

Daily Pilot

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Huntington Beach to challenge 'granny flats'

Despite warnings from state, the City Council voted Tuesday night to challenge SB 9, SB 10 and state laws expanding accessory dwelling units.

BY MATT SZABO

Huntington Beach continues to vow to fight the state of California on housing, despite repeated warnings from the California attorney general and Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The latest shot was taken Tuesday night, when the City Council instructed City Atty. Michael Gates to take "any legal action necessary" to challenge SB 9, SB 10 and laws that expand the ability for development of accessory dwelling units, often referred to as "granny flats."

Councilman Pat Burns intro-

duced the agenda item, which passed 4-3. He was joined by Mayor Tony Strickland, Mayor Pro Tem Gracey Van Der Mark and Councilman Casey McKeon. The "no" votes were Councilman Dan Kalmick and Councilwomen Natalie Moser and Rhonda Bolton.

"Really, it's a matter of local control," McKeon said. "It should be incumbent on the residents who live here to decide how they zone their city, and if they want to allow ADUs, etc., and have state mandates that pierce our charter protections and our local control ... This is part of that global discussion and argument

of pushing back against the state with these mandates."

Gates already announced last week that he is preparing his own lawsuit against the state over the city's Regional Housing Needs Assessment number of 13,368 new units. But the state has repeatedly warned Huntington Beach that it is violating state law, and a lawsuit could follow.

Prior to Tuesday's meeting, Atty. Gen. Rob Bonta's office and the Department of Housing and Community Development sent separate letters urging the council to reject Burns' item. It was

See **Challenge**, page A2



Genaro Molina | Los Angeles Times

IN RECENT weeks, California Atty Gen. Rob Bonta's office has sent letters to Huntington Beach warning it about violation of housing laws.



Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

JUNIPER OSBORNE holds a sign during the Huntington Beach City Council meeting on Feb. 7. The City Council on Tuesday voted 4-3 to introduce an ordinance that would only allow the flying of government flags, as well as six branches of the U.S. military, on city property.

H.B. plan to stop flying Pride flag moves forward

BY MATT SZABO

The Huntington Beach City Council voted 4-3 on Tuesday night to approve the introduction of an ordinance that would limit the flying of flags on city property to government flags, as well as the POW/MIA flag and the six flags of the U.S. military.

That leaves out the Pride rainbow flag, which the city has flown each June for Pride month since 2021.

Mayor Tony Strickland, Mayor Pro Tem Gracey Van Der Mark and Councilmen Pat Burns and Casey McKeon voted to move along Ordinance No.

4283, with Councilman Dan Kalmick and Councilwomen Natalie Moser and Rhonda Bolton dissenting.

The flag issue dominated public comments for the second straight City Council meeting, with the vast majority of 69 audience members Tuesday night addressing the topic. The council voted by the same 4-3 margin to approve Burns' agenda item during the Feb. 7 meeting, and to instruct City Atty. Michael Gates to pen the ordinance.

The ordinance, which would add a new Chapter 13.07 to the city's municipal code regarding

display of flags, will come up for a final vote at the next meeting, on March 7. It notes that businesses and individuals may fly any flag they choose on private property, as long as that flying is consistent with other laws.

Before Tuesday's vote, the City Council heard about three hours of public comments. More than half of the speakers, many of them identifying themselves as part of the LGBTQ community, were against the revised flag ordinance, though the crowd seemed fairly evenly split, and there were more speakers in favor of the move than there had been two weeks

ago. Several of them said the American flag is the true flag of inclusion in this country. Burns wrote in his original item that no members of the community should be treated differently or discriminated against and that the city "should avoid actions that could easily or mistakenly be perceived as divisive."

Frank Rodriguez, a 31-year-old gay male and member of Gays Against Groomers, said the Pride flag doesn't represent him. He pulled one out of his pocket and ripped it up during public

See **Flag**, page A4

Refunds offered to hopeful cannabis retailers

Costa Mesa is offering to refund up to \$900K in unprocessed application fees to help clear a backlog of applicants.

