spillman celebrates after the team beat Sonora in a CIF Southern Section Division 2A playoff game on Tuesday. The Tritons won 76-56.

team, we stick together through ups and downs. Basketball is a game of runs ... [but] the brotherhood that we have is the main reason why we're here."

Neither team led by double digits until the second half. Sonora (26-5), which had a 20-game winning streak snapped, took a 40-37 lead on a corner three-pointer by Ricky Esparza midway through the third quarter.

But Pacifica Christian

went on an 18-1 run, started when Stewart hit his own corner three.

"We've been preaching this all year, it's all about the team," Coach Jeff Berokoff said. "It's all about the guy next to you. Every guy kind of chipped in and did something really good and special. I just felt all five guys during that stretch, somebody just made a tough play, somebody won a loose ball, somebody made the extra

pass."

Senior Tanner Deal scored 12, and senior Jeffrey Bohlinger added 11 points and seven assists for the winners. Pacifica Christian also got nine points each from sophomores EJ Spillman and Logan Stewart, while senior Salim Semaan added eight points and a game-high eight rebounds.

Freshmen AJ Johnson (four points) and Michael Noel also saw the floor for Pacifica Christian. Johnson



PACIFICA CHRISTIAN'S Salim Semaan splits Sonora's Michael Shimizu, left, and Yanmife Oke during Tuesday's quarterfinal game. Semaan scored eight points and had a game-high eight rebounds.

provided valuable minutes in the first quarter, when Spillman hit his head and was temporarily knocked out of the game.

Strauss is dealing with a left Achilles injury that he aggravated in Pacifica Christian's second-round win over Dana Hills. He was on crutches Tuesday, and Berokoff said it's unlikely that he'll play Friday.

"The guys responded for him," Berokoff said. "They really picked it up. I mean, Parker leads us in points, assists, rebounds, steals, charges taken. Every stat line, he's our leader. But we

played eight tonight, and every one of those kids did something to help us win."

Berokoff, a 1998 graduate of Sonora High, said he coached against his former coach Mike Murphy for the first time. Murphy's squad was led by junior guard Eric Castillo, who had 18 points off the bench, including five three-pointers.

But the Raiders, who led 30-29 at halftime, couldn't get closer than nine points down the stretch following the Tritons' run.

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NOTICE OF PETITION

TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
Alma Fay Balli, aka Alma Fay Sales,
aka Alma Fay Whitfield
30-2023-01306480-PR-PW-CJC

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: **Alma Fay Balli, aka Alma Fay Sales, aka Alma Fay Whitfield.**

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by **STEPHEN SALES** in the Superior Court of California, County of **ORANGE.**

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that **STEPHEN SALES** be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

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

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on **March 23, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. in Dept. C8** located at 700 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE WEST, SANTA ANA, CA 92701

The court is providing the convenience to appear for hearing by video using the court's designated video platform. This is a no cost service to the public. Go to the Court's website at The Superior Court of California - County of Orange (occourts.org) to appear remotely for Probate hearings and for remote hearing instructions. If you have difficulty connecting or are unable to connect to your remote hearing, call 657-622-8278 for assistance. If you prefer to appear in-person, you can appear in the department on the day/time set for your hearing.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or 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 the Petitioner:
DAMON A. SCHWARTZ
SCHWARTZ LAW FIRM
7923 WARNER AVE., STE J
HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA 92647
Published in the HUNTINGTON BEACH
INDEPENDENT on: 2/16, 2/23 & 3/2/2023

Notice of Public Sale

Pursuant to the California Self Service Storage Facility Act (B&P Code 21700 ET seq.) The undersigned will sell at public auction on Thursday February 23, 2023 at 2:00 pm. Personal property including but not limited to furniture, clothing, tools and/or other household items located at: The sale will take place online at www.selfstorageauction.com.

Jose R Longoria
Andrew C Patterson
Megan K Wallace
John P Lucas
Kent A Walker
Elizabeth Samuel
Judith M Clapp
Darrell Keith McHenry Jr
Steven L Ellis II
All sales are subject to prior cancellation. All terms, rules and regulations are available online at www.selfstorageauction.com. Dated this February 09, 2023 and February 16, 2023 by Irvine Self Storage, 2960 Main St, Irvine, CA, 92614 (949) 851-7900 2/9, 2/16/23
CNS-3666482#
DAILY PILOT

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Pursuant to the California Self Service Storage Facility Act (B&P Code 21700 ET seq.) The undersigned will sell at public auction on Thursday February 23, 2023 at 12:00 pm. Personal property including but not limited to furniture, clothing, tools and/or other household items located at: The sale will take place online at www.selfstorageauction.com.

