Daily Pilot

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2021 /// Now including Coastline Pilot and Huntington Beach Independent /// dailypilot.com



Photos by Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

EMILY ROWLEY of Camp Pendleton rides a "chair board" guided by instructor Rocky McKinnon, right, on Friday morning on the north side of Huntington Beach, in conjunction with McKinnon Surf and SUP Lesson, debuted the board for its adaptive surfing program.

'Chair board' debuts in H.B. adaptive surfing program

The surfboard for people with special needs was on display Friday in Huntington Beach.

BY MATT SZABO

espite overcast weather conditions, a broad smile lit up Rocky McKinnon's face Friday morning as he greeted others on the north side of the Huntington Beach Pier.

"This is a beautiful day," he told a group of



Woman found guilty in mask case

The San Juan Capistrano resident refused to wear a required face covering at Costa Mesa's Mother's Market in August 2020.

BY HANNAH FRY

Marianne Campbell Smith's defiance of mask rules didn't end at a Costa Mesa supermarket.

In an unusual move, Orange County prosecutors took her to trial.

On Wednesday, a jury found Smith, who is married to a sixthgeneration heir of the Irvine development family, guilty of misdemeanor trespassing and obstructing a business or its customers.

It was the first mask-related criminal conviction in a county known for its vocal minority of anti-maskers who have staged oceanfront protests and picketed government meetings during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The jury took roughly an hour Wednesday afternoon to decide the case, which not only focused on the rights of a private business to enforce its policies but also on whether Smith's refusal to wear a mask inside the store or leave was intended to interfere with and obstruct the business.

After the verdict was read, Judge John Zitny sentenced Smith to a \$200 fine, 40 hours of community service and a year of informal probation. Smith, who wore a plastic face shield in the courtroom, was also ordered to stay away from the market's Costa Mesa location for a year.

"I'm innocent," Smith said as she walked out of the courthouse. "Even though the verdict was guilty, I committed no crimes except to be able to breathe oxygen. I have a medical disability, and it was not honored at Mother's Mar-

people gathered to see his newest creation in action.

McKinnon, a local surfer, instructor and shaper, debuted his patent-pending "chair board" for use with the city's adaptive surfing program.

The 15-foot board, made of carbon fiber, is equipped with a race car driver's seat in the middle. This helps give those with mobility issues or cognitive function disabilities a chance to experience surfing.

On Friday, McKinnon went out to catch waves with Emily Rowley, 20. Rowley lives in Camp Pendleton and was born without any arms.

She said she first rode a chair board with McKinnon a couple of years ago at a Best Day Foundation event. But McKinnon said his model is different.

"It's like a step deck," he said. "Instead of being up on top of the board, six inches above, the chair is now seated down three

ROWLEY WALKS to the ocean with instructors, from left, Joe Samoa McMullin, Hendrix McKinnon, his father Rocky McKinnon and Brandon Bianchino as they prepare to ride a "chair board" on Friday.

inches into the board. It brings down that center of gravity."

With the help of McKinnon and three assistants, Rowley was able to ride a few waves. She said McKinnon has also helped her stand up on a surfboard before. "It was awesome," she said of Friday's experience. "Perfect waves. Even though they were a little rough, it was still awesome ... So far with Rocky, I've done a lot of things that I

See Board, page A4

Laguna Canyon's DeWitt Habitat Restoration Project a beneficiary of private donations

BY ANDREW TURNER

Overseers of the Laguna Canyon Creek restoration project gave an update on their progress this week.

The updates came as the Laguna Beach City Council voted to accept private donations in support of the DeWitt Habitat Restoration Project on Tuesday.

The Foundation for Sustainability and Innovation contributed \$2,800 toward the restorative efforts, and Laguna Greenbelt also donated \$2,200.

"One of the things that is so meaningful about the restoration of Laguna Canyon Creek is the fact that it was such a collaborative partnership between many different entities," Hallie Jones, executive director of Laguna Canyon Foundation, said in a phone interview on Thursday. "This \$5,000 donation is evidence of that."

The organizations involved with the habitat restoration have included Laguna Beach's water quality department, which secured a \$500,000 grant from the California Natural Resources Agency via the River Parkways



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

THE CITY RECENTLY accepted a couple of donations to assist with the DeWitt Habitat Restoration project on the five-acre property in Laguna Canyon. A trail adjacent to Laguna Canyon Road is shown.

grant program.

The city has also contributed funding in the amount of \$125,000.

