

Meet some of the women who have been military trail blazers in Coronado's backyard



Concetta Denisi, Emily Stellflug and Katie Kidder, the women of VRM-50. Staff photo by Madeline Yang.

NAVAL AIR STATION NORTH ISLAND

The Women of Squadron VRM-50

By **MADLINE YANG**
The Coronado News

Three women sit in the Commanding Officer's office for the Fleet Logistics Multi-Mission Squadron (VRM) 50 based on Naval Air Station North Island.

They are among the 47 women who serve in the 242-personnel squadron. That's about 19% of the staff or just shy of the overall figure (20%) for women serving in the U.S. Navy, according to the Department of Defense.

The numbers clearly indicate they compose a minority in a military branch that has deep roots and ties to Coronado. Yet, these women – and others in VRM-50 – are in many ways trail blazers.

In wide-ranging interviews with The Coronado News, they said that despite the progress they have made of climbing through the ranks or just staying in the military has not been easy. But, they love serving their country, and they hope some of the personal challenges they have faced will come to an end as other women look to serve in the Navy.

Sitting in the middle is Commander Emily Stellflug. With her brown hair neatly pulled back in a bun, her sharp features come into view. She sits straight and tall in her chair, her hands folded neatly in her lap. To her right is Concetta Denisi, a Naval Aircrewman, a reticent smile

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CORONADO HIGH

Administrator may receive \$168K to resign after images controversy

By **JULIETA SOTO**
The Coronado News

The Coronado Unified School District as part of a settlement could pay up to \$168,512 to Shane Bavis, a high school assistant principal who agreed to resign after students were sent "inappropriate" material to their smartphones on May 24.

The school board on Sept. 6 approved a six-page "resignation and release agreement" with Bavis, according to documents released to The Coronado News under the state's public records law.

Efforts by The Coronado News to reach Bavis and his attorney via cell phone and email correspondence were unsuccessful. However, the settlement says Bavis maintains "his complete innocence."

The agreement allows Bavis to remain on paid administrative leave with benefits until June 30, 2024, and it calls for him to receive a \$42,128 lump-sum payment equal to four months salary by Sept. 30. The lump-sum payment would indicate his annual salary is \$126,384.

Meanwhile, the Coronado Police Department continues to conduct a criminal investigation into the matter.

Records obtained by The Coronado News show the department had launched a "possible child pornography" investigation stemming from students receiving a "photo/image" of a district employee that came from an online dating app and was sent to numerous smartphones by students to other underage peers.

Other records show the incident was a student-to-student transmission, but it's unclear how the students obtained the photo/image of Bavis.

The pictures of a shirtless Bavis had the caption "Chill & Packing," students and parents told the newspaper.

The settlement agreement states there was no admission of fault and/or liability by either party for any purpose. It also said Bavis "has maintained his complete innocence."



Shane Bavis

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Cookie for a handshake: How Tiffany Lewis built her business

By **SOFIE FRANSEN**
The Coronado News

Tiffany Lewis, who spent her summers growing up in Coronado, discovered the power of a cookie in the middle of a frozen Ohio winter.

A cookie is all things warm—nostalgia, familiarity and joy.

It encapsulates all of the feelings Lewis longed for after moving to a new state during the peak of winter for a corporate marketing job at Chase Bank without knowing a single soul.

To not yield to the cold and loneliness, Lewis, who years later founded "Cookies With Tiffany" in Seattle, quickly realized that she needed to create community.

So, she turned to something she loved doing—baking. The idea was a cookie for a handshake.

Every time Lewis baked, she brought cookies to work, and sent out an email to her team to grab one at her desk.

"That is how I developed and started

my entire community, simply through sharing something homemade and delicious," Lewis said. "That cookie broke down borders and barriers."

Two years later in 2010, Lewis left the banking world on the verge of a promotion, and moved back to California (where she originally went to college at Chapman University) to go to culinary school at Le Cordon Bleu in Pasadena.

"[Baking] wasn't every week, but it was often enough to remember it and to really pinpoint that as what made me realize the power of food and how I wanted to make a career out of it," Lewis said.

Lewis launched "Cookies With Tiffany" in 2021 after 11 years of experience in the culinary industry. And in just a short time, Lewis has secured a Major League Baseball team as one her growing list of clients.

She worked on celebrity chef Curtis Stone's culinary team, freelanced for

» Continued on Page 8



Tiffany Lewis founded "Cookies With Tiffany" in Seattle. She grew up spending her summers in Coronado. Photo courtesy of Theodora Teodosiadis.

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★ ★ ★ **INSIDE THIS ISSUE** ★ ★ ★

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this week

15 • friday

Renowned author and lecturer George Galdorisi will be updating his presentation on artificial intelligence, to include his outlook on AI for defense and commercial implementation from 9 to 11 a.m. in the Winn Room at the Coronado Public Library.

16 • saturday

Come sing with others in the community to celebrate the launch of the Library's "Sit a Spell, Play a Tune" upright piano decorated with the art of Michael Ives at 1 p.m. Lyrics will be provided.

17 • wednesday

Hospitality and business managers are invited to a "Business Meet Up," from 4 to 6 p.m. at Nicky Rottens Bar & Burger Joint, 100 Orange Ave. A team of leaders will discuss how to increase customers, attract and retain employees, improve profitability and avoid insurance mistakes. Several sponsors, including Group Benefit Partners, are hosting the event.

Student of the Week will return soon!

CONTACT US

For news tips, story submissions and letters to the editor, contact Editor Craig Harris at craig@thecoronadonews.com or 619-539-9738

To advertise contact Ad Executive Braeden Stegman at braeden@thecoronadonews.com

CORONADO LOVE LETTER

Coronado High grad unlocks untouched industry of franchise investing

By **SOFIE FRANSEN**
The Coronado News

Kenny Rose, a Coronado High School grad, has spent a decade helping individuals navigate the world of franchise investment.

The 33-year-old recently founded Chicago-based FranShares allowing anyone access to the world of franchise investing for as little as \$500.

And he said his idea is the first of its kind, and it's gaining traction.

Rose said almost 42,000 investors are on the waitlist and over 200 million deals have come inbound to FranShares.

In March, Teriyaki Madness, a chain of restaurants in at least 36 states, entered into a \$12 million partnership with FranShares, which already has partnerships with more than 500 franchise brands across the country.

FranShares, backed by Chicago Ventures, opens the door to an entirely new asset class for retail investors by unlocking franchising as



Kenny Rose is the founder and CEO of FranShares. He is a Coronado High grad. Photo courtesy of Kenny Rose.

a form of alternative investing.

The industry of franchise investing was previously untouched by most investors, since historically, a \$100,000 minimum investment was required.

With FranShares, anyone can invest in franchises to generate passive

income with just \$500, Rose says.

Rose says his franchising expertise has reached an audience of over 500 million people, and he's a contributing writer for Forbes

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PET OF THE WEEK

After storm, Hilary wants a home

Coronado News staff

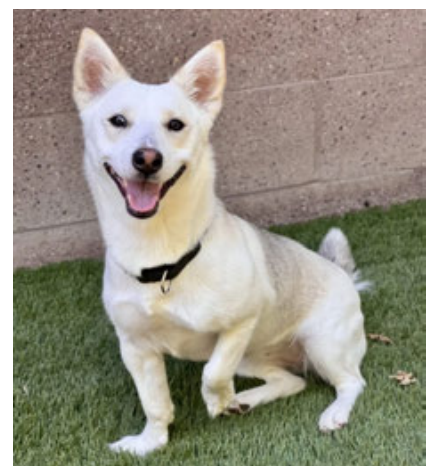
Meet Hilary, a pint-sized Husky who came into the care of PAWS of Coronado during Tropical Storm Hilary.

She's living in a foster home with two dogs and two cats — and is becoming fast friends with all of them.

Little Hilary loves people too, and she's ready for any adventure you can throw her way.

Are you looking for a hiking buddy? Check! Snuggle buddy? Check! All around sweet girl? Check! Hilary has it all! Apply at PAWS for your newest pal.

All the animals at PAWS are spayed/neutered, microchipped, vaccinated, and up to date on flea preventative. Adoptions are by appointment ONLY. If you are interested in adopting Hilary or other animals, please visit www.pawsof-coronado.org



Meet Hilary, who got her dubious name from the most recent storm. Courtesy of PAWS of Coronado.

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OPINION

OP-ED

Where are the Democrats in the ongoing Tijuana River sewage crisis?

By CAROLYN ROGERSON

On Sept. 1, a rally was held at Coronado's Central Beach to call attention to the ocean water contamination due to continued sewage spills from Tijuana.

Imperial Beach has been dramatically impacted by this sewage crisis for decades and Coronado has suffered ocean water contamination at an increased rate these past several years.

Where were the Democrat Gov. Gavin Newsom and Lt. Gov. Eleni Kounalakis? Where was Democrat state Sen. Toni Atkins representing Coronado in the 39th District? Where was Democrat Assemblyman Chris Ward, representing Imperial Beach District 39? Where was Democrat Tasha Boerner, 77th District including Coronado? Where was California Environmental Protection Agency Secretary Amelia Yana Garcia Gonzalez?