BY SARA CARDINE

Cannabis retailers who've spent thousands to operate in Costa Mesa, only to be placed on long waiting lists, will soon be able to recoup money from the city after officials agreed to refund application fees to those who voluntarily withdraw their requests.

Council members Tuesday authorized a refund of licensing and permitting fees to some 45 applicants that have been waiting since August 2021 for a determination on whether they may do legal business in the city.

It's an attempt to help clear a processing backlog that has plagued the city's Development Services department, which has allocated roughly 25% of its time and personnel resources toward reviewing 63 retail cannabis applications.

Despite the department's efforts, only 14 applicants have so far received the permits needed to open a storefront.

"Given the substantial number of applications and the time it takes to process each one, staff is suggesting that the council authorize the city manager to issue refunds of application fees for cannabis retail permits for those who decide to withdraw their applications," Jennifer Le, director of economic and development services told the council.

With conditional use permit fees set at \$18,499 and another \$19,732 charged for cannabis business permits, staff estimate Costa Mesa has collected \$866,048 from would-be operators who have yet to go before the Planning Commission for approval.

See **Refunds**, page A2

Experts to evaluate mental health of stabbing suspect

BY ERIC LICAS

Attorneys in the case of a man accused of stabbing to death a doctor from Laguna Beach appointed experts Wednesday to evaluate whether he is psychologically competent to stand trial.

Vanroy Evan Smith, 39, faces one count of murder in connection with the death of Dr. Michael Mammon. The victim was bicycling in Dana Point on Feb. 1 when the defendant allegedly rear-ended him in a white Lexus, then got out and attacked him.

Relatives of the defendant told the Los Angeles Times he had been diagnosed with paranoid schizophrenia as well as bipolar disorder and that his mental condition had been crumbling in recent years. The attorney representing Smith, deputy public defender Kevin Song, had raised questions about his client's ability to participate in his own defense. Those have placed criminal proceedings in the matter on hold.

On Wednesday, he and Senior Deputy Dist. Atty. Jennifer Walker each se-

lected mental health experts to evaluate whether the defendant is capable of facing the charge filed against him. All parties are scheduled to return to court on April 12 to go over their findings. If they do not agree, a bench trial must be held to decide whether the case can move forward.

If Judge Julian Bailey finds that Smith is not competent to respond to the allegations before him, the Orange County Health Care Agency will then have

See **Suspect**, page A4

Instructor recounts search for Seal Beach hit-and-run victims



Kate Whitney of Kate.Develops

KATRINA SANWONE, Rhyann Diaz and Olivia Reck, from left, of the Los Alamitos Dance Co. were among five dancers injured in a Seal Beach hit-and-run on Feb. 11.

BY ERIC LICAS

Training at Premiere Dance Arts can mean committing three to five hours of practice a day, six days a week. And only their most gifted and hard-working students are invited to become a part of their troupe, according to David Kim, director of the Los Alamitos Ballet Co.

Saori Maeda, 24, Olivia Reck, 25, and 17-year-olds Rhyann Diaz, Katrina Sanwone and Camille Williamson were "burgeoning professionals,"

See **Search**, page A4

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THU, FEB 23
ACE FREHLEY



FRI, FEB 24
JOHN TESH



SUN, MAR 5
SONNY LANDRETH



THU, MAR 9
ALBERT CUMMINGS

- 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
- 4/5 DUANE BETTS & PALMETTO MOTEL
- 4/6 COLIN HAY ACOUSTIC / LAZLO BANE
- 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
- 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