Edwin J Vaughn
Richard W Treadaway
All sales are subject to prior cancellation. All terms, rules and regulations are available online at www.selfstorageauction.com. Dated this February 09, 2023 and February 16, 2023 by Costa Mesa Self Storage, 3180 Red Hill Ave, Costa Mesa, CA, 91745 (714) 966-9901 2/9, 2/16/23
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Pursuant to the California Self Service Storage Facility Act (B&P Code 21700 ET seq.) The undersigned will sell at public auction on Thursday February 23, 2023 at 1:00 pm. Personal property including but not limited to furniture, clothing, tools and/or other household items located at: The sale will take place online at www.selfstorageauction.com.

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Kim Kenneth B Meres
Mario Samuel Sojo
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Shelley N Yafckli
Kammy Mae Liufau
Beply Albers Michel
Lan Thi Vu
Miguel Calderon Navarro
Helen M Winton
Ciara Kunze-Kind
Julia Bridget Slagle
All sales are subject to prior cancellation. All terms, rules and regulations are available online at www.selfstorageauction.com. Dated this February 09, 2023 and February 16, 2023 by Woodbridge Self Storage, 5020 Barranca Pkwy., Irvine, CA, 92604 (949) 857-4900 2/9, 2/16/23
CNS-3666507#
DAILY PILOT

HOUSING

Continued from page A2

are moderate-income housing.

McKeon argued Tuesday that these builder's remedy projects are dangerous because they skip past local zoning requirements designed to make communities safe, keep projects environmentally friendly and ensure developments are located in areas compatible with existing developments. But Pai said in the letter that an affordable housing project's inconsistency with zoning codes "does not constitute a specific, adverse impact on public health or safety."

"To the extent the city of Huntington Beach has legitimate environmental concerns, those can be addressed on a project-by-project basis, in accordance with state laws," Pai said. "The city of Huntington Beach should be proactively seeking to permit for more affordable housing projects, not restricting and stigmatizing them."

Rodriguez, who grew up in the relatively low-income Oak View neighborhood of Huntington Beach, would agree with that sentiment. He criticized the vague



Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

A COMMUNITY member who chose not to give her name holds a sign during a press conference at City Hall.

nature of the item Tuesday night, adding that was "a direct attack on affordable housing in the city."

"It will get us nowhere besides getting sued," he said.

Rodriguez asked assistant City Atty. Mike Vigliotta about the ramifications of passing the zoning text amendment, while Acosta-Galvan questioned him on what would happen if a builder's remedy application were to come in under the item.

"I don't want to get into hypothetical situations," Vigliotta responded. "When it's adopted, we'll implement it how we determine

the ordinance should be implemented."

Acosta-Galvan was clearly not convinced that the amendment was the right move.

"I don't know how I could possibly recommend to City Council to pursue a zoning text amendment that would place us in so much jeopardy with the state," she said. "We had a substantially compliant housing element that HCD informed us they would most likely approve, and we wouldn't be in this boat if we had passed that."

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TRIAL

Continued from page A1

told the Los Angeles Times that he had been diagnosed with paranoid schizophrenia and bipolar disorder and that his mental health had been unstable in recent years.

On Wednesday, attorney Kevin Song of the Orange County public defender's office raised doubt regarding the defendant's ability to competently go to court.

As a result, proceedings have been paused pending an evaluation of the defendant by mental health experts and a hearing to determine whether he is fit to stand trial scheduled for Feb. 22.

Smith remained in custody in lieu of \$1-million bail. Meanwhile, relatives of Dr. Mammone have invited members of the community to a memorial in his honor Thursday on the grounds of the Festival of the Arts and Pageant of the

Masters in Laguna Beach.

Loved ones said Mammone "had a gift for taking care of others," in an obituary shared Friday. He began his career at San Antonio Regional Hospital in Upland before relocating with his family in Laguna Beach in 2010 and taking a job at Providence Mission Hospital. He is survived by his wife and two adult sons.

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