Where have the many Democrats representing Imperial Beach and Coronado been for over 25 years?

Can anyone let us know how many bills seeking funds to address this Tijuana River Valley pollution crisis these Democrats passed in the California state Legislature? Plenty of bills taking away your rights to local control have been passed by Democrats. Appropriation of funds to protect the health of you and your children just aren't available.

In 2017, the Coronado City Council voted to adopt a diplomatic approach to deal with the Tijuana



Children personally affected by the sewage pollution bring signs to urge action on Sept. 1. Photo courtesy of Sofie Fransen.

River Valley Contaminated Sewage Water overflows.

A bi-partisan Coronado delegation led by Mayor Richard Bailey and

then Councilman Whitney Benzian traveled to Washington, D.C. several times in 2019 to lobby Congress and call attention to the decades long Ti-

juana River sewage pollution crisis.

Because Coronado did not join any of the several lawsuits filed in 2018 by San Diego, Imperial Beach and the Surfrider Foundation, Mayor Bailey and Councilman Benzian were able to speak directly to federal EPA, U.S Border Patrol, USBWC and a number of Trump Administration officials.

Once lawyers are involved, you've created a legal adversary rather than a partner with shared goals.

Before the April 2020 scheduled lawsuits could be heard in federal court in Washington D.C., Congress appropriated \$300 million that's now waiting to be spent on clean up. Diplomacy worked.

Gov. Newsom has never visited the polluted Tijuana River site at the border. He has denied requested funding to help with cleanup of the area. Newsom came close to the border area when he popped down to San Diego for a photo op just before Hurricane Hilary was to strike southern San Diego.

The tax paying citizens of Imperial Beach and Coronado who wrote thousands of letters over the years begging for help dealing with Tijuana River Valley pollution just don't seem to be that important to Gov. Newsom, his administration and the various Democrats who have represented these cities. Remember that when the next election comes around.

Carolyn Rogerson is a Coronado resident.

A governor for (all) the people?

By MITCHELL D. MCKAY

Gov. Gavin Newsom, with his oft-times uniquely arrogant and self-righteous governing style, continues to deny the City of Imperial Beach (and its adjacent neighbors to the north - City of Coronado) an in-person audience to fully grasp the breadth of the decades old trans-boundary sewage issues with Mexico.

Since the Winter of 2017, the local situation has become an undeniable international crisis and textbook example of extreme environmental injustice.

While the governor often attempts to portray himself as "a man of the people," he does so at the expense of the 27,000-plus residents in the state's most southwesterly city, which shares a tumultuously polluted border with Baja California and the now infamous Tijuana River Valley.

Since October 2018, more than 150 billion gallons of Mexican effluent have passed unabated onto American soil and then on the short traverse to the Pacific Ocean and onto local community beaches.

Newsom must know that we are continually suffering the consequences and impacts of this decades-old inequity and still refuses to make the necessary decision to visit this perennial impacted zone of toxic Mexican sewage, including industrial and medical waste, pesticides, polluted stormwater and the human biological waste of much of Tijuana's 2.2 million population. (Tijuana does not have separated sewer and stormwater systems as in the U.S.)

In fact, the governor was in the San Diego area as recently as Aug. 19, meeting with San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria regarding Tropical Storm Hilary regional preparations

But did he even set aside an hour or two to visit this long-struggling beach community and display some decisive leadership - leadership he hopes to carry him to a White House nomination in 2028? Bureaucratic crickets.

While we recognize this situation is certainly complex and even Sisyphean in scope, we have no higher power in this state to appeal to for immediate help and resolve than the governor's office.

Thousands of pleas have been made, many letters penned, supplications given and yet nothing but more indecisive cricket chirps from the Halls of Sacramento.

Recently, U.S. Sen. Alex Padilla's office recommended an additional \$350 million be allocated to this pending EPA effort. However, this amount does not include any specific wastewater reclamation infrastructure monies to reduce

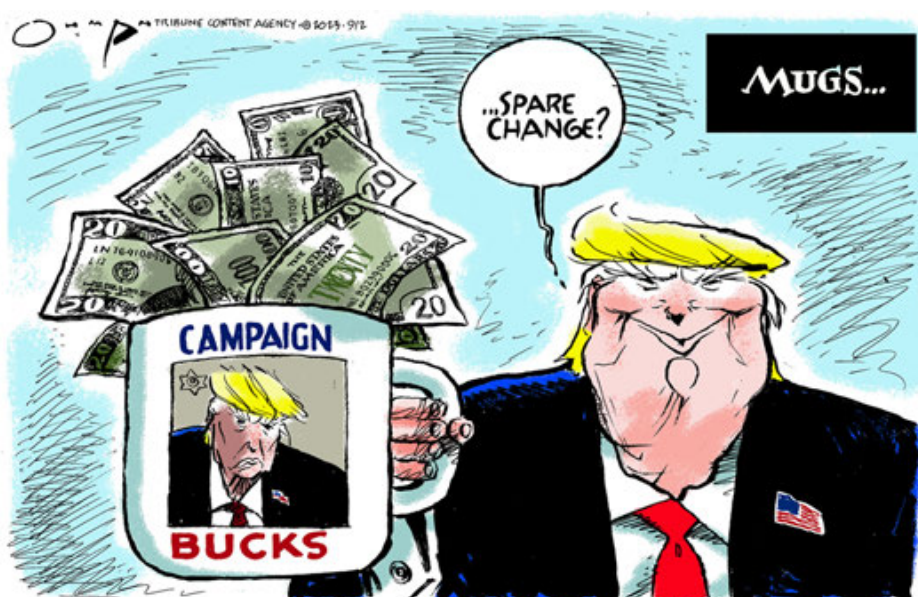
the overall amount of secondarily treated effluent being planned (up to 100 million gallons daily) to be transported through the South Bay Ocean Outfall and into the local Ocean waters.

Finally, the Mayor of Imperial Beach - Paloma Aguirre, along with the full City Council continues to request that the governor and his team pay a visit to our small, beachfront community and afford himself the clear opportunity to openly demonstrate the core values that he claims to embody - that of representing all the people of the great State of California.

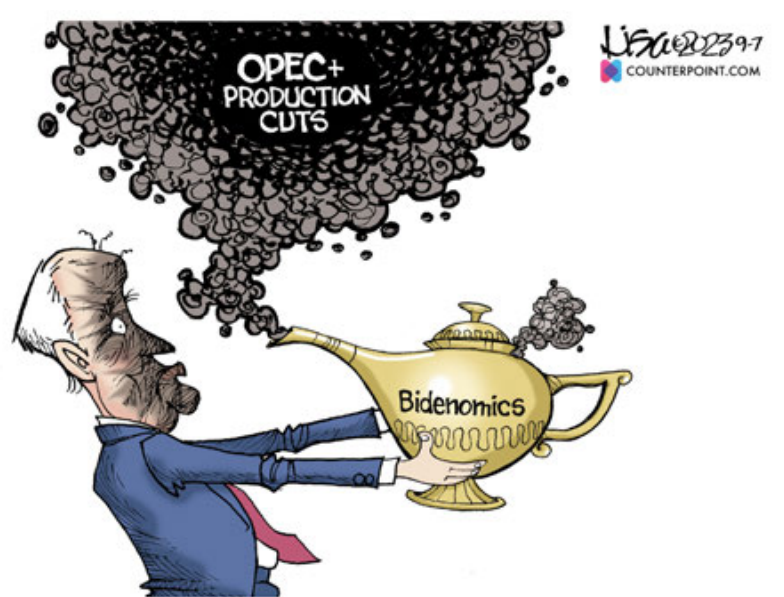
Imperial Beach's request is sincere, yet uncompromising!

Mitchell D. McKay is a California native since 1958 and an Imperial Beach resident since 1985. McKay says this Op-Ed is in his personal capacity, and does not represent the City of Imperial Beach.

The Coronado News accepts Op-Eds and Letters to the Editor. Please send them to Editor Craig Harris at craig@thecoronadonews.com.



JACK OHMAN



LISA BENSON

CORONADO



A rendering of The Bower, Coronado's newest luxury hotel set to open in fall 2024 across the street from the Hotel del Coronado on Orange Avenue. Photo courtesy of J Street Space.

Bower luxury hotel to open in fall 2024

By **MADELINE YANG**
The Coronado News

San Diego-based J Street Space has announced Coronado's newest luxury lifestyle hotel, The Bower, which will have its grand opening in fall 2024.

Formerly known as the longstanding motel, Villa Capri by the Sea, J Street Space and Delawie Architecture have worked together to create a space that honors its roots of Villa Capri's storied past, while creating a new and elevated design that offers an upscale and relaxed atmosphere for both locals and visitors, hotel officials said.

The site's history as a garden will be woven into the new interior and architectural design features, with an attention to detail for the little

things, hotel officials said.

Sitting at the heart of Coronado at 1417 Orange Ave., the boutique hotel will have 39 rooms, a lobby lounge, cafe and a rooftop restaurant and bar that boasts 270 degrees of unobstructed views.

