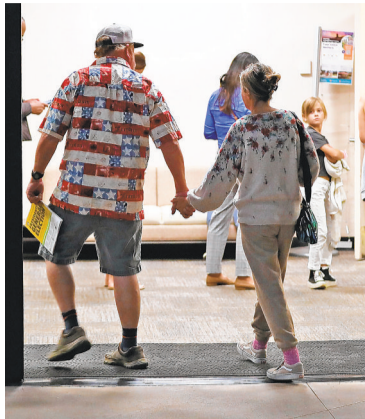


# Daily Pilot

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2024 // dailypilot.com



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

**VOTERS HEAD** into Huntington Beach City Hall on Election Day on Tuesday.

## 'HB3' take the lead in Surf City election

Williams, Twining and Kennedy look likely to unseat incumbents to form an all-conservative City Council in H.B.

BY MATT SZABO

Don Kennedy got three hours of sleep Tuesday night.

That's if he's being optimistic. The Huntington Beach City Council candidate stayed up until 1:30 a.m. watching national election results. Then, he and fellow candidate Butch Twining got up at 4 a.m. to start the arduous process of taking down campaign signs in windy conditions.

"It's a lot more fun to pull signs down than it is to put them up," Kennedy said Wednesday.

Especially after you've won. The all-conservative trio of Chad Williams, Twining and Kennedy, who dubbed themselves the "HB3" and held a watch party in Huntington Harbour, appeared to be headed to victory by the time the night was over.

They would have unseated the three minority members of the council, incumbents Dan Kalmick, Natalie Moser and Rhonda Bolton.

See **HB3**, page A2

### ELECTION 2024

## Coastal O.C. voters exercise their right



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

**RESIDENT GLORIA LOZA** shows her "I voted" sticker Tuesday at City Hall in Huntington Beach where, along with the controversial Measure U, three open seats were contested on the City Council.



Susan Hoffman

**VOTERS WAIT** in line outside Newport Beach Civic Center to cast their ballots on Election Day.

## Blom, 2 hopefuls win big at the polls in N.B.

Candidates backed by sitting council members will preserve a 7-0 majority of conservative members on the body.

BY ERIC LICAS

The bar at Muldoon's Irish Pub in Newport Beach was packed with patrons Tuesday night — including many wearing red hats or stickers proclaiming "I voted" and one woman in a blue dress with a collage of Trump/Vance bumper stickers printed on it — well over an hour ahead of the Orange County GOP's watch party scheduled that evening. Campaign volunteers handed out miniature American flags that were hoisted into the air alongside cheers as the Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump surpassed 200 electoral votes and other

See **N.B.**, page A3

## Whalen, challenger Jones take the lead in Laguna council race

BY ANDREW TURNER

Laguna Beach voters have appeared to opt for both the old and the new in the race for two open seats on the City Council, as incumbent Bob Whalen and challenger Hallie Jones continued to see favorable results as of Wednesday evening.

Whalen, a public finance attorney seeking a fourth term on the five-person governing body, said he was "pleased with the outcome" and vowed to continue to place public safety as his top priority.

"I think looking to always improve on wildfire safety, look to either rebuild or renovate our fire stations — all of which are

See **Laguna**, page A5



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

**A RESIDENT DROPS** off her ballot in the national and local elections at the Laguna Beach library ballot box on Tuesday.

### REV. MATT HAMBRICK

leads a special service at First United Methodist Church in Costa Mesa, which focused on peaceful reflection and grounding in the face of Election Day uncertainty.



## Costa Mesa church trades out politics for peace at election vigil

BY SARA CARDINE

As ballots were counted Tuesday for races still too close to call and anxious pundits speculated where political futures might be heading, one Costa Mesa church spent election night offering prayers for peace and reconciliation, no matter the outcome.

Members gathered at First United Methodist Church of Costa Mesa for a Vigil of Peace and Centering, engaging in a multisensory experience designed to combat Election Day anxieties, tension and fatigue.

Rev. Matt Hambrick, who leads congregants at the LGBTQ+-inclusive West 19th Street facility and its sister church in Mesa Verde, said

pastors are hearing from members about families, friends and colleagues being torn asunder by conflicting political viewpoints.