FRI, MAR 10
JD SOUTHER



FRI, MAR 17
FENIANS



SAT, MAR 18
SERGIO MENDES



SUN, MAR 19
GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA

- 5/12 QUEEN NATION (QUEEN TRIBUTE)
- 5/14 HALEY REINHART
- 5/19 JOHN CAFFERTY & THE BEAVER BROWN BAND
- 5/21 LET'S HANG ON! (FRANKIE VALLI & THE FOUR SEASONS TRIBUTE)
- 6/3 JUDY COLLINS
- 6/8 BLACK SABBITCH (ALL FEMALE BLACK SABBATH TRIBUTE)
- 6/9 AL DI MEOLA
- 6/16 AL JARDINE AND HIS ENDLESS SUMMER BAND
- 6/17 AMBROSIA
- 6/18 PURE PRAIRIE LEAGUE
- 7/1 MICK ADAMS & THE STONES
- 7/15 SHINE ON – PINK FLOYD EXPERIENCE
- 7/19 THE JERRY DOUGLAS BAND
- 7/22 Y & T
- 7/28 SPACE ODDITY (DAVID BOWIE TRIBUTE)
- 7/29 KIDS OF CHARLEMAGNE (STEELY DAN TRIBUTE)
- 8/4 PABLO CRUISE
- 8/18 SPYRO GYRA
- 8/19 MADELEINE PEYROUX
- 10/7 RONDSTADT REVIVAL (LINDA RONDSTADT TRIBUTE)
- 10/15 JOURNEYMAN (ERIC CLAPTON TRIBUTE)



SAT, MAR 25
GENE LOVES JEZEBEL



SUN, MAR 26
BIG MOUNTAIN



WED, APR 4
DUANE BETTS & Palmetto Motel



SAT, JUN 3
JUDY COLLINS

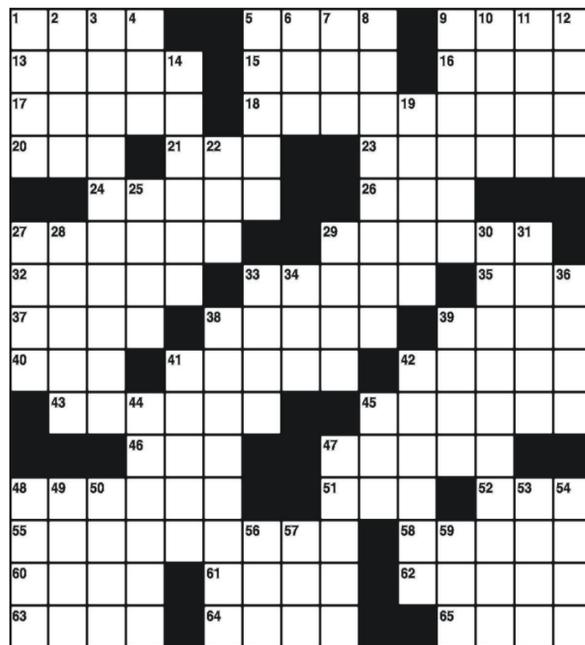
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THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS

- 1 Fuzzy residue
- 5 “ _ the word!”
- 9 Puncture
- 13 _ these days; eventually
- 15 Begin business
- 16 Lay concrete
- 17 Furry brown swimmer
- 18 Recent arrival
- 20 Preschooler
- 21 _ moment; instant of realization
- 23 Hemingway, for one
- 24 Company shunner
- 26 Dustcloth
- 27 Like noisy floorboards
- 29 Cut in half
- 32 Deposits
- 33 Minnesota's state birds
- 35 Part of a sweater
- 37 _ and cons
- 38 Soviet labor camp
- 39 Chimney pipe
- 40 Beavers' project
- 41 Iroquoian-speaking Indians
- 42 Midsection
- 43 Fall fallers
- 45 Muumuus
- 46 Bruce or Brandon
- 47 Capital on the Nile
- 48 Relax
- 51 On one's _;



For answers to the crossword, see page A4.

- independent
- 52 Q-U connection
- 55 Mental preparedness
- 58 Pyle or Kovacs
- 60 Kitchen appliance
- 61 Oaf
- 62 Hotel booking
- 63 Without
- 64 Lotus position exercise
- 65 Unwanted growth
- 9 Kitchen sink item
- 10 No longer wild
- 11 Hail Marys, for short
- 12 Lahr or Parks
- 14 Sinatra & others
- 19 Boorish
- 22 Word to get attention
- 25 Feedbag morsels
- 27 Lung disease
- 28 Of the countryside
- 29 Scarves made of feathers
- 30 Most populous U.S. state
- 31 Rely on
- 33 San _ Obispo, CA
- 34 Flamenco shout
- 36 National League team
- 38 In a selfish way
- 39 Light-complexioned
- 41 _ out; makes level
- 42 Moans and groans
- 44 E.T. and Mork
- 45 Cutting tool
- 47 Terra- _; patio pot clay
- 48 Eerie sightings
- 49 Bossa _; Brazilian dance
- 50 Songbird
- 53 _ down; takes a breather
- 54 Pegs for Els
- 56 Wet sticky stuff
- 57 Embrace
- 59 Bacardi product

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CHALLENGE

Continued from page A1

the second time in two weeks that Bonta had critiqued the city's actions, following last week's Planning Commission vote to recommend an ordinance that would ban “builder's remedy” applications.