The name Bower comes from the property's history as one of greater San Diego's original Japanese Tea Gardens.

Initially owned by John D. Spreckels, the lush and leafy space on the Spreckels Mansion property was his personal tea garden that he eventually transformed into a traditional Japanese Tea Garden for Coronado to enjoy.

The designers have encapsulated the definition of the word "bower" – a peaceful, shaded escape under trees or climbing plants in a garden

or wood, by incorporating landscaping, arches and vines into the hotel's design.

The Bower's space is an aesthetic that is inspired by the natural Japanese concept of wabi sabi where beauty is found in imperfection, hotel officials said.

"We are honored to be a part of this property's next chapter for Coronado Island, a destination known for its history, beautiful beaches, and quintessential small-town charm," said Saj Hansji, president of J Street Space.

"The Bower Hotel will be a destination in itself. As a 10-year resident of Coronado, the hope is to expand the hospitality options on the island, offering a gathering place to be enjoyed by the local community as much as hotel guests."

USS Midway Museum honors Phil Swartz

The Coronado News

Coronado resident Phil Swartz was recently awarded as USS Midway Museum Volunteer of the Month for July.

Swartz is one of the Midway's outstanding docents, and he joined the team in 2010 and quickly became a DOW (Docent of the Watch), building a strong team, well-staffed with more than 30 docents, according to the museum. He also serves on the Midway Outreach team on occasion, representing the museum at off-site events.

Swartz's remarkable leadership skills reflect his impressive military and civilian careers. He is a retired captain and was a Naval Aviator flying S-3s among several other aircraft including T-34, T-2, A-4, S-3A, C-9B, MD-80, B-757, B-767. He made 250 carrier landings while in the service.

In 1978, he served on the carrier USS Enterprise with Sea Control squadron VS-38, also known as the Red Griffins, flying S-3A Vikings.

When Swartz retired from military service, he became an airline pilot, and is now retired.

In addition to his generous volunteer service aboard Midway, he is also a member of RSVP Patrol, a volunteer force that supports the Coronado Police Department and the Highway Patrol.



Phil Swartz



First responders line up during a remembrance service on Sept. 11 to honor the tragedy that took place on the same date in 2001. Photo submitted by Cynthia Kosciuczyk.

Coronado first responders remember Sept. 11 anniversary

America as we knew it stopped on September 11, 2001. It forever changed the world, time slowed down, planes stopped, and the country suddenly became aware of the impact of terrorism.

Coronado Public Safety members on Sept. 11 gathered in front of the Fire Department's Station 36 to pay tribute to those who lost their lives on that day.

It's an event that has occurred since 2002.

During the 20-minute ceremony, flags were set on Orange Avenue, while the first responders and community members gathered.

— Submitted by Cynthia Kosciuczyk.

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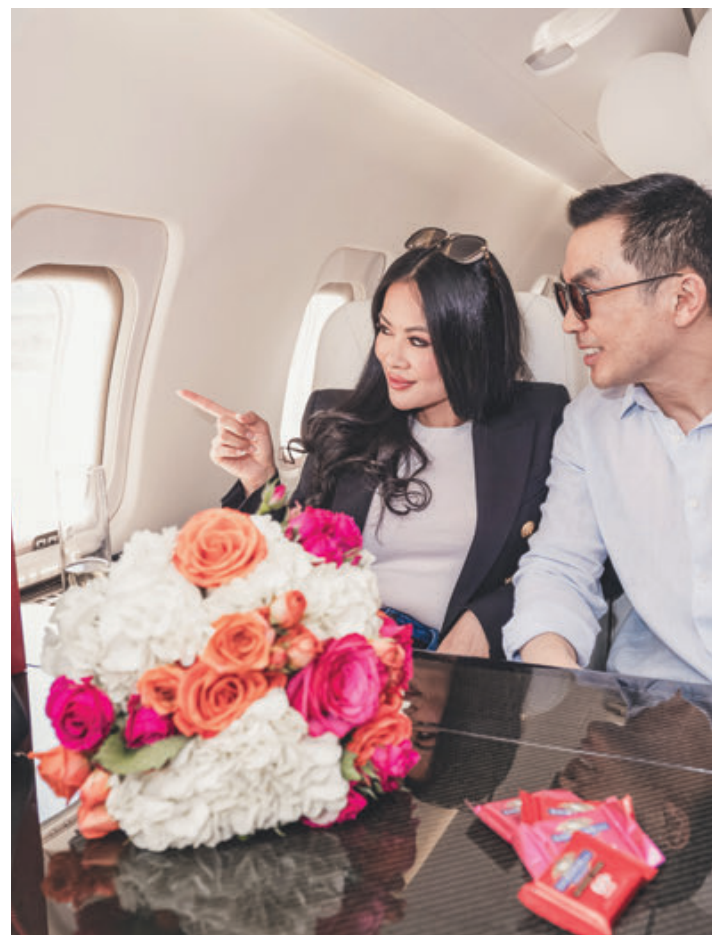


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CORONADO

Council OKs \$600K electric mini shuttle pilot program

By **MADLINE YANG**
The Coronado News

The Coronado City Council on Sept. 5 approved a \$600,000 electric mini shuttle pilot program, and the Tijuana sewage crisis that recently attracted hundreds of protesters on the community's central beach was a major topic of discussion.

The electric shuttle pilot program originally was brought to the attention of council on February 21 by Councilmember John Duncan with Circuit, a company designed to provide eco-friendly and low-cost accessible rides.

Circuit currently operates in multiple neighborhoods of San Diego as a pre-approved vendor with SANDAG's flexible fleet program.

This pilot program would have a six-month period starting in early 2024 and would run from Thursday to Sunday. It will run 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Thursday and Friday and from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. on weekends.

Circuit projects that the service would result in around 50,000 trips in six months with a total cost of just over \$600,000.

There would be three different vehicles used.

One would be similar to a golf cart, which can hold up to five passengers. Another would be a car such as a Tesla, Kia or Hyundai that can hold up to four passengers. And there would be a van that holds up to 15 passengers.

All vehicles would be electric, with two of them having configurations for individuals with disabilities.

It would provide door-to-door service through Coronado with stops down the Silver Strand for the Cays neighborhood.

"From staff's perspective, the anticipated benefits are reducing the amount of vehicle trips on the roads, the resulting improvements in air



City Council Meeting on Sept. 9. Staff photo by Madeline Yang.

quality, reduced parking demands and reduced greenhouse gas emissions," said Community Development Director Richard Grunow.

Four council members agreed to approve the pilot program, stating that it would be helpful especially with parking challenges in Coronado. Mayor Richard Bailey opposed this program.

Councilwoman Carrie Anne Downey, meanwhile, vouched for its ADA arrangements, and other council members said it was worth the money.

"I think our residents would be supportive of their tax dollars giving them this opportunity to get from where they live, 10 blocks away, to their destination on Orange Avenue," said Councilmember Casey Tanaka. "So, I think this is something that for \$100,000 a month, I'm willing to give it a shot."

However, Mayor Richard Bailey disagreed, saying that the rideshare app Uber could work just as well to get around town without having to spend \$600,000 worth of taxpayer money on the program.

"I find myself struggling to support this program, because I'm not sure what problem we're trying to solve. Of all the problems presented here, there seem to be much more viable alternatives," Bailey said, pulling up Uber on his phone to demonstrate the accessibility of cars already on the road to get individuals around the city.

Also discussed was the ongoing sewage issue between Tijuana and San Diego.

Duncan mentioned that both California U.S. Sens. Dianne Feinstein and Alex Padilla, who he said had

"I think this is something that for \$100,000 a month, I'm willing to give it a shot."

Councilmember Casey Tanaka

been relatively quiet about the sewage issue, "came out demanding for the remainder of the (federal) funding," for construction projects slated to stop the tens of millions of gallons of raw sewage flowing from Tijuana into the Pacific Ocean.

Duncan also noted that the senators supported a, "a supplemental bill" for additional funding.

Duncan also applauded Friday's Stop the Sewage rally for its efforts in continuing to be vocal about this problem.

"I'm very proud of the work with Imperial Beach and Coronado together to keep the pressure on all levels of government to move this forward," Duncan said. "I really do think we're at a tipping point...and everybody is focusing on this issue now, so it's always incredible to see everyone come together."

The recent rally, moves by California's U.S. senators and collaboration between Coronado and Imperial Beach have come after The Coronado News earlier this year did a five-part investigation on the sewage crisis.

The newspaper found that nearly 100 years of broken promises by U.S. and Mexican officials have resulted in an environmental crisis that has hurt the economies of Coronado and Imperial Beach while sickening locals, tourists, U.S. Border Patrol agents and Navy SEALs.

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Fast food workers and their supporters march past the state Capitol in Sacramento in 2022. Most fast food workers in California would get a \$20 minimum wage under a new bill introduced in the state Legislature on Monday, Sept. 11, 2023. The bill represents an agreement between labor unions and the fast food industry.