So, when a member approached church leaders about countering Election Day worries with practices and traditions grounded in togetherness, acceptance and love, Hambrick was all in.

"The first election I remember, when I was too young to vote, was Reagan's second election. It was contentious. People had thoughts about the Cold War and nuclear energy and weapons," he recalled Tuesday. "I've seen many elections since then, but I've never seen any-

See **Vigil**, page A4



**ABOVE:** Tustin resident Bobbie Lee Throne reads a passage during an election night service at the First United Methodist Church in Costa Mesa.

**LEFT:** A portrait of Fred Rogers of "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" greets visitors to First United Methodist Church on election night.



Photos by Don Leach  
Staff Photographer

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**FRI, NOV 8**  
**COMMON SENSE**



**THU, NOV, 14**  
**THE SWEET**



**FRI, NOV 15**  
**RONSTADT REVIVAL**



**SAT, NOV 16**  
**JOSHUA RADIN & RON POPE**

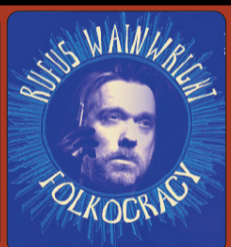
- 11/8 COMMON SENSE
- 11/9 TYRONE WELLS
- 11/13 JOHN HIATT
- 11/14 THE SWEET
- 11/15 RONSTADT REVIVAL (LINDA RONSTADT TRIBUTE)
- 11/16 JOSHUA RADIN & RON POPE
- 11/21 JEREMY PIVEN
- 11/22 SPACE ODDITY (DAVID BOWIE TRIBUTE)
- 11/23 RUFUS WAINWRIGHT
- 11/24 CTRL + Z - FT MARC BONILLA, THOMAS LANG, RIC FIERABRACCI, ALEX MACHACEK, & JONATHAN SINDELMAN
- 11/26 LEONID & FRIENDS (CHICAGO TRIBUTE)
- 11/27 LEONID & FRIENDS (CHICAGO TRIBUTE)
- 11/29 THE PLATTERS
- 11/30 LEE ROCKER OF THE STRAY CATS
- 12/4 LIVINGSTON TAYLOR & LOUDON WAINWRIGHT III
- 12/6 WHICH ONE'S PINK? (PINK FLOYD TRIBUTE)
- 12/7 WHICH ONE'S PINK? (PINK FLOYD TRIBUTE)
- 12/8 SANDRA BERNHARD
- 12/11 DAVID BENOIT (CHRISTMAS TRIBUTE TO CHARLIE BROWN)
- 12/12 THE RAT PACK
- 12/13 ABBA HOLLY JOLLY CHRISTMAS
- 12/14 THE HIGHWAYMAN SHOW
- 12/15 THE GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA
- 12/18 SAMANTHA FISH (SHAKE EM' DOWN TOUR) JON SPENCER, CEDRIC BURNSIDE
- 12/19 A VERY WHITNEY CHRISTMAS
- 12/20 A FLOCK OF SEAGULLS
- 12/21 AMBROSIA HOLIDAY SHOW
- 12/22 GARY HO-HO-HOEY
- 12/27 BEATLES VS STONES (A MUSICAL SHOWDOWN)
- 12/28 DRAMARAMA
- 12/29 L.A. GUNS
- 12/31 THE ENGLISH BEAT *NEW YEARS EVE!*
- 1/3 QUEEN NATION
- 1/4 QUEEN NATION
- 1/8 QUINN SULLIVAN & HAMISH ANDERSON
- 1/10 TOMMY CASTRO & THE PAINKILLERS