The City Council has yet to vote on certifying its housing element, though McKeon said last week that leaders are working with Housing and Community Development on meeting the minimum requirement.

Tuesday's letter noted that SB 9 applications, as well as ADUs, are required to be ministerially approved, without discretionary action.

“[The agenda item] is not only misguided, it is unlawful,” wrote Supervising Deputy Atty. General David Pai, on behalf of Bonta. “As we stated in our letter to City Atty. Gates just one week ago, our office stands ready to enforce state housing laws if necessary.”

Gov. Gavin Newsom was even more pointed, in a tweet posted late Tuesday night by the governor's office.

“Tonight, Huntington Beach leaders decided that their residents don't need affordable housing,” the tweet read. “This is a pathetic pattern by politicians more focused on tak-



HUNTINGTON BEACH City Council member Casey McKeon, center, flanked by Mayor Tony Strickland and City Atty. Michael Gates, speak on Feb. 14.

Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

ing down pride flags than on real solutions. [California] needs more housing. Time for Huntington Beach to start acting like it.”

SB 9 allows homeowners to split their lot and build up to four units on it, though a recent UC Berkeley study suggests the law's impact has been limited.

Kalmick called Burns' agenda item “a solution in search of a problem” and “absolutely unnecessary.”

Responding to a question from Kalmick, city Director of Community Development Ursula Luna-Reynosa confirmed that the city has received no SB 9 applications since the law went into effect in January 2022. Additionally, SB 10 is an opt-in program, and Huntington Beach has not opted in.

“Now we're adding in ADUs, which is literally ‘NIMBY-ism,’” Kalmick said. “Now you're saying I can't build something in my own backyard, which is wild. We don't have a

scourge of ADUs in this city. If you saw in the HCD's letter and the attorney general's letter, we're going to have to come up with 563 more units of housing if we make ADUs illegal. We're not going to be able to certify our housing element without ADUs.”

Kalmick added that he's actually looking for another property in Huntington Beach to move to that would allow an ADU, so that his mother-in-law and father-in-law can come visit their grandchildren.

“It sounds like we're trying to set up more lawsuits with the state, go to war with the state on this,” he said. “This just looks like we're not going to be able to certify our housing element, and we're going to get immediately sued by the attorney general ... This is just poking the bear, the California bear, if you will.”

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REFUNDS

Continued from page A1

After a 6-0 vote from the council Tuesday (Councilman Don Harper was absent), potential refund recipients will have 30 days to submit a reimbursement request and release form after being notified by the city the program has begun.

The move to encourage withdrawals comes as Costa Mesa officials consider revisiting retail cannabis ordinances drafted in 2021 that failed to place a cap on the number of dispensaries that could do business in the city and placed no distance buffers between them.

Many residents, and some council members, have intimidated processing retail cannabis requests is taking up too much staff time and placing a chokehold on other priorities, including affordable housing and the implementation of

Measure K, passed by voters in November.

Jim Fitzpatrick, a former planning commissioner who now advises cannabis enterprises on how and where to open locally, said he favored the idea of offering refunds to proprietors but urged the council to have the policy discussion first.

“It's a good idea to do a refund, but I don't think you're going to get any [withdrawal requests],” he said. “For us to bring the numbers down, we have to give the industry some clear, concise and transparent feedback on where we're going.”

Mayor John Stephens said he'd prefer that anyone willing to bow out would do so before the council potentially revised its approval process.

“What I'd like to do is, when we have the policy discussion, to be able to have gone through the process of at least having

them request the refunds,” Stephens said. “Then, we'll have a more precise number of what we're dealing with.”

