

# Daily Pilot

THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2024 // dailypilot.com

## 'Loss for words' for CdM graduate

Erin Jones, 20, a former soccer player at CDM High, died at a house party in Tucson, where she studied at U of A.

BY CITY NEWS SERVICE

The death of a 20-year-old Newport Beach woman who was fatally shot in Tucson, Ariz., is being mourned this week.

Erin Jones died early Sunday after attending an off-campus house party in Tucson, where she was a sophomore at the University of Arizona.

Jones graduated from Corona Del Mar High School, where she was a standout on the girls' soccer team.

Jones was taken to a hospital, where she later died from her injuries. According to friends, she was waiting for an Uber after leaving the party, CBS 2 reported.

"I am at a loss for words about the tragic loss of life of our class of

See **Graduate**, page A4

## Newport man held on fraud charges

Authorities indict sober living homes owner Scott Raffa on suspicion of paying nearly \$175K to 'body brokers.'

BY LILLY NGUYEN

A Newport Beach man was arrested Saturday for allegedly paying nearly \$175,000 in illegal payments to receive referrals of patients to his sober living homes — a practice known as "body brokering," according to authorities.

Scott Raffa, 57, the founder and chief executive officer of Sober Partners Network, was arrested at the Los Angeles International Airport last weekend, according to a news release by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Central District of California on Monday. Raffa was indicted for 12 counts of illegal remunerations for refer-

See **Fraud**, page A4



EMIGUEZ sings the Queen classic "Don't Stop Me Now" as Stephen Alva plays the guitar during a dress rehearsal for Retrofest 197.8, performed by students with the Huntington Beach Academy for the Performing Arts on Tuesday night.

Photos by James Carbone



OWEN NIDEFFER plays the bass during the Retrofest 197.8 rehearsal.



STUDENT MUSICIANS play the Ramones' "I Wanna Be Sedated."

## Students set their radio dial to 197.8

BY MATT SZABO

Huntington Beach High junior Jake Young may be Generation Z, but that doesn't mean he can't appreciate the music of decades before he was born.

Young is playing drums on a pair of Steely Dan songs, "FM" and "Josie," at the Huntington Beach Academy for the Performing Arts Retrofest 197.8 concert this weekend. He will enjoy rocking out by covering a band that was close to the peak of its powers as the 1970s drew to a close.

"It's just really, really fun music to get into, lock into the pocket," Young said. "It feels really good to play them on stage with other incredible musicians."

The HBAPA Music, Media, Entertainment Technology students take on music from the year 1978 for their Retrofest 197.8 concert, which debuts Thursday night at the historic HBUHSD auditorium on the campus of Huntington Beach High.



ASH DUNLAP sings the Journey classic "Lights" during a rehearsal for Retrofest 197.8 on Tuesday.

The show is the third of the MMET season, following Playlist and the benefit concert, which highlighted Electric Light Orchestra.

It was a diverse time in popular music. The Bee Gees were vying to stay alive and Cheap Trick was telling kids to surren-

See **Students**, page A2

## New York Jets select Alabama's Jaylen Key with Mr. Irrelevant pick



Courtesy of Irrelevant Week

MELANIE SALATA Fitch, far right, stands with family to announce the Mr. Irrelevant pick at the 2024 NFL Draft in Detroit on Saturday.

BY ANDREW TURNER

If the University of Alabama shows interest in a football player, the odds are schools from coast to coast lined up to sign the recruit.

The Crimson Tide were a perennial power in the college football landscape under Nick Saban, a period that spans the entirety of the football-watching memory for most draft-eligible players.

Such programs get their first choice more often than not, which adds to the intrigue for the newest Mr. Irrelevant, a title annually bestowed upon the last pick in the NFL draft.

The New York Jets selected Alabama safety Jaylen Key with the 257th and final pick of the 2024 NFL Draft on Saturday in Detroit.

Key transferred to Alabama for his last year of college eligibility after spending the previous five seasons with the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

He started in 12 of 14 games for the Crimson Tide this fall, making 60 tackles and recording one in-

See **Select**, page A4



THE BACK SLOPE of Blue Heron Park in Newport Beach is the home of a butterfly garden.

Susan Hoffman

## Newport neighborhood celebrates butterflies and native habitats

BY SUSAN HOFFMAN

Blue Heron Park, located within the Newport Beach Eastbluff neighborhood development, was the site of a first-anniversary party celebration of its butterfly garden last Saturday.

"We were able to get the information out to the community about the importance of restoring natural plants," said Blue Heron Park committee chairman Nancy Kerr. "We want to bring back to California some of the species that are dwindling."