**THU, NOV 21**  
**JEREMY PIVEN**



**FRI, NOV 22**  
**SPACE ODDITY**



**SAT, NOV 23**  
**RUFUS WAINWRIGHT**



**SUN, NOV 24**  
**CTRL + Z**

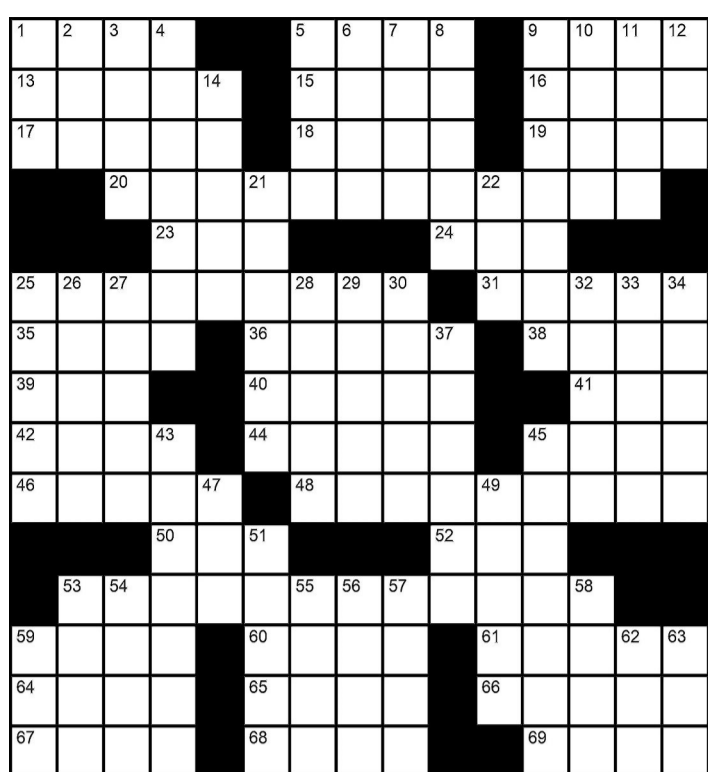
- 1/11 AC/DC vs OZZY
- 1/12 BURTON CUMMINGS (OF THE ORIGINAL THE GUESS WHO)
- 1/17 DADA
- 1/18 DSB (JOURNEY TRIBUTE)
- 1/23 PAT TRAVERS
- 1/24 GENE LOVES JEZEBEL & BOW WOW WOW
- 1/26 WHAT'S NEW PUSSYCAT? (TOM JONES TRIBUTE)
- 1/30 CANNED HEAT
- 1/31 DESPERADO (EAGLES TRIBUTE)
- 2/1 DESPERADO (EAGLES TRIBUTE)
- 2/2 RICKIE LEE JONES
- 2/7 DAVID COOK
- 2/8 LED ZEPAGAIN (LED ZEPPELIN TRIBUTE)
- 2/16 INCENDIO with ARDESHIR FARAH (OF STRUNZ & FARAH)
- 2/20 THE HEART OF ROCK & ROLL
- 2/21 CHEST FEVER
- 2/22 FAST TIMES (ULTIMATE 80'S TRIBUTE)
- 2/23 ALWAYS ADELE
- 2/26 HUMMEL HARP BLOWOUT
- 2/27 VANESSA COLLIER
- 2/28 G LOVE & SPECIAL SAUCE
- 3/6 ALTAN
- 3/7 COCO MONTOYA & RONNIE BAKER BROOKS
- 3/8 MARC COHN
- 3/9 MARC COHN
- 3/13 SONS OF CREAM FT KOFI BAKER, MALCOM BRUCE, ROB JOHNSON
- 3/14 THE FENIANS
- 3/26 RUSSELL HOWARD
- 3/28 KIDS OF CHARLEMAGNE & PENROSE
- 3/29 SUPER DIAMOND (NEIL DIAMOND TRIBUTE)
- 3/30 COLIN JAMES
- 4/1 JORMA KAUKONEN
- 4/5 HERMAN'S HERMITS FT PETER NOONE
- 4/6 HERMAN'S HERMITS FT PETER NOONE
- 4/11 DON CARLOS
- 4/19 KEVIN NEALON
- 4/25 TOM GREEN - HOME TO THE COUNTRY
- 4/26 PIANO MEN: GENERATIONS
- 5/3 THE OCEAN BLUE

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## THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Stella Zawistowski