AP Photo/Rich Pedroncelli, File

Fast food and health care workers poised to win major salary increases

The Associated Press

SACRAMENTO — Nearly 1 million California workers are poised to win major salary increases after labor unions flexed their collective muscle in the state's Democratic-led Legislature on Sept. 11 following a summer of high-profile strikes in the entertainment and hospitality industries.

Most of the state's 500,000 fast food workers would be paid at least \$20 per hour next year under a new bill aimed at ending a standoff between the industry and labor unions over wages and working conditions. About 455,000 health care workers — not doctors and nurses, but the people who do everything else at hospitals, dialysis clinics and other facilities — will see their salaries rise to at least \$25 per hour over the next 10 years in a separate bill.

Both proposals must first pass the state Legislature and be signed into law by Gov. Gavin Newsom. But the proposals have the blessing of both labor unions and industry groups, clearing the path for passage this week before lawmakers adjourn for the year.

An added bonus for voters: The November 2024 ballot will be a little less crowded. The fast food industry has agreed to withdraw its referendum on a fast food law that Newsom signed last year.

The bills, both introduced Sept. 11, are just some of the impressive run of results for labor unions in the state Legislature this year.

Also on Sept. 11, the state Assembly voted to advance a proposal to give striking workers unemployment benefits — a policy change that

could eventually benefit Hollywood actors and writers and Los Angeles-area hotel workers who have been on strike for much of this year.

"I think fast food cooks and cashiers have fundamentally changed the politics of wages in this country and have reshaped what working people believe is possible when they join together and take on corporate power and systemic racism," said Mary Kay Henry, international president of the Service Employees International Union.

California's minimum wage is already among the highest in the country at \$15.50 per hour.

The fast food bill would increase that minimum wage to \$20 per hour for workers at restaurants in California that have at least 60 locations nationwide — with an exception for restaurants that make and sell their own bread, like Panera Bread.

The bill will affect about 500,000 fast food workers in California, according to the Service Employees International Union, which has been working to unionize fast food workers in the state. They include Ingrid Vilorio, who works at a Jack In The Box in the San Francisco Bay Area. She said the raise will help her family, who until recently was sharing a house with two other families to afford rent.

"A lot of us (in the fast-food industry) have to have two jobs to make ends meet. This will give us some breathing space," said Vilorio, who also works as a nanny.

The \$20 hourly wage would be a starting point. The nine-member Fast Food Council, which would include representatives from the restaurant industry and labor, would have the power to increase that minimum

wage each year by up to 3.5% or the change in the U.S. consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical workers, whichever is lower.

The wage increase for health care workers is more complicated. Their salaries will rise gradually over the next decade, depending on where they work. Workers for large health care facilities and dialysis clinics will see their pay jump to at least \$23 per hour next year, increasing to \$25 per hour by 2026. Workers at rural hospitals with lots of Medicaid patients would have their salaries increase to at least \$18 per hour next year, with 3.5% increases each year until it reaches \$25 per hour in 2033.

Workers at community clinics will see their salaries rise to at least \$21 per hour in 2024 before peaking at \$25 per hour in 2027. Salaries at all other covered health care facilities will increase to at least \$21 per hour next year before reaching \$25 per hour by 2028.

"Everyone in the healthcare sector understands that we have a workforce crisis, and that wages are the essential prerequisite for any solution," said Tia Orr, executive director of the Service Employees International Union-California. "With this increase, more workers will join and stay in the healthcare workforce, and as a result Californians will be safer and better cared for."

It's unusual, but not unprecedented, for states to have minimum wages for specific industries. Minnesota lawmakers created a council to set wages for nursing home workers. In 2021, Colorado announced a \$15 minimum wage for direct care workers in home and community-based services.

New iPhones get better cameras, new charging ports

The Associated Press

CUPERTINO — Apple on Sept. 12 unveiled its next generation of iPhones — a line-up that will boast better cameras, faster processors, a new charging system and a price hike for the fanciest model.

The showcase at Apple's headquarters in Cupertino, comes as the company tries to reverse a mild slump that has seen its sales drop from last year in three consecutive quarters. The malaise is a key reason Apple's stock price has dipped by nearly 10% since mid-July, dropping the company's market value below the \$3 trillion threshold it reached for the first time earlier this summer.

Apple added enough new bells and whistles to the top-of-the line model — the iPhone 15 Pro Max — to boost its price by \$100, or 9%, from last year's version to \$1,200.

Apple is holding the line on prices for rest of the line-up, with the basic iPhone 15 selling for \$800, the iPhone 15 Plus for \$900 and the iPhone 15 Pro for \$1,000. All the new models will be available in stores Sept. 22, with pre-orders beginning today.

One of the biggest changes that Apple announced is a new way to charge the iPhone 15 models and future generations. The company is switching over to the USB-C standard that is already widely used on many devices, including its Mac computers and many of its iPads. Apple is being forced to phase out the Lightning port cables it rolled out in 2012 because of a mandate that European regulators plan to impose in 2024.

Although consumers often don't like change, the transition to USB-C ports may not be that inconvenient. That's because the standard is already widely used on a range of computers, smartphones and other devices people already own. The shift to USB-C may even be a popular move since that standard typically charges devices more quickly and also offers faster data transfer speeds.

The iPhone 15 Pro and Pro Max also will be equipped with what Apple maintains is the equivalent of seven camera lens. They will include periscope-style telephoto lens that will improve the quality of photos taken from far distances.



The iPhone 15 Pro is shown after its introduction on the Apple campus on Sept. 12, in Cupertino.

AP Photo/Jeff Chiu

TKO Group — home to WWE and UFC — begins trading on NYSE



The logo for World Wrestling Entertainment, WWE, appears above a trading post on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange in 2019. Shares of TKO Group, the new company that houses WWE and UFC, opened at \$102 per share in their first day of trading on Sept. 12. AP Photo/Richard Drew

The Associated Press

Shares of TKO Group, the new company that houses WWE and UFC, opened at \$102 per share in their first day of trading on the New York Stock Exchange on Sept. 12.

Endeavor Group Holdings Inc. has closed its previously announced deal with World Wrestling Entertainment Inc. The pairing of WWE with the company that runs Ultimate Fighting Championship creates a \$21.4 billion sports entertainment company.

In a presentation after the deal was announced in April, the WWE and Endeavor said that they will cross-promote to drive brand awareness and deepen penetration of their overlapping fan base of more than 700 million UFC fans and 1.2 billion WWE fans worldwide.

Endeavor has a 51% controlling interest in the new company. Existing

WWE shareholders hold a 49% stake.

"With UFC and WWE under one roof, we will provide unrivaled experiences for more than a billion passionate fans worldwide," Ariel Emanuel, CEO of Endeavor and TKO Group, said in a statement.

Jefferies analyst Randal Konik likes the combination of UFC and WWE.

"We like the assets of UFC and WWE in a world where linear TV is losing market share to streaming, thus live sports content is in high demand," he wrote in a note to clients. "The upcoming rights expirations for both WWE and UFC present meaningful upside opportunities to the cash flows of both UFC and WWE in their own rights and will further drive EBITDA margins in each franchise incrementally higher."

TKO Group Holdings Inc. is trading on the NYSE under the "TKO" ticker symbol.

Cookie for a handshake: How Tiffany Lewis

» Continued from Page 1

other celebrity chefs like Giada De Laurentiis, worked for the Food Network, taught cooking classes at Sur La Table and started “The Table Together.”

Her professional training in the culinary industry, plus years of experience in the marketing world, gave her the dynamic experience necessary to start a business straight from the heart.

“Cookies With Tiffany” aims to create an emotional connection between the nostalgia of a cookie and the ones receiving it through every small, scratch-made detail, Lewis said, adding she developed all of her own cookie recipes.

Through all of Lewis’s career switches and moves, she said Coronado has remained a constant.

It is a place she claims is nostalgic, since she grew up spending her summers on the island.

Her parents have a place in Coronado, so Lewis would visit in the summers and she would visit on long weekends throughout her college years and time working in the culinary industry.

In June, the family celebrated the 51st wedding anniversary of her parents in Coronado.

“I’ve moved around quite a bit,” Lewis said. “It doesn’t matter where I am in the world, where I am in the country, Coronado is that safe space that is just so familiar and so wonderful in so many ways.”

She considers Coronado her second home and remembers taking swimming classes at the public pool, tennis lessons at The Shores, riding bikes to Imperial Beach and spending every Sunday in Spreckels Park for the Concert in the Park.

Lewis also said her family is an integral part of her journey with “Cookies With Tiffany.”

She started developing recipes during the pandemic in her parents’ house, enlisting them as taste-testers and using their Kitchenaid.



“Cookies With Tiffany” aims to create an emotional connection for customers. Photo courtesy of Emily Moller.

“They are such an important part of the brand because they’ve been there from the very get-go and the ideation of it,” Lewis said. “They were the ones that...believed in me and didn’t pres-

sure me to follow maybe a traditional role of corporate America.”