"Their connection to this property is around Laguna Canyon Creek, which is one of the last soft-bottomed creeks left in

the city of Laguna Beach," Jones said.

See **Project,** page A4

See Mask, page A3

Housing element update on Newport agenda

The City Council will also be reviewing the 2020-21 budget at its meeting on Tuesday.

BY LILLY NGUYEN

The housing element update is returning to the Newport Beach City Council dais again for discussion on Tuesday, this time with comments from the state's housing and community development department.

The council will not be taking any action, but will be hearing comments from the state and city staff on their efforts to reconcile the draft housing element with the state.

Local jurisdictions are required to update their housing element every five or eight years. That element is included in each city's general plan, which is a governmental "blueprint" on how a city or county will grow and adapt in the years between updates.

According to the state agency, in order for the private market to adequately address the critical need for more housing, local governments must adopt plans and regulatory systems that provide opportunities for development.

As part of that, Newport officials will need to plan for the required growth of at least 4,845 housing

Orange County's COVID-19 hospitalizations tick down

BY CITY NEWS SERVICE

County's Orange COVID-19 hospitalization number dropped to under 200 patients Friday.

Hospitalizations declined from 200 Thursday to 190, with the number of intensive care unit patients increasing from 42 to 43, according to the Orange County Health Care Agency.

There were 175 hospitalized patients in the county on Monday.

The county had 20.5% of its ICU beds and 72% of its ventilators available as of Friday.

Hospitalizations had been rising following a steady downward slide since late last month.

As of Oct. 16, the countv's new case rate per 100,000 vaccinated residents was 2.7, down from 3.1 on Oct. 9.

The rate among unvaccinated residents dipped from 14.6 per 100,000 to 13.7.

The number of fully vaccinated residents in Orange County increased from 2,147,048 Oct. 14 to



Raul Roa | Staff Photographer

MEMORIALCARE Orange Coast Medical Center in Fountain Valley in January.

2,162,820 this week.

That includes an increase from 2,005,340 to 2,019,902 of residents who have received the twodose regimen of vaccines from Pfizer or Moderna. The number of residents receiving the one-dose Johnson & Johnson vacincreased from cine 141,708 to 142,918.

There are 190,068 residents who have received one dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines.

The top providers of vaccines are the OCHCA at 26.20%, CVS at 18.4%, Walgreens at 6.2%, Kaiser

Permanente at 5.4%, UC Irvine Health at 2.7%; Walmart at 1.9%, Safeway, Vons and Pavilions at 1.2%; Families Together of Orange County at 1.10%, and multiple others below 1%.

The county's overall weekly COVID case rate 100,000 residents, per which is released on Tuesdays, improved from 7 to 6.6 this week, while the testing-positivity rate fell from 2.7% to 2.5%.

The county's Health Equity Quartile positivity rate — which measures progress in low-income communities — dropped from 3% to 2.5%.

The county also reported 104 new infections and logged 12 more deaths Friday, raising the cumulative totals to 302,735 cases and 5,562 deaths since the pandemic began.

Of the deaths reported Friday, three occurred this month, raising the county's death toll for October to 15.

dailypilot@latimes.com Twitter: @TheDailyPilot

AROUND TOWN

Costa Mesa police to hold 'Prescription Drug Take Back' on Saturday

On Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Costa Mesa Police Department will participate in the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, by accepting expired, unused and unwanted prescription medications

CMPD encourages residents to participate in this event in order to ensure proper disposal of unwanted prescription drugs and eliminate the potential for misuse, abuse or accidental poisoning.

The following items will be accepted: prescription and over-the-counter medications, vitamins, supplements, pet medications and liquid medicine. The following items will not be accepted: needles and sharps, inhalers, illicit drugs, chemotherapy medication or mercury

thermometers.

The Costa Mesa police station is located at 99 Fair Drive. Needles and sharps may be disposed of at a dropbox outside Costa Mesa Sanitary District, 290 Paularino Ave.

"Onward" to be shown at Fountain Valley Sports Park on Saturday at dusk

There will be a movie in the park put on at Fountain Valley Sports Park, 16400 Brookhurst St. on Saturday, as the animated movie "Onward" will be shown at dusk.

Attendees are encouraged to dress up for Halloween and participate in trick-ortreating at booths that will be set up for the evening. There will also be games available to play.