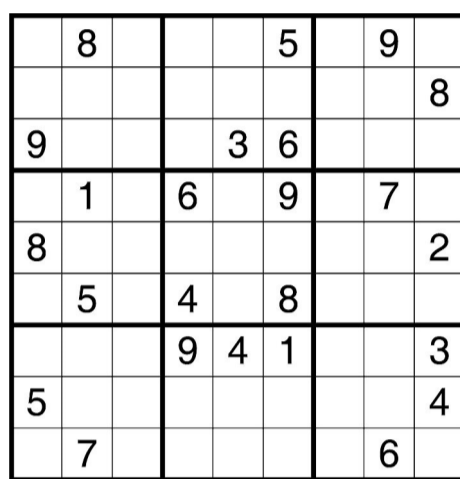
- ACROSS**
- 1 Part of the hand
  - 5 Angel's instrument
  - 9 Open-handed hit
  - 13 False name
  - 15 Wicked
  - 16 Burial place
  - 17 Show emotion
  - 18 TV host Kelly
  - 19 Becomes more mature
  - 20 Shrub with pink or purple flowers
  - 23 Important time period
  - 24 Baby fox
  - 25 Maker of cocktails
  - 31 Raw fish dish
  - 35 Lotion additive
  - 36 Blue or yellow
  - 38 Jack of "The Tonight Show"
  - 39 Pastor's title: Abbr.
  - 40 High-class group
  - 41 Producer Ziegfeld
  - 42 CFO, e.g.: Abbr.
  - 44 Mulligans
  - 45 Intend
  - 46 Actress \_ Michelle Gellar
  - 48 In a solemn way
  - 50 Sheep's noise
  - 52 Banned insecticide: Abbr.
  - 53 Paid item in a newspaper: 2 wds.
  - 59 Singer Chappell
  - 60 "Beware the \_ of March"
  - 61 Piano practice piece
  - 64 \_ St. Vincent Millay
  - 65 Profound
  - 66 Extend a subscription
  - 67 Government agents, for short
  - 68 Not difficult



## SUDOKU

By the Mephram Group

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



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

- DOWN**
- 1 Golf standard
  - 2 Bitter beer
  - 3 Tall tale teller
  - 4 Big knife
  - 5 Valiant one
  - 6 Very dedicated
  - 7 Ready to pick
  - 8 Wooden board
  - 9 Young company
  - 10 Company emblem
  - 11 "You said it!"
  - 12 "Frontline" network
  - 14 Shop
  - 21 Ballerina
  - 22 Talk smack

- about
- 25 Uncovers
- 26 Amazon virtual assistant
- 27 Popular dog name
- 28 Metes (out)
- 29 Omit in speech
- 30 Copter blade
- 32 Bank vaults
- 33 Allowed by Muslim law
- 34 Literary sarcasm
- 37 Dwell
- 43 Poolside structures
- 45 Changes genetically
- 47 Owns
- 49 Weirder
- 51 "All kidding \_"
- 53 Write a program
- 54 Hit the ground
- 55 Notion
- 56 Service charges
- 57 Road trip game: 2 wds.
- 58 Dip a donut
- 59 NFL official, for short
- 62 Billy \_ Williams
- 63 "lck!"

Tribune Media Services

## HB3

Continued from page A1

Williams, Twining and Kennedy would form an all-conservative City Council in the city, along with Mayor Gracey Van Der Mark, Mayor Pro Tem Pat Burns, Tony Strickland and Casey McKeon.

In the latest results released Wednesday at 5 p.m. by the Orange County Registrar of Voters, Williams had 41,638 votes, followed by Twining with 35,182 votes and Kennedy with 34,769 votes.

Moser (30,519 votes), Kalmick (29,654) and Bolton (28,227) lagged behind in fourth through sixth place, followed by Marissa Jackson with 7,823 votes and Amory Hanson with 3,213 votes.

A conservative endorsed by the council majority has also been elected in as the new city clerk. Lisa Lane Barnes led Regina Blankenhorn in the most recent update, 41,862 votes to 29,486.

Barnes will replace retiring Robin Estanislau, who had held the position since 2016.

Alisa Backstrom, who ran unopposed, was reelected as city treasurer.

Measure U, which requires voter approval before city-initiated zoning changes with a "significant and unavoidable" environmental impact could be implemented, also appeared headed to victory, with 43,601 voters favoring the measure and 32,344 voting no.