Resident Schellie Walsh said she supported halting the influx of applications.

“It's created such a glut and a logjam in the city,” she said. “If it is taking up 25% of the city's time, that means people who want permits to remodel their houses, Measure K, all this stuff is on the back burner. We're the residents, and we should be the recipients of what we pay for.”

Councilman Manuel Chavez, who made the motion to approve a refund program, agreed.

“Our focus is shifting elsewhere,” he said. “I think it's fair for those who did invest in Costa Mesa the opportunity to recoup at least part of their investment if it did not work out.”

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SEARCH

Continued from page A1

and some of the company's brightest performers, Kim said. After spending weeks drilling for a show scheduled in April, the five friends piled into a car to head out for a "Galentine's day" weekend together on Saturday, Feb. 11.

"We had auditions at our studio for our summer program," Kim told the Daily Pilot in an interview Tuesday. "They looked incredibly strong, beautiful and powerful. They generally are so busy and working so hard that they don't get to have these quiet moments."

But they didn't make it to their dinner reservation. At about 7 p.m., the 23-year-old driver of a speeding Mercedes Benz 300D slammed into them near Pacific Coast Highway and Main Street in Seal Beach. He was able to get out of his sedan and flee, but turned himself in to police eight days later.

The victims he left behind at the scene survived, but all had to be hospitalized. Four

of them were knocked out during the crash. The fifth remembered waking up in the passenger seat with her unconscious friend lying in her lap, Kim said. She later called him from a stretcher in the back of an ambulance and asked him to let their loved ones know what had happened.

"I didn't really want to believe that I was reading the text that I had received," Kim said. "We were hoping and praying that it was not the horrendous situation that it ended up being. We were thinking, 'how badly could anyone get hurt in a Sleepy, quiet family town.'"

He, other friends and relatives quickly managed to track four of the patients down at Long Beach Memorial Hospital and UC Irvine Medical Center, Kim said. However, Maeda had lost her phone during the collision, and since she was an exchange student from Japan, medical staff were unable to reach her family.

Kim called 12 different hospitals to find Maeda. It took until about midnight, but he learned that she was

in treatment at Orange County Global Medical Center.

"When I did locate her, she was so thankful. She had no idea where she was. She was knocked unconscious, so she didn't really know what was going on. She just woke up in a strange hospital with zero ability to get a hold of anyone."

The two adult dancers who were hurt were able to go home the following day. But the three 17-year-olds remained in care for days for multiple broken bones, Kim said. As of Tuesday, two remained in the hospital.

Kim said he is just grateful that they lived through their ordeal. However, he reluctantly acknowledged that the severity of some of their injuries has cast uncertainty on some of their futures as dancers.

"We're going to hope, we're going to pray and keep a positive perspective on it because we know how tough and resilient these kids are," he said. "They all want to get back to the studio. They all want to start dancing again. They miss



Kate Whitney of Kate.Develops

SAORI MAEDA dances during a performance of "The Nutcracker." She was among five dancers of the Los Alamitos Ballet Co. injured in a Seal Beach hit-and-run on Feb. 11.

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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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The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligations secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of this Notice of Trustee's Sale is estimated to be \$660,379.90 (Estimated). However, prepayment premiums, accrued interest and advances will increase this figure prior to sale. Beneficiary's bid at said sale may include all or part of said amount. In addition to cash, the Trustee will accept a cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the California Civil Code and authorized to do business in California, or other such funds as may be acceptable to the Trustee. 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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 NPPO2023 TO: NEWPORT HARBOR NEWS PRESS COMBINED WITH DAILY PILOT 02/16/2023, 02/23/2023, 03/02/2023

Legal Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE
(UCC Sec. 6105)

Escrow No. 824135-JT
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a bulk sale is about to be made. The name(s), business address(es) of the Seller(s), are:
Perfect Cuisine Inc, a California corporation, 17961 Sky Park Circle, Irvine, CA 92614

Doing Business as: Huiwei Kitchen
All other business name(s) and address(es) used by the Seller(s) within the past three years, as stated by the Seller(s), is/are: None

The location in California of the Chief Executive Officer of the Seller(s) is: 52 Bellatrix, Irvine, CA 92618
The name(s) and address of the Buyer(s) is/are:
OR Group LLC, a California limited liability company, 172 E. Valley Blvd., San Gabriel, CA 91776

The assets to be sold are described in general as: All Furnishing, Equipment and Fixtures and are located at: 17961 Sky Park Circle, Irvine, CA 92614
The bulk sale is intended to be consummated at the office of: Central Escrow Group, Inc., 1675 Hanover Road, City of Industry, CA 91748 and the anticipated sale date is 03/13/23.