To this day, Lewis’s dad, Tom, has a desk in their office in the production kitchen in Seattle. He stamps bags,

“It doesn’t matter where I am in the world, where I am in the country, Coronado is that safe space that is just so familiar and so wonderful in so many ways.”

Tiffany Lewis

cuts ribbons for packaging and helps with deliveries to one of her top clients: the Seattle Mariners.

Lewis said such intricate attention to detail is what sets the company apart.

“Everything we do and everything my team does is just top of the line because we really want our customers to have a great experience,” Lewis said. “We obsess over our customers, we obsess over our cookies, and we obsess over the whole experience.”

The company’s motto is: “Every day is a good day for a cookie.”

While that line rings true universally, these cookies are not your universal, run-of-the mill recipes, she said.

Every egg is hand cracked, every batch handmade, all dough scratch-made daily, she said.

The packaging is pristine, personalized to each customer’s needs, with the option to choose a ribbon color that is individually cut by Lewis’s dad.

Lewis said that if customers provide her with any marketing material, she will include it in the packaging as well and there is also an option to include a personalized note.

Lewis doesn’t have investors. She was behind every penny from the beginning, recalling how she saved up for her first big purchase to drive the company and got an oven.

“It would have been really easy if

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someone gave me a couple hundred thousand, but I had to work for everything, and I think that's what also made us so successful," Lewis said. "I believe so much in what we're doing."

Another integral part of Lewis's journey was the help of Voula's Off-shore Cafe, a family diner in Seattle started in 1984 that was featured on "Diners, Drive-ins and Dives" in 2007.

Lewis used their kitchen after hours when she was starting out, and now has a production space above the diner.

Sikey Vlahos, co-owner of Voula's with his brother Niko, remembers the day that Lewis could barely sit up at the bar stool, since her family has frequented the diner for years.

"We've known the family for a very, very long time," Vlahos said. "They've

become part of our family."

Vlahos has seen the growth of the company from the beginning.

He said he remembers helping Lewis's dad assemble a shelving unit to store all of her new containers and utensils.

"She really knows what she's doing. I mean, I really admire how quickly everything has grown. I look back at where she started, and it was just a 12-foot stainless steel counter downstairs in our kitchen," Vlahos said. "Today she has gosh, I couldn't tell you how many linear feet of counter space.. upstairs. I just take my hat off to her persistence."

And, Lewis said she is looking to expand further, with her eyes set on adding another location in California.

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Tiffany's dad, Tom, with the company's sweatshirt on outside the Hotel del Coronado.

Photo courtesy of Lewis.

Administrator may receive \$168k to resign after images controversy

» Continued from Page 1

Records show police were investigating at least 34 possible crimes including sexual exploitation of a minor with "masturbation for the purpose of sexual stimulation for the viewer," and sending or selling obscene matter depicting a minor.

The police blacked out the name of the suspect as well as other identifying information, such as the person's address, height, weight, age range and home phone number from the May 24 report provided to The Coronado News.

That report also blacked out the name of the reporting party and witness to the incident.

Other records show police were investigating to determine if another person in the images was a minor, when the video was recorded and whether it was recorded with permission.

The other person in the video was not a Coronado High School student, records indicate.

Bavis served as the assistant principal at Coronado High School beginning in the 2021 school year until the events that unfolded at the high school in late May.

He joined Coronado Unified after prior work in Orange County as an educator with more than 20 years of experience, according to media reports.

The board on Sept. 6 met for about a half hour in executive session before voting 4-0 to approve the settlement with Bavis.

Trustee Whitney Antrim was unable to join the special meeting and Board President Renee Cavanaugh and Vice President Scot Youngblood joined remotely.

Human Resources Director Donna Tripi and Bavis signed the agreement

on Aug. 29, records show.

Among the 27 agreements in the settlement was that Coronado High School Principal Karin Mellina would issue a staff email that said: "Mr. Bavis has decided not to return as Assistant Principal at Coronado High School. We thank him for his past service and ask that you respect his privacy as he moves on to the next chapter of his life."

"The agreement resolves a personnel matter that began on May 24, 2023," the district said in a written statement. "Coronado High School currently has a fully staffed administrative team with the support of an interim assistant principal. The district will immediately begin the search for a permanent assistant principal."

The district also said it will not comment on any ongoing law enforcement investigation.

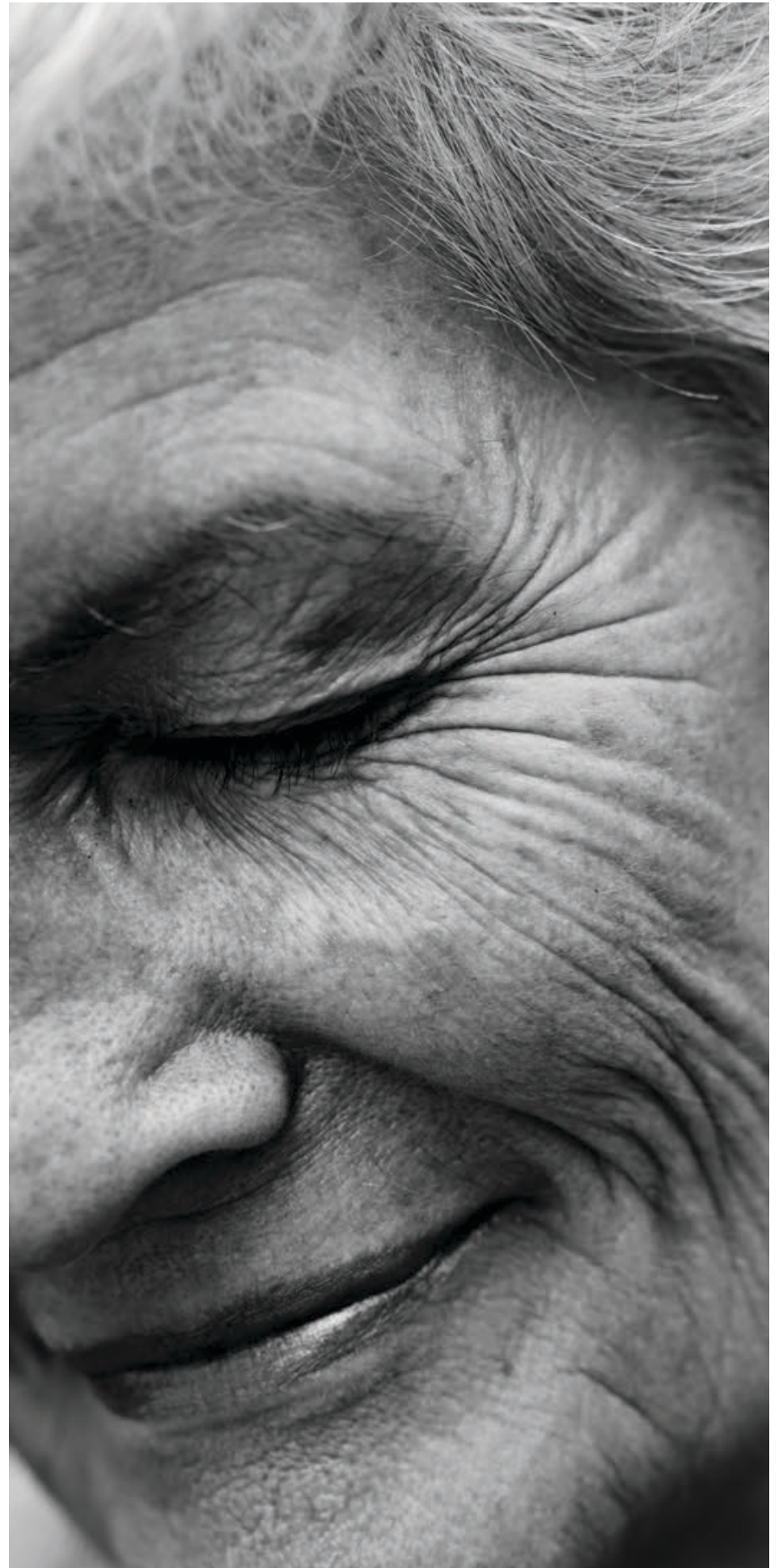
Coronado Police Public Information Officer Lea Corbin said the agency's investigation remains ongoing and there were no "updates at this time."

Initially, the district refused to disclose that it was Bavis who had resigned.

Instead, the district blacked out his name in the original settlement given to The Coronado News, and a board member only referred to him as his employee identification number during the brief public meeting.

The district eventually released the name of Bavis following a request from Felix Tinkov, a California Public Records Act specialist and attorney for The Coronado News.

The district and city also initially denied the release of numerous public records to the newspaper this summer. But the government entities reversed course following legal demands from Tinkov.



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*Data: U.S. Department of Justice.



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NAVY

THE WOMEN OF SQUADRON VRM-50

» Continued from Page 1

playing on her lips. To her left is Katie Kidder, a Navy Pilot. They all have on dark green jumpsuits, various patches strewn throughout the fabric.

These women work on an aircraft known as the CMV-22B Osprey.

A tiltrotor military aircraft, the Osprey has both vertical takeoff and landing and short takeoff and landing capabilities, meaning it is designed to combine the functionality of a conventional helicopter with the performance of a plane.