Kennedy said hard work led the newly elected conservatives to their spots on the dais, as they did 129 meet-and-greet events by an unofficial count.

"We joked around with [the sitting conservative majority] because they all supported our candidacy," Kennedy said. "They said they're going to do 109. We're going to out-work you."

Twining and Kennedy, who are both on the Planning Commission, have been residents of the city for at least 60 years. Williams, a former U.S. Navy SEAL and current keynote speaker and



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

**VOTERS CAST** their ballots hours before the election deadline at Huntington Beach City Hall on Tuesday.

youth pastor, is also a life-long resident of Huntington Beach.

Kennedy and Twining both said Wednesday they will vote the way they feel is best, no matter what the makeup of the council is.

"I'm trying to preserve what I call the best city in the country, the Huntington Beach I grew up in, which is a suburban culture full of friendly people," Kennedy said. "I want to keep it laid back, great climate, good beach life and a great community."

Twining said none of the "HB3" are politicians, but they realized that beating three incumbents was a tall order.

"Politics is partially a game of name recognition," he said. "Bolton, Kalmick and Moser all have good name recognition, so we had to introduce ourselves to a heck of a lot of people, and that's how we did it. I feel like we outworked them."

"The difference between them and us is that I think our message just resonated more."

The city has seen division over the last two years on issues like suing the state over housing mandates and screening of children's library books. A 4-3 vote on the council dais has been extremely common.

Moser, who was elected in 2020, along with Kalmick, said she was concerned about the new council makeup.

"As a lifelong resident raising a family here, it is concerning to see a council so

unified in perspective, with limited diversity of thought or representation," she said in a statement via text message. "A thriving democracy depends on a robust exchange of ideas, where consensus and coalition building ensure that decisions reflect the needs of all residents. While I may have concerns about the direction of this incoming council, I hold a strong hope for our city's success. Huntington Beach deserves leadership that is committed to openness, inclusivity and true representation."

Kalmick said he felt like he, Moser and Bolton ran great campaigns with a lot of volunteer support.

"I'm fascinated to see what a 7-0 majority vote looks like," he said. "We'll see. I think divided government makes better government ... I'm disappointed in Huntington Beach, and I'm worried for its future."

"We're not conceding," Kalmick said Wednesday night, adding that there was up to 30,000 votes yet to be counted and that he believed there was a path to victory.

Neighboring Newport Beach also has had an all-conservative council.

"They don't have an elected city attorney, and they also are better stewards of their money than the current majority is [in Huntington Beach]," Kalmick said. "They passed their housing element."

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**GOLF**

*Continued from page A5*

tin both carded a 92, followed by freshman Adriana Bezrukov with 93. The sixth score was sophomore Anika Shorey, who produced a round of 101.

Kuo said it felt “completely unreal” to win a CIF title.

“Now I know that the four years I have been on the team have all led up to this moment,” Kuo said in an email interview. “Every loss, every hard-earned win, and mistakes and lessons that came with them have brought our team to victory. Seeing my teammates’ faces light up with pride, knowing how much each of us had poured into this journey, made it all worth it.”

Li said in an email that seeing “Corona del Mar” at the top of the standings felt

like a dream, and she was proud of her teammates.

“Every one of them gave their best,” she said. “Even when we had some bad holes, we shook them off and stayed focused. I am very proud of them.”

CdM finished three shots better than Webb, which was in second place in Division 4 with a team score of 444.

Fountain Valley placed fourth with a team score of 450, led by Megan Vo with an individual score of 79, Tracy Nguyen with an 86 and Baothu Nguyen with an 88.

CdM coach Bryan Middleton said he was extremely proud of his team’s performance Tuesday.

“Golf is part ability and part keeping it together mentally,” he said. “In the last week I tried to instill the belief that they could be CIF Southern Section champions if they played

one shot and hole at a time. The girls’ golf team is highly academic, and we took that to the course studying each hole for the championship match. The last three years has been a joy to coach the team, with the hard work and the effort the girls put into the season. Today it culminated with a Division 4 championship!”

Sage Hill placed third in the Division 1 finals, held at Los Serranos Country Club on Monday. Alisa Ching shot a 70, tying as individual medalist, with teammates Anna Gao and Audrey Zhao firing rounds of 72 and 73, respectively.