"As a result of the community support, the Eastbluff neighbors

and HOA we are able to continue to fund the expansion of the garden," she said.

The Eastbluff community partnered with the nonprofit Pollinator Protection Fund to plant native plants in Blue Heron Park in an effort to combat the decline of native butterflies, including monarchs, along with other pollinators. Among the butterfly-attractive plants are lilac verbena, milkweed, buckwheat, salvia and seaside daisies.

Eastbluff Park committee member Louise Upham lives

See **Habitats**, page A6

# THE COACH HOUSE

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SAT, MAY 4  
**STEVE TYRELL**



WED, MAY 8  
**JUDY COLLINS**



FRI, MAY 10  
**TOMMY TUTONE**



SAT, MAY 11  
**PAT BOONE**

- 5/3 OZZY vs AC/DC
- 5/4 STEVE TYRELL
- 5/5 OINGO BOINGO FORMER MEMBERS
- 5/7 BLUES TRAVELER
- 5/8 JUDY COLLINS
- 5/9 CALIFORNIA GUITAR TRIO
- 5/10 TOMMY TUTONE (FULL BAND) / WHEN IN ROME
- 5/11 PAT BOONE
- 5/15 MR BIG - THE BIG FINISH TOUR
- 5/17 JOHN CRUZ
- 5/18 VENICE
- 5/19 THE LETTERMEN
- 5/22 THE WAILERS
- 5/23 LISSIE
- 5/24 DSB (JOURNEY TRIBUTE)
- 5/25 IN THE AIR TONIGHT (PHIL COLLINS & GENESIS TRIBUTE)
- 5/26 BLACKHAWK
- 5/31 YACHTY BY NATURE
- 6/1 STEELHEART
- 6/2 CELEBRATING WHITNEY (WHITNEY HOUSTON TRIBUTE)
- 6/6 HOWIE DAY
- 6/7 ROBERT JON & THE WRECK
- 6/8 THE ENGLISH BEAT
- 6/9 GARY HOEY
- 6/14 AMBROSIA
- 6/15 CHEST FEVER (THE BAND TRIBUTE)
- 6/16 ELVIN BISHOP BIG FUN TRIO
- 6/21 DESPERADO (EAGLES TRIBUTE)
- 6/22 DESPERADO (EAGLES TRIBUTE)
- 6/23 JUSTIN HAYWARD VOICE OF THE MOODY BLUES
- 6/28 THE BACON BROTHERS
- 6/29 SKELETON CREW (GRATEFUL DEAD TRIBUTE)
- 7/3 IAN MOORE
- 7/5 WALTER MICHAELS BAND
- 7/6 SHINE ON (PINK FLOYD TRIBUTE)
- 7/12 YYNOT (RUSH TRIBUTE)
- 7/13 FAST TIMES - THE ULTIMATE 80s TRIBUTE!
- 7/14 THE CREAM OF CLAPTON BAND FEAT. WILL JOHNS & NOAH EAST



WED, MAY 15  
**MR. BIG**



FRI, MAY 17  
**JOHN CRUZ**



SAT, MAY 18  
**VENICE**



SUN, MAY 26  
**BLACKHAWK**

- 7/19 THE 5TH DIMENSION
- 7/20 Y&T 50TH ANNIVERSARY
- 7/26 KEN GARCIA
- 7/27 BOB SCHNEIDER
- 7/28 BOBBY GRAY
- 8/1 CASH'D OUT (JOHNNY CASH TRIBUTE)
- 8/2 BEACH BOY AL JARDINE
- 8/3 CUBENSIS (GRATEFUL DEAD TRIBUTE)
- 8/10 BEATLES VS STONES - A MUSICAL SHOWDOWN
- 8/17 PIANO MEN: GENERATIONS
- 8/23 SUPER DIAMOND (NEIL DIAMOND TRIBUTE)
- 8/24 SUPER DIAMOND (NEIL DIAMOND TRIBUTE)
- 8/27 TAB BENOIT & ANDERS OSBORNE WITH SPECIAL GUEST JD SIMO
- 8/29 THE PETTY BREAKERS (TOM PETTY TRIBUTE)
- 8/30 GLENN HUGHES - DEEP PURPLE SET - 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF BURN
- 8/31 MICK ADAMS & THE STONES
- 9/1 MIDGE URE
- 9/7 SOUTHERN ROCK THROWDOWN
- 9/8 AN EVENING WITH JOHN LYDON
- 9/12 GRAHAM BONNET PERFORMING RAINBOW, MSG & ALCATRAZZ
- 9/14 JOURNEY USA (JOURNEY TRIBUTE)
- 9/15 BENISE: FIESTA!
- 9/19 THE MAN IN BLACK (JOHNNY CASH TRIBUTE)
- 9/22 JANE MONHEIT
- 9/25 ANA POPOVIC
- 9/27 DAVE MASON
- 10/3 ZEBRA w/SPECIAL GUESTS FUZZBUBBLE
- 10/5 KIMBERLY PERRY (OF THE BAND PERRY)
- 10/10 HENRY KAPONO
- 10/11 HENRY KAPONO
- 10/16 JIMMIE VAUGHAN
- 10/18 GARY PUCKETT & THE UNION GAP
- 10/20 THE YOUNG DUBLINERS
- 11/8 COMMON SENSE
- 11/9 TYRONE WELLS
- 11/15 RONSTADT REVIVAL (LINDA RONSTADT TRIBUTE)
- 11/16 JOSHUA RADIN & RON POPE
- 11/23 RUFUS WAINWRIGHT
- 11/29 THE PLATTERS
- 11/30 LEE ROCKER OF THE STRAY CATS
- 12/4 LIVINGSTON TAYLOR & LOUDON WAINWRIGHT III
- 12/15 THE GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA - CHRISTMAS SHOW
- 12/29 L.A. GUNS
- 1/24 GENE LOVES JEZEBEL / BOW WOW WOW