The Osprey was originally used and handled by the United States Marine Corps, and it wasn't until 2020 that the United States Navy received their own modified variant of the Osprey that was specific to their mission requirements.

And it wasn't until October of 2022 that the VRM-50 Squadron was established on North Island.

As Commanding Officer of VRM-50, Stellflug's mission with the squadron is to train pilots and aircrewmembers, who are then sent to VRM 30 and VRM 40 to conduct actual assignments.

"[VRM-50] is kind of a schoolhouse where we give them about 70 hours in the Osprey to make sure that they're safe, so when they go to VRM 30, they can do missions," Stellflug says.

Stellflug graduated from the Naval Academy in 2005 before getting her wings in 2007.

Since then, she's flown in combat missions out of Udairi, Kuwait and Iraq, among other assignments, accumulating over 3,200 flight hours.

Despite her accomplishments and almost two decades in the military, Stellflug was no stranger to the experiences of being a woman in a male dominated field.

"The Naval Academy, at the time, I would say was not a very good environment for women, at least in my experience," Stellflug says, mentioning that joining the fleet after was actually a better environment.

Stellflug, Denisi and Kidder all exchange knowing looks as they go around the table sharing their stories of experiencing stereotypes placed on them.

This is really the first time these women have been able to talk so truthfully to a news outlet about what it means to be a woman in the Navy, according to Public Affairs Officer Joash Ward who sat in on the interview, and the energy in the room was evident.

There's something about being able to share experiences, knowing that those in the room will understand and not immediately move to judge or question.

Kidder had a different experience at the Naval Academy when she attended in 2009, saying that she felt welcomed in her company despite women only taking up 21% of the entire class. However, she did eventually face her own struggles when she joined the women's ice hockey team.

"At the time, they wouldn't give us a locker room, they wouldn't give us transportation to and from the rink. They supported us zero percent," Kidder explains.



ABOVE: Concetta Denisi, Emily Stellflug and Katie Kidder, some of the women of VRM-50, in front of their aircraft, the CMV-22B Osprey.



LEFT: VRM-50's Commanding Officer, Emily Stellflug.

Staff photos by Madeline Yang.

Now, the women in the room feel that their environment has changed for the better.

"I think that the Navy has come a long way...I think that women are starting to find communities that are inclusive. There are still some communities struggling with that, and you can see it in their retention," Stellflug says.

Kidder agrees, saying that it very much depends on where a woman will go within the military.

"Here, it's great. We have great role models, great leadership that really set the standard for inclusiveness," says Kidder.

Inclusiveness is important for women in this male dominated field, and it also extends to the LGBTQIA community.

"I talk about language a fair amount, inclusive language. People will default to he/him pronouns when talking about something abstract," Stellflug says, reminding her personnel that 'they' works just as well.

"Same thing with being gay. I'm not shy about it, I'm not ashamed. But, you know, when someone is like, 'Oh, what does your husband do?' It's just a constant 'Oh, my wife is a nurse,'" says Stellflug. "People have heteronormative ideas...It's not the 'Wives Club' it's the 'Spouses Club.'"

However, Stellflug feels that the Navy has been receptive and respectful towards her and the LGBTQIA community.

"When we trained on the [Osprey], VRM-50 didn't exist. So, we went to train with the Marines...and it really

The Academy eventually gave them some form of a locker room, she said.

But, she said, it was under the bleachers, and there was no ceiling.

"So, if people are in the bleachers, they can totally look into our locker room," Kidder says.

Despite the known hardships of being on a women's sports team, Kidder didn't feel those divides with her peers at the Academy.

"It was not without its challenges, but my classmates and my company were all really awesome and we're all still friends today," Kidder says.

When moving on to flight school, Kidder faced more issues with her flight instructor.

"I had male instructors that would refuse to go on cross-country flights with me because they didn't want their wives to think anything," says Kidder, who was then unable to go on those training flights and had to fly locally, but eventually had to search for a flight instructor who was willing to do those flights with her.

For Denisi, she was not even able to pursue what she originally planned to do, back in 2008.

"I would've joined the Air Force for parajumper, but it was males only at

the time...You couldn't join the Navy SEALs or SWCC," Denisi says, adding she had to move on with her research when she realized she couldn't pursue certain avenues within the military as a woman.

When she was finally able to find a route that she wanted to do, she was faced with comments that mistook her persistence as another character trait with a more negative connotation.

"There are times that I've pressed and I've pressed, and then I lose my cool and then I'm a bitch," Denisi says.

She explains that she was a bit older when she started new missions and so didn't put up with comments as much, but having the experience she's had and women around was still important.

"You don't run into too many females, so when you do it's, like, 'Hey, here's support' and everything else and hope they all turn out good," says Denisi.

Kidder says that her factual assertiveness is often mistaken for emotional anger.

"It can be quite frustrating," Kidder says. "So, I make it a point every time I am assertive...to be very objective and make as much of a push to remove any kind of emotion from the room."

Kate Kidder's career is steered by passion, determination

By MAYA SCIARRETTA
and MADELINE YANG
The Coronado News

At age 32, Kate Kidder is one of two women Pilot Instructors in the VRM-50 Squadron at Naval Air Station North Island in Coronado.

While three women are training to join her, Kidder operates in a field that is still largely dominated by men though Commanding Officer Emily Stellflug leads the squadron.

"I didn't know I [as a woman] could become a pilot until I got to the Naval Academy. So that was pretty cool. When I was training and got to fly in the back of the helo (helicopter), I was like, 'Yeah, this is what I want to do forever.'"

And now, Kidder is not only flying, but is teaching a healthy to achieve that goal, as well as building the squadron's culture in positive ways.

"When I was training and got to fly in the back of the helo (helicopter), I was like, 'Yeah, this is what I want to do forever.'"

"I do think that we've been able to really set a standard for the culture of the community because we are basically training everybody that goes out to the rest of the community," said Kidder.

Although Kidder is able to lead by example now as a pilot instructor, she had a different experience to undergo to obtain her instructor qualifications. She was pregnant. And the Navy fully supported her during her pregnancy, she said.

"The Navy provided me a specialty maternity



VRM-50 pilot instructor Katie Kidder.

Staff photo by Madeline Yang.

» Continued on Page 12



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NAVY

Concetta Denisi is the only female Naval Aircrewman in VRM-50



Naval Aircrewman Concetta Denisi. Staff photo by Madeline Yang.

By **MADLINE YANG**
The Coronado News

She was the only one with experience. She had done this so many times on a different plane. But, she was on a new aircraft now, and it was a new playing field. But she knew what she had to do, and she did it.

Concetta Denisi is the only female Naval Aircrewman that's part of Fleet Logistics Multi Mission Squadron (VRM) 50 based on Naval Air Station North Island in Coronado. Denisi and a few other women from the squadron shared their stories of success — and perseverance — in exclusive interviews with The Coronado News.

Her squadron wanted to conduct airdrops out of the CMV-22 Osprey, a new aircraft that no one really quite knew how to operate, she said. "There were too many cooks in the kitchen, no one knew what was going on," Denisi said. "Finally I was, like, 'I got this.' It's a simple evolution, let me see."

She had done airdrops similar to this on her previous aircraft, the C-2 Greyhound, and immediately got started on figuring out how to logistically conduct this assignment out of an aircraft she and the rest of her squadron had never worked on.

What began was emails upon emails to her connections with the U.S. Marine Corps and Navy SEALs to establish the guidelines needed

to prepare for a brand new mission.

"I went to conferences with [SEAL Team THREE] over at their base and helped organize this whole thing. But I also knew we needed people who knew what they were doing out of the aircraft that had actually done this," Denisi said, knowing that there was more work to be done.

She reached out and was able to get a hold of two Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron (MAWTS) instructors from Yuma, Arizona, "the top aircrewmen of the Marine Corps," Denisi said.

She brought them over to prepare her team. And eventually, she did it. Denisi set the expectations of how to do airdrops from the Osprey, and how to do it properly and safely. And it wasn't just her squadron that learned from her success. She said the United States Naval Test Pilot School from Pax River, Maryland, multiple squadrons, divers and SEALs all gained experience from her teaching.

"It was a big event," Denisi said.

The only female aircrewman at VRM-50 trained the rest of her squadron and established the rules and guidelines for everybody using a CMV-22 Osprey for a mission that would be done over and over again.

"There were so many people involved," Denisi said. "That was pretty cool, being able to successfully execute this whole thing."

Kate Kidder

» Continued from Page 10

flight suit that enabled me to continue getting my qualifications despite being pregnant," Kidder said.

The whole process took her about three or four months to officially become an instructor, and Kidder completed it all the way until the start of her third trimester. She was very closely monitored by medical staff during her pregnancy, but she did

have to endure and work around bouts of morning sickness that hit her every day, she said.

"Never got sick in the plane...but it was pretty rough, probably won't do it again," Kidder said with a laugh.

As helpful as it was for Kidder to have her own maternity flight suit, that is still a question that she and Concetta Denisi, a female Naval Aircrewman for the VRM-50, receive all the time.