The bulk sale is subject to California Uniform Commercial Code Section 6106.2 YES
The name and address of the person with whom claims may be filed is: Central Escrow Group, Inc., 1675 Hanover Road, City of Industry, CA 91748 and the last date for filing claims shall be 03/10/23 which is the business day before the sale date specified above.

Dated: 2/16/23
BUYER:
OR GROUP LLC, a California limited liability company
By: S/ KELVIN WANG, Manager/Member
2/23/23

CNS-367293#

DAILY PILOT

BSC 222879
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 (eaccounts.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

each other. It's their home; it really is."

All of them have a long road to recovery before them, Kim said. As of Wednesday, A GoFundMe campaign set up by Kim and his wife, Renee Kim, had drawn over \$44,000 in donations to help cover the costs of the dancers' medical bills.

Meanwhile, with the injured young women's bless-

ing, other members of their dance troupe have stepped up to fill the roles they were supposed to play.

"We were initially going to cancel the show, but we decided to put it on because dancers are some of the hardest working, toughest people out there," Kim said. "You've heard the adage: the show must go on. We're living up to that."

That upcoming perform-

ance is now planned as a benefit show for the injured dancers, Kim said. It is tentatively scheduled for April 1 or April 2, and may take place at the 2,000 person capacity auditorium at Millikan High School in Long Beach.

"We're hoping to fill every seat," Kim said.

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FLAG

Continued from page A1

comments.

Don Kennedy, recently appointed to the Planning Commission by Burns, said limiting the flags that fly on government property is not an attack on ideals.

"Conversely, it's an act of inclusion," he said. "It says to the residents that the government is not in the business of picking cause flags. If you pick one and not another, then that act itself becomes exclusionary."

But Huntington Beach

High School students Colin Parrott and Olivia Pham, who are each members of the Huntington Beach Youth Board, had a different perspective.

"Flying this flag signals a safe and welcoming space for all individuals," Pham said. "The rainbow flag is a beacon of hope."

Leslie Edwards, a gay Huntington Beach city employee in the Information Services department, also spoke during public comments. Edwards called the four conservatives elected in November part of a vocal minority, noting that Burns, who got the most votes with 37,266,

still represented just 28% of registered voters and 19% of the population.

"If you vote yes tonight ... you are only interested in pushing forward your own personal beliefs regardless of the community outcry and the damage it does to the city's reputation," she said. "Damaging our reputation, in turn, will cause a loss of income to local businesses and the city as a whole."

Between this month's two council meetings, the city indeed has started feeling repercussions from the flag issue. Blue Shield of California Foundation announced it has canceled a two-day retreat at the Waterfront Beach Resort Hilton Hotel in June.

"Stigmatization, hate-violence and discrimination are still major barriers to the health and well-being of the LGBTQ community," Blue Shield of California Foundation President and CEO Debbie Chang wrote in a letter to the council. "Banning the Pride flag contributes to a hostile and dangerous environment for this community."

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SUSPECT

Continued from page A1

to determine if he should be committed to a mental health institution or undergo some other form of treatment. If the defendant is later deemed fit to go to trial, the case can be brought back to court.

The fatal stabbing Smith is accused of appeared to have been unprovoked, and any motive for it remained publicly unclear as of Wednesday. Authorities said he did not have any prior connection to Mam-mone.

Friends and relatives of the 58-year-old victim described him as a talented emergency room physician who had saved numerous lives over the course of his decades-long career. They said his upbeat personality became a well of support for his colleagues as they worked during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. Many called him a mentor who inspired them to be better versions of themselves.

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Daily Pilot

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CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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