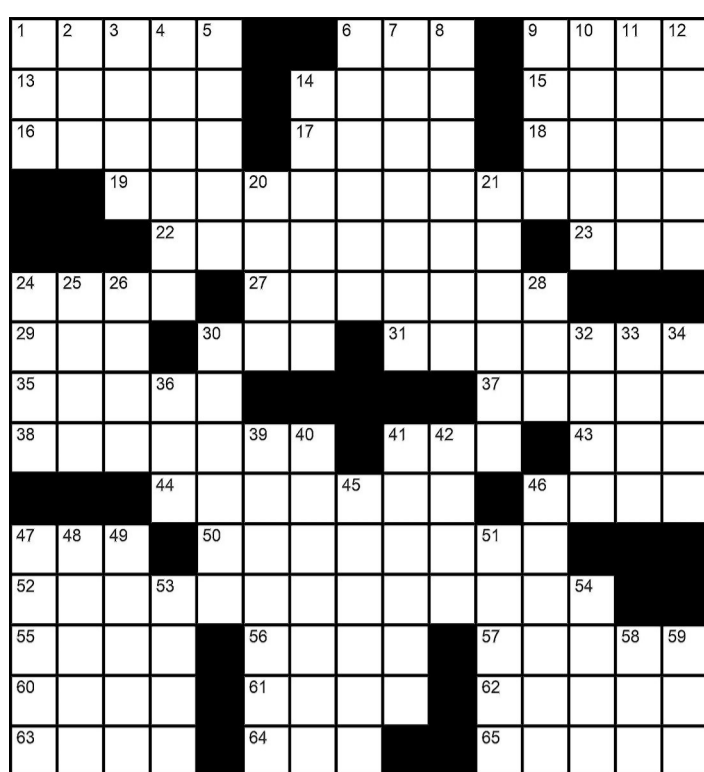
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## THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Mathews

### ACROSS

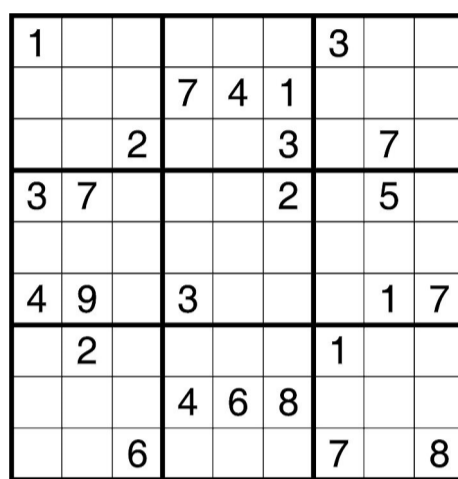
- 1 Painter Edgar
- 6 Typing speed meas.
- 9 Agricultural business
- 13 Use a broom
- 14 "Que \_ amigo?"
- 15 Potatoes in South Asian dishes
- 16 \_ cotta
- 17 Pizzazz
- 18 Like takeout orders: 2 wds.
- 19 Catchall category
- 22 Almond liqueur
- 23 Entry cost
- 24 Be hopping mad
- 27 Turns in for cash
- 29 Rowing implement
- 30 Blushing
- 31 Type in again
- 35 " \_ Line Is It Anyway?"
- 37 Still in the competition
- 38 Sleep aid brand
- 41 Rearward, on a ship
- 43 By way of
- 44 Clear plastic overlay
- 46 Raggedy Ann, e.g.
- 47 The L in UCLA
- 50 Everything there is
- 52 Monet's art style
- 55 "Felicity" star Russell
- 56 Jacob's twin
- 57 Get to
- 60 Shakespearean "wow!"
- 61 \_-Fontanne Theatre
- 62 Bert's "Sesame Street" pal
- 63 24-hour periods
- 64 Word of agreement
- 65 Water vapor