"Everyone was, like, 'Wait, are you allowed to fly on the Osprey?'" Kidder said, and Denisi jumped in.

She said that she tells them to read the CNAF-M3710, which is like their Bible of all their policies.

"You're not going to be training just guys, you're going to be overseeing females too," she said. "Read the instruction. Yes, we can [fly while pregnant] actually."

Since then, Kidder has experienced the highs and lows that accompany aviation.

"I've seen both healthy and unhealthy environments," she said.

However, being open to Naval opportunities has gotten her "an amazing life and career so far."

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SPORTS

Aztecs put realignment drama behind them

The Associated Press

While San Diego State's administration fiddled around with possibly leaving the Mountain West, Coach Brady Hoke did his best to keep his team focused on preparing for the season.

Hoke said he and his staff "pumped the brakes" a few months ago on realignment talk that consumed SDSU's fan base ever since UCLA and Southern California announced last summer that they're leaving for the Big Ten next year.

SDSU President Adela de la Torre got caught up in a month's worth of realignment drama in June before the school ultimately decided at the last minute to stay in the Mountain West rather than pay a sizeable exit fee and hope for an invitation to join the Pac-12.

It's a good thing they stayed because not only was no invitation to the Pac-12 forthcoming, but the Conference of Champions imploded in a matter of days this summer when six other teams decided to head to the Big Ten or Big 12 effective in 2024, leaving just four teams behind. Then Stanford and California decided to depart to the ACC, leaving just Oregon State and Washington State in the conference.

Those two schools on Sept. 8 filed a complaint in Washington state court against the Pac-12 and Commissioner George Kliavkoff, seeking to prevent departing member schools from taking any actions that could stand in the way of the Pacific Northwest schools' effort to rebuild the conference.

The Mountain West Conference, meanwhile, made pitches late last month to Oregon State and Washington State.

Mountain West Commissioner Gloria Nevarez made presentations to



San Diego State head coach Brady Hoke looks on during the second half of a football game against Utah on Sept. 17, 2022, in Salt Lake City. AP Photo/Rick Bowmer, File

Washington State on Aug. 24 and then Oregon State, Associate Commissioner Javan Hedlund confirmed.

Both the Beavers and the Cougars made it clear they are working together to find, or create, a solution. In addition to the Mountain West, the teams also could attempt to build a new Pac-12 with teams from that conference or others.

Meanwhile, Hoke says his Aztecs are focusing on what they can control.

"Our control is how our guys are

in the weight room, how they're conditioning...From that standpoint, there's not a big difference. It really isn't," he said.

San Diego State won conference titles in 2015-2016 and made it to the championship game once since then when they were routed by Utah State in 2021.

They were picked fourth in the preseason poll and start conference play against Boise State at home on Sept. 22.

The Mountain and West divisions

are gone, replaced with a single division of 12 teams, which the conference hopes will improve the chances of its champion getting a New Year's Six Bowl bid.

In the simplified setup, the top two teams in the standings will advance to the conference championship game on Dec. 2.

Fresno State beat Boise State 28-16 in last season's title game.

SDSU always takes great delight whenever it beats a Pac-12 opponent, and this season the Aztecs will get chances on consecutive weekends.

SDSU, after winning their first two home games, lost to UCLA at Snapdragon Stadium on Sept. 9, the first game between the teams since the Aztecs beat the Bruins 23-14 at the Rose Bowl in 2019.

The Aztecs (2-1) will visit Oregon State on Sept. 16.

One offseason move the Aztecs did make that could pay off handsomely was to promote all-time school passing leader Ryan Lindley to offensive coordinator.

The Aztecs brought in Lindley as quarterbacks coach as part of a staff shakeup when they were struggling in early October and then promoted him to coordinator after the season.

SDSU's offense in recent years has been less than exciting, which is expected to change under Lindley.

After scoring just 20 points in the opener against Ohio, San Diego State put up 38 against Idaho State on Sept. 10.

He went to El Capitan High in suburban Lakeside and then was a four-year starter at SDSU from 2008-11. He set school passing records in yards (12,690), touchdowns (90), completions (961), attempts (1,732), starts (49) and consecutive starts (44). His record of 23 victories has since been broken. Lindley had a brief NFL career before getting into coaching.

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SPORTS

Coronado High girls golf works for fifth straight title

By **MADLINE YANG**
The Coronado News

The bend of the blue Coronado bridge sitting in the background, the golf green gracefully wrapping around Glorietta Bay, immense trees with roots digging deep, swimming in the wind.

The idyllic scene is home to the Coronado High School girls golf team as it gathers on the putting green, ready to play their third tournament for the 2023 season.

Co-captains and seniors Bella Villarin and Ines Izuzquiza have entered their last year strong, coming off their previous season with a league record of 10-0 and overall record of 11-5, leading Coronado High School to its fourth league title.

Led by Coach Stuart Gordon, who's been leading Coronado High the last nine years, all three are confident they will make their last year together the fifth year of the school's winning streak for a title.

This also is Gordon's last year coaching, and although he doesn't think this is the strongest team Coronado High he's ever had, he believes they'll make it far.

With COVID-19 still having a lingering hold on young people in sports, Gordon says he's had to put out call sheets for girls golf players after having a handful of players stop playing or graduate after last season.

"If you look at San Diego Unified School District, every school in our league is struggling for players. So, we're fairly evenly matched," Gordon says.

Their biggest competitors, Cathedral Catholic High School, has been their rivals for the last few years, although Coronado has managed to beat them every year since 2017.

Gordon said he's been able to fill his roster, and Villarin and Izuzquiza have



Co-captain senior Bella Villarin of the Coronado girls golf team. Staff photo by Madeline Yang.

an exciting year ahead as co-captains. Both team captains have spent most of their lives playing golf, starting to play competitively around their eighth-grade and freshman years of high school.

Villarin moved to Coronado in 2015 as a 9-year-old from a Navy family, having lived in Japan, Virginia and most recently Singapore, before she came back to the United States.

As soon as she stepped on American soil, she joined Pro Kids, First Tee, a national golf academy with a San Diego chapter in City Heights. Soon after, she started playing in the junior circuit as a middle schooler.

And in two weeks, she'll be leaving the team for a week to play in the PURE Insurance Championship Impacting the First Tee, a 54-hole golf event, featuring 80 professional golfers, 80 First Tee juniors and 160 amateurs.

"I'm nervous, but I'm overall excited. I get to play with a senior PGA pro...and so I hope I'll be able to learn

from them," Villarin says, standing next to Gordon on the Coronado Golf Course.

The Champions Tour is a professional senior golf tour, administered as a branch of the PGA tour.

She will have the chance to play on Spyglass Hill on the Pebble Beach golf link near Monterey, one of the most well-known golf courses in America.

Despite her clear talent and skill for golf, Villarin isn't sure whether she wants to pursue a professional career. She says she's gotten to love the game and love learning about it, but it isn't necessarily the golf aspect for her that keeps her going.

"Meeting new people and connections and seeing who you can build relationships with, I think that's a skill I can carry on with me," Villarin says.

Villarin doesn't know where she wants to attend college, but she's hopeful to attend an Ivy League school on the East Coast where she's thinking about pursuing multimedia

journalism as her major.

As well as being one of the best players on the Coronado High girls golf team, keeping up her grade point average to be Ivy League ready, Villarin also writes occasionally for the Coronado Times online newspaper, mainly covering crime reports and sports.

Co-captain Izuzquiza, on the other hand, is determined to continue golfing at least through college.

Living the first five years of her life in Spain, Izuzquiza grew up in a family that nurtured her love for sports.

She played tennis competitively until she was 13 before she switched to play competitive golf, starting both sports at 6.

And she isn't the only one who wanted to continue golf after high school.

Izuzquiza follows her two siblings, as her brother plays golf at the University of Nevada Las Vegas and her sister plays at North Carolina.

However, golf was never a competition among the siblings, she said.

"Both my siblings were kind, they never really pressured me into golf. We like to play [together] for fun," Izuzquiza says.

She says that she had the opportunity to decide which sport she wanted to pursue because of her experience with tennis and golf, and she was able to make that decision for herself without family pressure.

Izuzquiza said she is taking a gap year after she graduates high school, planning on continuing to play in tournaments between Europe and the United States, but will be ready to jump back into college golf when her gap year is over.

She is not sure what her future holds in terms of which schools she'll be looking into, but like Villarin, she's throwing around the idea of attending a university on the East Coast, and playing the golf courses there for the next four years.

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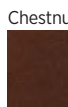
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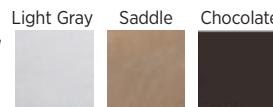
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Throughout the ages, there have been many important advances in mobility. Canes, walkers, rollators, and scooters were created to help people with mobility issues get around and retain their independence. Lately, however, there haven't been any new improvements to these existing products or developments in this field. Until now. Recently, an innovative design engineer who's developed one of the world's most popular products created a completely new breakthrough... a personal electric vehicle. It's called the **Zinger**, and there is nothing out there quite like it.