— From staff reports

THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS

1"_ Goes the Weasel" 4 Drill instructor's order 9 "A Farewell to ;; Hemingway novel 13 _ about; go gaga over 14 Lithe 15 Kamala, for short 16 Out in the _; exposed 17 Think about again 19° _ none; without exception 20 Like school binder paper 21 Quick 22 Fragrance 24 Word with bull or stop 25 Remove from power 27 Tendons 30 Appliance department display 31 Pouting 33 Ram's mate 35 Cold and da 36 Monetary penalties 37 Tearful requ 38 TV's "The _ Couple'

39 Heap 40 Peeves 41 Real _; Cente 21's business 43 Powerful 44 Jolson & Un 45 Yellowstone grazer 46 Walk off wit 49 Mink's cousi 51 "Last one in's a rotten _!' 54 Bad cut 56 Pooch pest 57 Superior to 58 Man of the cloth 59 Camper's shelter 60 Takes the plunge

61 Cornered 62 20th-century president, for short



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.

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

DOWN 1 Dad 2 Blows the budget 3 Hotel freebie 4 Lance corporal, for one **5** Representative 6 Kellogg's _

measure 32 Five squared minus two dozen 34 Not complicated 36 Temper tantrums **37 Squealers** 39 Not as vivid in color 40 Hilarious person 42 Narrow candles 43 Made sounds of pain 45 Mary Tyler _ 46 Sluggish 47 _ at; greet from a distance 48 Frosted 49 Name in lights 50 Surfer's concern 52 Trait carrier 53 Gangster's gun 55 Tenement bldg. unit 56 1-800-Flowers competitor

23 Bop on the

25 Birdbrain

detection by

31 Odometer

26 Avoid

28 Rich

Chariot"

24 Baked goods

27 Earned a ticket

29 "Swing Low, __

head

Tribune Media Services

CREATE YOUR OWN SANCTUAR

7 Oaf 8 Clucker 9 Fly a plane 10 Cincinnati team 11 Bump into 12 Like a gymnast 13 Actor Morrow 18 Gleaming _ than ideal: 20 not the best Krispies

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WORD, PLEASE | JUNE CASAGRANDE When to use an apostrophe to form a plural, even though it seems wrong

hen it comes to apostrophes, there are a lot of do's and don'ts. The least-understood and most crucial of all is: Don't use an apostrophe to form a plural. One luau plus another luau is not two luau's. It's two luaus. One Roddenberry plus another Roddenberry do not make up the Roddenberry's. They're the Roddenberrys.

The same is true for decades. The period from 1980 to 1989 is not the 1980's. It's the 1980s. You can use an apostrophe to stand in for the dropped 1 and 9: '80s. But it's still wrong to write 80's.

Simple, right? If you read fast through the first sentence of this column, it can seem that way. But if you did a double-take on "do's and don'ts," you know that apostrophe rules are anything but simple.

"Do's" defies the rule because it uses an apostrophe to make a plural out of "do." Plus, this expression contains its own doublestandard: It uses an apostrophe to make "do's" plural, but it does not add an apostrophe to make "don'ts" plural.

Makes no sense. If we're following the rules, it should be "dos and don'ts." If we're going to defy the rules, we would have to make it "do's and don't's," with two apostrophes in "don't's," for consistency's sake, right?

Yes. If logic reigned supreme, we couldn't possibly use one rule for do's then another for don'ts. Yet I do. Why? Because this column conforms to Associated Press editing style, and in AP Style, that's the rule: do's and don'ts. Someone at AP decided years ago that this way is just easier on the eye. Publications that follow this style — that is, most print news outlets in the country — comply.

AP isn't the only sheriff in town. The Chicago Manual of Style, which book and magazine publishers tend to follow, disagrees. In Chicago style, it's "dos and don'ts." No extra apostrophe.

On other apostrophe matters, the stylebooks agree. For example: Dot your i's and cross your t's. Both AP and Chicago agree that you can toss out the no-apostrophes-for-plurals rule here. You can see why. Without an apostrophe, I plus S spells a word: is. The apostrophe is the only way to make clear you're talking about the letter.

Both style guides agree that when you're talking about a lowercase letter, you add an apostrophe to make it plural: x's and y's. It's the only way to make your meaning clear.

Capital letters are another matter. AP says to use apostrophes to make them plural: She got all A's, B's and C's.

The Chicago Manual is a little fuzzier on this matter, but you can use those apostrophes in Chicago style, too, if you think they help the reader understand you don't mean the word "as" or the abbreviation BS.

In AP, multiple-letter combos like ABC and IOU don't get the same treatment as single letters like A and B. To make the combos plural, don't use an apostrophe: ABCs, IOUs.