## 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 A6.

### DOWN

- 1 Clock change abbr.
- 2 She-sheep
- 3 Idea's beginning
- 4 Up in the sky
- 5 Involuntary muscle movement
- 6 Fortified like
- 7 Prayer book
- 8 Everglades mammal
- 9 Destiny
- 10 Standoffish
- 11 Rascal
- 12 Bullwinkle, e.g.
- 14 Looked closely

- 20 Attention
- 21 What vegetarian food has: 2 wds.
- 24 Cereal dish
- 25 Waikiki's island
- 26 Steel component
- 28 "Weekend Update" show, for short
- 30 Save from ruin
- 32 DVR brand
- 33 Dastardly
- 34 Not fake
- 36 Salty body of water
- 39 In a nervous way
- 40 Under discussion: 2 wds.
- 41 Patronized a restaurant: 2 wds.
- 42 Plant with fronds
- 45 Birds
- 46 Dry biome
- 47 Enjoyed
- 48 Last Greek letter
- 49 Aerosol output
- 51 Paddock dads
- 53 Gets free (of)
- 54 Horse's hair
- 58 Spy org.
- 59 Skirt edge

Tribune Media Services

# San Pedro man suspected of lighting trash bins on fire

BY LILLY NGUYEN

A San Pedro man was arrested last week on suspicion of arson after a number of residents reported trash bin fires in the early morning of April 25.

The Costa Mesa police and fire departments received multiple calls from individuals in the 3200 block of Iowa Street, the 3100 block of Country Club Drive and the 3200 block of Minnesota Avenue at around 1:45 a.m. on April 25. An unknown suspect was allegedly driving

through the neighborhoods and, sequentially, setting trash bins on fire, police said. Firefighters extinguished the flames, but authorities received another call at 6:50 a.m. reporting another trash bin had been set on fire in the 3100 block of College Avenue.

Residents had extinguished the latter blaze about 40 minutes prior, according to police.

Review of surveillance tapes and automated license plate readers led to Shaun Michael Cloonan, 45, as a suspect. CMPD offi-

cers arrested him the next day in San Pedro on charges of felony arson to property and two misdemeanor counts of drug-related offenses.

No court records as of Monday indicate if Cloonan remains in custody or if he has entered a plea. Costa Mesa police are asking for those with additional information to reach out to Det. Thomas Scott at (714) 754-5120 or [tscott@costamesa.ca.gov](mailto:tscott@costamesa.ca.gov).

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Twitter: @lillibirds

## STUDENTS

Continued from page A1

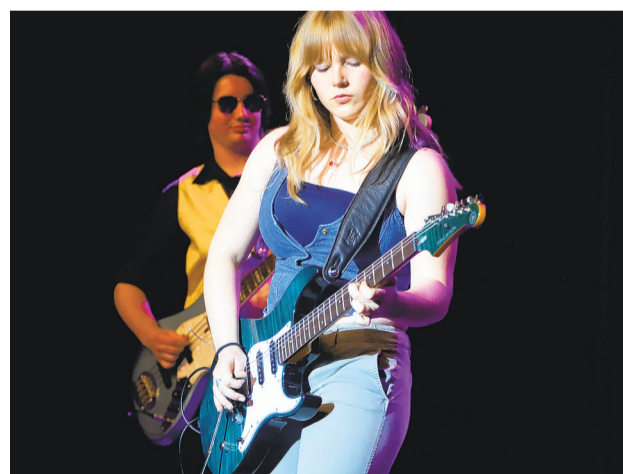
der but not give themselves away.

Styx, Journey, Donna Summer and the Doobie Brothers are just some of the other artists featured in the 150-minute show, which has an intermission.

"We landed on this year because we looked at our students and what they are into," MMET vocal director Nicole Kubis said. "They really like difficult music to play, and we thought this year had a lot that can challenge them. Very versatile. We cater toward our hard rock kids, our fusion kids, our classic rock kids. There's something for everybody."

The MMET students each formed bands that will have sets sprinkled throughout the show, Kubis said. Radio drops also set the mood, serving as intermissions between the songs.