The Lightning advanced to Thursday’s individual championship and SCGA qualifying tournament, held at Temecula Creek Golf Club.

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*Courtesy of Bryan Middleton*

**COACH BRYAN MIDDLETON** and the CdM girls’ golf team celebrate winning the CIF Division 4 title Tuesday at El Prado Golf Course in Chino.

**POLO**

*Continued from page A5*

such a prestigious school in the Open Division. Once we got here, we were just excited for the opportunity to try to earn a win.”

Corona del Mar’s remarkable season continues.

The Sea Kings earned a 14-13 upset over the No. 4-seeded Wolverines, propelling them into a Battle of the Bay semifinal Saturday at CdM.

CdM (25-5), the Pool D winner, will play Pool A winner Newport Harbor (29-0) in an Open Division semifinal match at noon Saturday at CdM.

The top-ranked Sailors got past Santa Margarita 15-7 on Tuesday night to win their pool.

Corona del Mar is back in the final four for the second straight year, despite graduating six starters last year. Senior Jackson Harlan was the only returner.

“We put in so much hard work,” Reynolds said. “We really grinded throughout



*James Carbone*

**CDM’S BRYAN SHAPIRSHTEYN** (22) shoots and scores against Harvard-Westlake during Tuesday night’s match.

the offseason and took our lickings, and I think the experience that we had playing with such a young group paid off. When it

came time for season, I feel like we’ve been very prepared the entire time.”

Harlan had three goals for the Sea Kings against

Harvard-Westlake (15-10), which tied him for the team lead with junior center Nathan Simoncelli. Bryan Shapirshteyn, a junior

transfer from Newport Harbor, had what Reynolds called his best match of the season on his way to two goals and three assists.

Junior goalkeeper Vi Lues had nine saves for the Sea Kings, including a deflection of a Harvard-Westlake shot from Connor Kim off the crossbar in the closing seconds. The ball caromed to Harlan, and CdM was able to call timeout with three seconds left.

CdM sophomore Will Weir scored up top before junior Grant Christian buried his second goal into the upper corner, giving the Sea Kings a 14-11 advantage with 1:45 remaining in the match.

“It means a lot,” Harlan said. “A lot of the younger guys have stepped up and played a bigger role on this team. I think we just became way more balanced as a team and gelled together, bonded together.”

Harvard-Westlake’s Taj Draper and Kim scored after that, pulling the Wolverines within a goal, but CdM was able to hang on.

Landon Castillo and

Micah Grantham also scored for the Sea Kings, who will play the Sailors for the third time this season on Saturday.

Newport Harbor won 14-6 on Sept. 13, and 16-9 on Sept. 25.

“We’re pretty pumped and excited,” Simoncelli said. “I think we deserve another shot at them, especially at home, too. That was the goal in the first place.”

**Newport Harbor 15, Santa Margarita 7:** The Sailors earned the win Tuesday night to win Pool A.

Lucca Van Der Woude had a team-high four goals and three steals, while Connor Ohl and Kai Kaneko scored two goals each. Geoff Slutzky had two goals and four ejections earned, and Mason Netzer netted a goal and dished out seven assists.

Senior goalkeeper Luke Harris made six saves for the Sailors.

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53

**Los Angeles Times**  
**TimesOC**

California State Parks seasonal lifeguard Sierra Fockler discovered a 14-inch Pacific football fish around 2:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 13, near the lifeguard station located at Crystal Cove State Park in Orange County. It's the second such case of the fish washing ashore over the last three years. (Courtesy of California State Parks)

Good morning. It's Wednesday, Oct. 25. I'm Carol Cormaci, bringing you this week's [TimesOC newsletter](#) with a look at the latest local news and events.

Watch where you're stepping on O.C.'s famed sands, because you may encounter a rare specimen of marine life. One, in fact, that has very sharp teeth.

That's what happened on a recent afternoon to lifeguard Sierra Fockler, who found a spooky-looking black angler fish, specifically a Pacific football fish, while she was walking near the lifeguard headquarters building on Moro Beach, located within Crystal Cove State Park.