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—Kent C., California

The first thing you'll notice about the **Zinger** is its unique look. It doesn't look like a scooter. Its sleek, lightweight yet durable frame is made with aircraft grade aluminum so it weighs only 47.2 lbs. It features one-touch folding and unfolding – when folded it can be wheeled around like a suitcase and fits easily into a



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The Zinger folds to a mere 10 inches.

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LIFE ON THE ISLAND

Coronado grad unlocks untouched industry of franchise investing

» Continued from Page 2

magazine. He's also made several appearances on financial podcasts. He has also been featured in Business Insider, ABC, TheHustle and American Express.

But Rose, who graduated from Coronado High in 2008, said he's always had an entrepreneurial mindset.

Rose said he moved to Coronado his junior year of high school, and he recalls working at the candy shop in the Hotel del Coronado and enjoying his walk to work from his home a few short blocks away.

His father, Artie Rose, an entrepreneur through and through, decided to move to Coronado from Colorado to build Solar Alliance of San Diego (eventually Solar Alliance of America) from the ground up.

"He's very much a 'you develop into your surroundings' person," Rose said. "If you go put yourself into an impossible situation, you'll sink or swim. He started that solar company from scratch there."

Tracking closely behind his father's footsteps, Rose said he always knew he would be an entrepreneur—and his family knew as well.

For his first year at San Diego State University, Rose commuted from his home in Coronado to classes every day.

During his junior year, he got an internship at Merrill Lynch, but the road to getting that internship had a minor setback.

Rose said the advisor whom he was working for got fired, and Rose was sure he lost his "in" with the company.

So instead of waiting, he said he took matters into his own hands.

"I went in at 6 a.m. and I just kicked open the door for the biggest corner office and I was like, 'Hi my name is Kenny Rose, and I'm your next in-



Kenny Rose (R) and his brother, Danny (L). Kenny graduated from CHS in 2009. Photo courtesy of Kenny Rose.

tern," Rose said.

Today Rose is still trailblazing his own paths and kicking down doors.

But what's unique about his entrepreneurial start-up endeavor with FranShares is that it was a door that didn't even exist prior to him opening it, he said.

He said an internship at Merrill Lynch led to a job working for them in San Francisco, which led to an urge to see what was out there beyond the world of financial advising.

Rose ended up unlocking the world of franchise brokerage.

He said the first thing he learned was that there is a franchise for everything, not just the major fast food businesses like McDonalds, Chick-Fil-A and Subway that people assume when they hear the word franchise.

"I was like, wow, this is a trillion dollar industry that I didn't know

that much about, and I assume most people don't know that much about," Rose said. "So, I always like being a big fish in a little pond."

He helped coach people and advise them on what sort of franchise brands to invest in, all the while becoming an expert in the niche area.

That led him to his next big idea: investing in franchises like one would with stocks.

"Most people know what franchises are, even though they don't know that much about it, they understand it," Rose said. "But they don't have six or seven figures of cash laying around and they don't have the time to go manage it, and they don't have the skillset to. So I realized, why can't you invest in franchises like you can stocks?"

Which is exactly what FranShares allows people to do.

The company aims to generate passive income for anyone through franchise investing with as little as \$500.

Rose said that with franchise investing, the money also stays in a community, because the investments are going right back into the small businesses in a neighborhood.

A common misconception is that small businesses are not franchises, but Rose said most people would be shocked by what qualifies as a franchise.

While the company is cutting-edge in its design, it did not come to fruition overnight.

"People love overnight success, but they don't realize its years in the making, including the fundraising part," Rose said.

FranShares got a pre-seed raise of \$1.42 million led by Chicago Ventures, a seed stage venture capital firm that has previously backed companies like M1 Finance, Sunbit, Cameo and Project44.

Brandon Sellers, the vice president of marketing for FranShares, was Rose's first employee.

He said he saw the development of the company from when he started in November 2021.

"It just makes a lot of sense. It's a business model that has done really well and you see how successful it has been for a lot of very wealthy individuals," Sellers said. "So, I think that this should definitely be something that everyone is able to do."

His support of the idea of franchise investing is equaled by his support of Rose as the CEO and founder.

"I could just tell how much he cared about the idea, but also I could tell how much he really cared about the people and the mission of it," Sellers said. "He's really the only person [who] could really do something like FranShares and do it justice."

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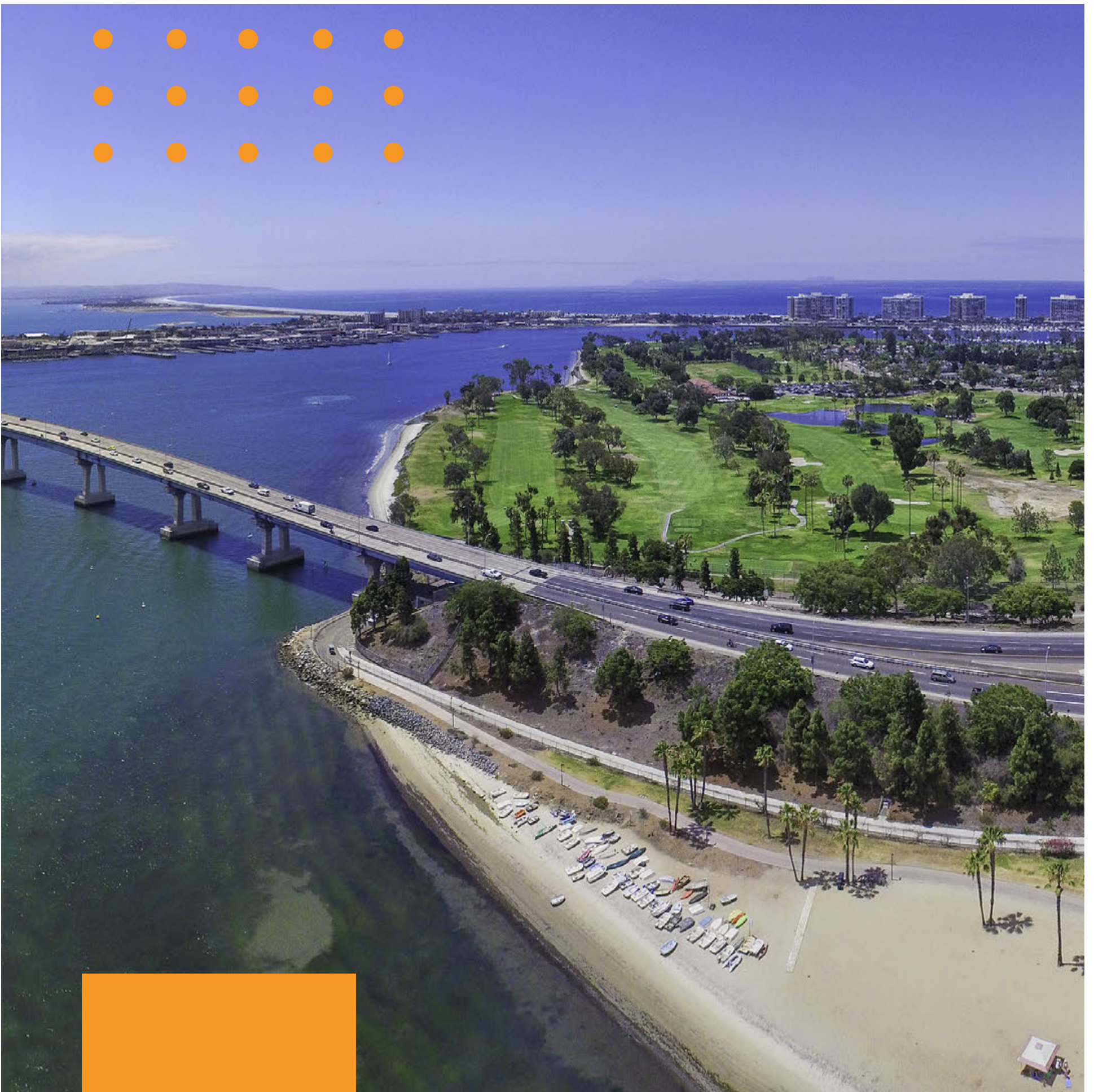
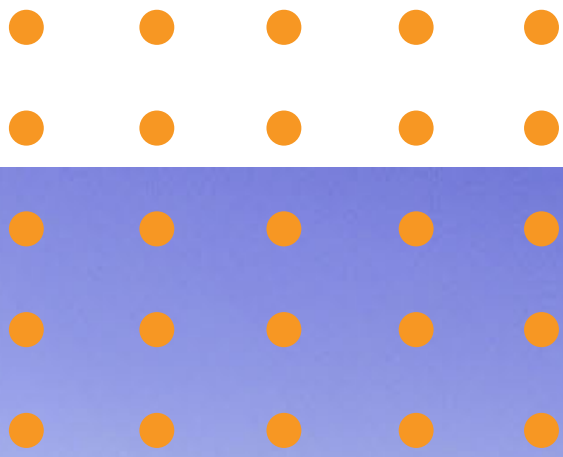


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