You don't have to memorize all these rules. No one will think you're dumb for choosing "dos and don'ts" or "do's and don'ts." Your reader probably doesn't know the rules either. Nor will your reader judge you for how you write letter grades. If you write that Bobby got B's and C's on his report card, you'll be no worse off than if you write it Bs and Cs.

If you don't want to worry about complicated rules and competing styles, this simple guideline should get you through most situations: Never use an apostrophe to form a plural unless you think it will help your reader.

JUNE CASAGRANDE is the author of "The Joy of Syntax: A Simple Guide to All the Grammar You Know You Should Know." She can be reached at JuneTCN@ aolcom.

NEWPORT

Continued from page A1

units, per the Southern California Assn. of Governments, which assigns the Regional Housing Needs Assessment numbers for Orange, Los Angeles and four other Southern California counties.

Newport Beach is joined by nearly half of the cities in Orange County that have objected to the exponential growth expected over the next decade, but all appeals of the numbers have failed.

To date, there have been five such housing element update "cycles," according to the state department's website.

The next such update was supposed to have been adopted by Oct. 15, but the state also provided a 120-day grace period. That means that Newport Beach technically has until about Feb. 22 of next year to complete the process without facing any penalties.

The city submitted the element for review in August.

2020-21 BUDGET TO BE REVIEWED

The City Council will also be receiving a preliminary report on the revenues, expenditures and estimated fund balance for the fourth quarter of the last fiscal year, which ended in June.

City staff said revenues appear to be higher and ex-



proach to masks and other COVID-19 regulations, advising people to follow the rules rather than citing them.

MASK

In Costa Mesa, face coverings have been required in public since April 2020.

A Costa Mesa bar owner is the only other person in the county to be criminally charged with flouting COVID restrictions. That case was dismissed in August.

Assistant Dist. Atty. Susan Price told jurors in a closing statement that Smith entered the market with the intention of being disruptive.

Price pointed to surveillance video showing Smith inside the busy market waving at antimask protesters gathered outside.

"This is a case about a woman and her friends trying to make a point, trying to get some attention," Price said.

Smith, 57, a registered nurse from San Juan Capistrano, is the wife of Morton Irvine Smith, a member of the Irvine family which once



Google

MARIANNE CAMPBELL SMITH was found guilty of trespassing and obstructing a business for not wearing a mask and refusing to leave Mother's Market near the Triangle Square during an anti-mask protest on Aug. 15, 2020.

entered Mother's Market.

Smith's attorney, Frederick Fascenelli, said his client was attempting to buy chips and a salad when she was followed by store employees and a security guard who told her to put on a mask or leave.

She explained that she had a medical condition that prevented her from wearing a mask, he said.

Price told jurors Wednesday that employees offered to shop for Smith, but she declined and refused to leave the store despite multiple requests.

Video played in court showed Smith carrying a sign under her arm that read "Healthy people do not wear masks" on one side and "Economic Health = Public Health" on the other.

she left \$5 near the register, the footage shows.

At the same time, protesters began moving toward the store's entrance, prompting employees to

close the door. Prosecutors allege in a court filing that Smith harassed an elderly customer, telling him, "You don't have

to be scared. It's all a lie." When officers arrived, they asked Smith if she was "doing this for her cause." She replied, "Yes, but also for our freedom," according

to the filing. A video posted on social media showed police leading Sterling — who wore a skirt with "Trump" written across it — and Smith out of the store through a crowd of protesters.

Some held signs that read, "Keep your politics off our faces" and "My body my choice." Others yelled that the officers were "fascists" and chanted "let her go."

Smith's husband was seen in the video speaking to officers while holding a large American flag.

A man held a speaker blasting a guitar-heavy version of the Star Spangled Banner as the two women were led into an unmarked police van.

Sterling, 56, of Laguna Beach, was also charged in the incident and pleaded no contest to an infraction as part of a plea deal. She was ordered to make a \$50 donation to a COVID response fund for nurses, according to Orange County Superior Court records.

Price said Wednesday that prosecutors offered Smith a deal where she would do community service without having to plead guilty to any crime. She declined.

The case was not about masks but trespassing, prosecutors argued.

"The defendant wanted to make this about masks and freedom. This trial was about a private business and workers just trying to comply with health orders," Dist. Atty. Todd Spitzer said in a statement read during sentencing. "As the D.A., we protected private property rights. Nothing more."

But Fascenelli said the charges filed against his client didn't match what transpired inside the store.

"This thing is all political," Fascenelli told jurors. "If Mrs. Smith wouldn't wear a mask, then charge her with that crime."