"It was the beginning of different stations starting to develop a style or genre within the rock idiom — KLOS, KMET, KROQ, KHJ," MMET director Michael Simmons said. "There was rock, smooth jazz, tea cat rock, early punk, the beginnings of new wave and disco, plus country, all hitting and still crossing over. Genres and styles



James Carbone

AVA JOHNSON jams a guitar solo during Retrofest 197.8 rehearsal on Tuesday night.

were emerging, but they weren't yet kept in silos like they were a few years later."

Each band has also created an interpretation or presentation of one of the songs it is playing, which will be featured in the lobby for concertgoers to enjoy.

"We have a better understanding of what we're playing or singing, and everyone else does too," Huntington Beach High junior Courtney Springer said. "We get the back story of how they produced it, how they recorded it, who was involved ... it's good for people who aren't familiar with the songs."

Springer is singing lead vocals on "I Need to Know,"

by Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers. She said the energy around the Retrofest show is typically unmatched.

"I feel like it's the most important because it's the last show with our seniors," she said. "We all love this show. The songs, the energy and the fact that it's the seniors' last show, it just makes it the best."

Retrofest 197.8 has shows tonight and tomorrow night at 7 p.m., and Saturday at 1 and 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$25 for general admission and \$15 for students and seniors at [hbapa.org/see](http://hbapa.org/see).

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## ADVERTISEMENT



## CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

Dear Californians,

If you've been reading about real estate lately, you've no doubt heard about antitrust lawsuits and settlements by real estate brokerages and the National Association of REALTORS®. You've also heard about the settlements resulting in certain changes in how agents will be compensated for their work. Recent coverage by media entities, industry insiders and anyone with an opinion and a smartphone have offered up a mix of fact and fiction. All this noise has caused confusion, fear and, in some instances, panic about the process of buying and selling a home.

We thought it time to speak directly to you. We're California REALTORS®, and we know a thing or two about real estate. In fact, it's precisely because of our knowledge about the complexities of what is arguably the most important purchase people make in their lives that we want to say this first: It'll be okay. Yes, some real estate practices will change as a result of these settlements, but California REALTORS® know how to adapt to changing market realities. We always have. And, while we understand that uncertainty can be deeply unsettling, especially when there are few answers and many opinions, we know we'll figure it out together, as an industry and with our clients.

Here's the bottom line: The two major changes resulting from this litigation are 1. Properties listed in databases known as the multiple listing service (MLS) will no longer be allowed to include an offer of compensation to buyer's agents and 2. Homebuyers who want to work with an agent will need to sign a written agreement with that agent prior to touring a home. This means before you start your home search, you'll need to discuss and agree with your agent what the agent will do on your behalf, and you'll need to decide how much and how to pay that agent.

Of course, it's not that simple. How consumers work with agents in this new environment will need to work itself out, and there will be differing approaches between agents and their clients. Many in the industry, and we at the CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® (C.A.R.), are currently working on sorting through and articulating those new practices as quickly as possible. Moreover, in California, we have supported transparency with respect to how buyer's agents get compensated for more than two decades, since C.A.R. introduced its first buyer representation agreement in 1999. So, while the implementation of practice changes resulting from this settlement may be new, the spirit behind them is not — at least not in California. We're all for transparency because we believe it's in our clients' best interests and we know the value we bring to the transaction.

We're in this business because we believe in putting people not just in houses, but in homes. You may regard us as the organization that fights to protect homeowners' rights. That's true. But more likely, you know us because we're your neighbors. We live in the same communities as you. We volunteer alongside you at our kids' schools, we show up to serve at local civic and charitable organizations, and we sit on city councils to make our communities better. And while we're known as the neighborhood experts, we're also trained in all facets of a real estate transaction, meaning we know what it takes to successfully conduct a home purchase or sale. Our jobs are far more involved — and far less glamorous — than what you see on real estate "reality" shows. The truth is that real estate transactions are complicated. That's why we have to be well-versed in myriad financial and legal requirements in order to guide you through such a complex process. We negotiate on our buyers' behalf to get them the right home at the right price, and we help sellers determine the best listing price based on market and neighborhood fundamentals. We guide our clients through the nitty-gritty of home inspections and innumerable other details, and we support our clients through what can be a stressful time. We come to this job because we love putting people in homes. We stay in this job because we love working with our clients, who become our friends and neighbors.

As we've done for decades, through up markets and down markets, through periods of industry change, we will stand by our clients, serve our communities, and continue to do what we do best — work to create a future that enables homeownership for all who want it.

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