HANNAH FRY writes for the Los Angeles Times.



penditures lower than anticipated when the budget was being developed in April 2020 and the report acknowledges the impacts of the pandemic, the state's subsequent reopening in June and the Delta variant of the coronavirus that causes COVID-19.

Both property tax and sales tax came in higher than expected, but the transient occupancy tax — also known as the hotel tax — was the most severely impacted revenue stream for the city.

The council will be considering city staff's recommendation to allocate \$31 million in surplus funds to be put toward the city's annual unfunded liability contribution to CalPERS; facilities and infrastructure replacement liabilities within the Facilities Financing Plan and Harbor & Beaches Master Plan; and the city's capital improvement plan and neighborhood enhancements.

They will also be considering the allocation of \$10.1 million from the American Rescue Plan Act funds to the capital improvement program for the upcoming budget process for the next fiscal year.

lilly.nguyen@latimes.com Twitter: @lillibirds owned much of Orange County.

Prosecutors allege that Marianne Smith was attending a rally to protest mask mandates on Aug. 15, 2020, when she and two other women

Smith and a second woman, Jennifer Marie Sterling, walked to the checkout line. Employees refused to serve Smith, so

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CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS



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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2021

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

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A4

PRO SOCCER O.C. Soccer Club clinches playoff spot

BY ANDREW TURNER

IRVINE — In the past week, Orange County Soccer Club has played like a team whose season was on the line.

County Orange has scored just three goals over its past three matches, but thanks to its play on the defensive end, the side continued to position itself well in the Pacific Division of the United Soccer League Championship.

Eric Calvillo scored off a free kick in the first half, Orange County and clinched a playoff spot with a 1-0 win over the San Diego Loyal on Wednesday at Championship Soccer Stadium in Irvine.

Orange County (13-10-7, 46 points) is on a threegame winning streak, with all three matches being won by the same final score. The most recent result was particularly consequential.

With the win, Orange County is just one point behind San Diego (14-11-5, 47 points) for second place in the Pacific Division. The team that finishes in that spot would receive a home game in the first round of the playoffs.



Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

ORANGE COUNTY Soccer Club's Eric Calvillo, center, celebrates after scoring a goal on a free kick in the first half against San Diego at Championship Soccer Stadium in Irvine on Wednesday.

Orange County also claimed the season series over San Diego, posting a 2-1-1 record across those four contests.

While San Diego dominated possession, it was Orange County that was able to break the deadlock in the 26th minute after Ronaldo Damus drew a foul on Collin Martin at the top of the box.

Calvillo stepped up to the free kick and bent it in-

side the left post to convert the opportunity.

"Obviously, people want to play great soccer and play possession-wise and building up and scoring goals," Calvillo said. "But at the end of the day, the only thing that matters is who puts the ball in the back of the net and ends up winning the game."

Later in the half, Damus came streaking into the attacking third on a counterattack, drawing a yellow card on Elijah Martin at the edge of the box. This time, Diego goalkeeper San Austin Guerrero (four saves) was equal to the task.

Orange County coach Richard Chaplow was left wondering why the play did not result in a penalty kick or a red card.

"I think if that goes our way, it's a different game, but ultimately, we did what we had to do," Chaplow said. "We stayed compact, we stayed organized defensively, and listen, the game is not always a perfect game, and people have to learn and understand that.'

Orange County, which started a back line of Kevin Alston, Michael Orozco, Kobi Henry and Brent Richards, did not concede a goal for the third consecutive match.

Midfielder Tommy Mc-Cabe also made a sliding tackle in the box to deny a centering feed in the 76th minute, and he was able to clear a goal-line cross by Charlie Adams in the 82nd minute.

San Diego had dangerous chances late, including a bid by Augustine Williams swinging his right leg through an aerial cross from Corey Hertzog in the 85th minute.

Williams put his hands on his head in disbelief when Orange County goalkeeper Patrick Rakovsky (four saves) made the grab without leaving a rebound. With its playoff spot secured, Rakovsky said Orange County will have to

remain sharp if it wants to have a chance to host a game in the postseason.

Orange County has two games remaining — versus Las Vegas Lights FC (6-21-3, 21 points) on Saturday, then at L.A. Galaxy II (11-13-6, 39 points) on Oct. 30.

"Let's go into that [Las Vegas match], win it, and then we have one week until Galaxy," Rakovsky said. "Let's see what the situation is then, and then every game is a knockout game."

The game had intrigue into stoppage time. Callum Montgomery got onto the end of an Adams corner kick in the final seconds, but his header landed in the arms of Rakovsky once more.

"We wanted to win the game, but I'm very proud of the way that we go to a team that is high in the standings and we basically play like the home team, and we dominate the game all over the field," San Diego coach Landon Donovan said.

"It's tough to lose on a great goal by Calvillo, but I'm really proud of our group, and they can all hold their heads high. They were the team that tried to play tonight."

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PROJECT

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"Obviously, what ends up flowing into that creek ends up flowing into the ocean, so the Department of Water Quality has a real interest in preserving and protecting Laguna Canyon Creek

Bob Borthwick of BGB

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Design Group, a Costa Mesa-based landscape architectural firm, provided a presentation that demonstrated the improvements made to the property.

A wildflower meadow has been installed. It is not currently in bloom, but the soil has been seeded and should be flush with wildflowers in the springtime.

Interpretive signage was also installed between the contiguous projects known as the Laguna Canvon Creek restoration and the Michael and Tricia Berns Canyon Preserve.

The signs provide educational elements for those

Legal Notices

walking along the paths surrounding the DeWitt property habitat, which spans roughly five acres between the Sun Valley neighborhood and El Toro Road.

The panels provide a history of the area and inform the visitor of how the vegetation and wildlife on site work together to create a fully functioning habitat. To that end, new trees have been planted, and they are encased in cones that protect the seedlings from rabbits and other rodents to give them a chance to grow. Jones said remedial planting and weed management are part of regular maintenance.



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Removal costs and damages which may be compensated include removal costs performed in accordance with the National Contingency Plan; damage to natural resources; damage to or loss of real or personal property; loss of subsistence use of natural resources; loss of government revenues; loss of profits and earnings capacity; and increased cost of public services. Claims should be in writing, signed by the claimant, for a specified amount; and should include all evidence to support the claim.

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Office hours are from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM PT, Monday through Friday, except holidays. Claimants may call 1-866-985-8366 for information.

Any claims which are denied or which are not settled within 90 days after the date of submission to our claims representative may be submitted to:

Director National Pollution Funds Center (Ca) US COAST GUARD STOP 7605 2703 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR AVE SE WASHINGTON, DC 20593-7605

Additionally, a physical barrier was put up along the street-facing portion of the property.

"If you remember, the edge of Laguna Canyon Road in this section had a lot of illegal dumping that was done over the last few decades by contractors, and so we ended up re-

BOARD

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never thought I would do."

Kim Carr and former City

Councilman Patrick Bren-

den also attended Friday's

event. Brenden is a mem-

ber of the Kiwanis Club of

Huntington Beach, which

he said helped with fund-

ing for the chair board as

Huntington Beach Mayor



INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE has been added as part of the DeWitt Habitat Restoration project.

moving tons and tons of junk and debris," Borthwick said. "One of the first things we did after the debris removal was to install a

fence that will be a permanent fence along the length of the project because we felt this would give ... a visual identity [to the project],

as you drove along the canyon." andrew.turner@latimes.com

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well as a beach wheelchair. Carr said it's hard to say no to the ideas of McKinnon, who has a contract with the city to provide surfing lessons.

"You really are breaking ground here, and setting the standard for other cities to emulate," she said to McKinnon.

"I'm so grateful to have someone like you in our community, doing such

amazing work. We've been talking all year about being a more inclusive community. It's one thing to talk about it, but it's another thing to actually have the programs in place to be inclusive. With your help, we're able to do that."

The event was held at the shore end of the city's first "Mobi-Mat," which debuted in May at 6th Street. Another Mobi-Mat, de-



Councilwoman Natalie Moser said the city provided funding for the first two Mobi-Mats, and funding from an anonymous donor and nonprofit Warriors With Hope will allow for two additional mats.

So the city has made it easier for those with special needs to not only get to the ocean, but now also to ride waves once you're there. McKinnon wouldn't have it any other way.

"If you have the desire, I will make it happen," McKinnon said. "That's what I want people to understand. If you have the desire to get in the ocean and ride waves, I will find a way to do it."

He said he also offers an outrigger surf canoe and SUP boards up to 14 feet long.

"I try, at least in my world, to show that the ocean is this beautiful, healing place. We can challenge ourselves and face our fears, but also put a smile on your face and enjoy yourself and get good exercise. It's so key for your physical health and mental health. I'm just trying to put smiles on people's faces. That's what I feel my mission is, my purpose is, to share my passion with others."

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