INSIDE: A suicide deterrent is long overdue for the Coronado Bridge. OPINION PAGE 4

THE CORONADO NEWS

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Captain James Ginn Callaway, a U.S. Navy Vietnam War Veteran, will join the San Diego Honor Flight with other veterans who travel to Washington, D.C.

Retired Capt. James Ginn Callaway stands beside a military retirement shadow box and American Flag case inside his home in Coronado memorializing his decades-long career in the U.S. Navy. *Staff photo by Julieta Soto.*

Coronado veteran will be honored in a late September homecoming

BY JULIETA SOTO
The Coronado News

More than 60 years ago, a family member's advice ignited retired Capt. James Ginn Callaway's decision to serve in the U.S. Navy.

"'Before you settle down, whatever you're going to do in life, you ought to go into the Navy for three years and see the world,'" said Callaway, recalling the words of an uncle. "So I took that advice. I went to (Officer Candidate School)."

Stepping inside the Coronado home Callaway built in the late 1980s, one might get lost admiring numerous art pieces that decorate the walls of the renovated living spaces originating from different parts of the world.

But facing the kitchen is one

» Continued on Page 8

Coronado will be losing 29 affordable housing units by the end of January

The city said this loss of low-income housing doesn't affect the current housing element, but the city will lose around a fifth of its total affordable housing units

BY MADELINE YANG
The Coronado News

For 30 years, the Coronado apartments at 308 Orange Ave. have been rented as affordable housing, with tenants paying adjusted rent according to their income.

But, in February 2026, that will change.

The 29-unit Del Island complex was recently sold and the new owner, R.A. Snyder Properties, will not be participating in Coronado's affordable housing program, according to a notice sent to residents at the complex.

"We are a long-term investor that is looking to maintain the asset in accordance with all laws and with the continual coordination of city of Coronado staff," R.A. Snyder Properties said in response to inquiries from The Coronado News.

They did not respond to additional inquiries from The Coronado News.

Coronado resident Jim Morse said he now has to face moving out of an apartment that has been his home for two decades. He pays just under $1,000 a month for his one-bedroom unit.

At a month shy of 80 years old, Morse said he might have to move in with extended family in Wyoming – a state he's never been to – if he can't figure out another alternative in San Diego.

His neighbor, Mike Cannon, who's lived in his unit for about two years, is not ready to leave either. He's 74 and most of his life has been spent on the island, where his children and grandkids still reside. He pays $1,400 for his one-bedroom apartment.

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Suicide deterrent on Coronado Bridge will start construction next summer

Years after it was first discussed, Caltrans confirmed construction on a stainless steel netting surrounding the Coronado Bridge will begin in 2026

BY MADELINE YANG
The Coronado News

If you are having thoughts of suicide, or are concerned that someone you know may be, call or text 988 to reach the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has announced plans to start construction in the summer of 2026 on a long-awaited Coronado Bridge suicide barrier with an estimated completion date of late 2028.

In the last half century, there have been over 400 deaths off the bridge spanning San Diego Bay.

Because of this, in 2022, Caltrans discussed installing a vertical 8-foot-tall stainless steel net on the perimeter of both sides of the bridge. A year later, the project was added to a list of programs at the Office of State Highway Operations and Protection Program.

At a Sept. 16 Coronado City Council meeting, Caltrans officials said a final design and construction contract would be executed with Myers-Traylor, a joint venture between Myers & Sons Construction and Traylor Bros., Inc.

They were brought on through a bidding process with the total estimated project cost being around $140 million, according to Caltrans.

Under the current design, see-through netting would be elevated between 7 ½ feet and 8 ½ feet above the existing concrete bridge rail.

According to Charles Gray, the project manager with Caltrans, Myers & Sons Construction has extensive experience in constructing Caltrans bridges throughout the state, and Traylor

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Pictured here is a rendering of how the suicide deterrent will look on the Coronado Bridge. *Photo taken from Caltrans.*

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this week

28 • Sunday

The Coronado Ferry Landing is scheduled to host a free weekend concert on Sept. 28 at 2 p.m., featuring "The Exit."

1 • Wednesday

The Coronado Public Library, in partnership with the Coronado Island Film Festival, presents Film Forum Coronado, taking place the first and third Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. in the library's Winn Room.

Film expert Ralph DeLauro provides a brief introduction to each film and leads a discussion afterwards, often including pointers about how lighting or camera angles contribute to a scene's mood or propel the story. The featured film on Oct. 1 is "The Farewell."

3 • Friday

The Coronado Public Library's autumn concert series continues on Oct. 3 at 1 p.m. in the Winn Room with a performance by pianist Lesi Mei.

Mei was the first call pianist for Beijing International Orchestra before traveling the U.S. from coast to coast, performing in festivals such as the Mostly Modern Festival in Saratoga Springs, International Keyboard Institute and Festival in New York City, and Olympiad Piano Festival in Colorado Springs, where she was a semifinalist in the concerto competition.

CONTACT US

For news tips, story submissions and letters to the editor, contact Editor Sofie Fransen at sofie@thecoronadonews.com or 619-990-8465.

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

THINGS TO DO

Coronado Historical Association to honor Mary Ann Chapple at Collections Luncheon

Coronado News staff

The Coronado Historical Association (CHA) is scheduled to host its sixth annual Collections Luncheon on Oct. 7, featuring a display of WWII artifacts and archives.

Vickie Stone, the curator of collections, will present an overview of the association's ongoing preservation efforts.

Additionally, Mary Ann Chapple will be honored for her many years of service to the CHA community. According to Stone, Chapple has had an active role at the CHA for years, including on the acquisitions committee and as past president in 1995.

From left: Anne Kaine, Tom Fleming, Mary Ann Chapple, Ken Wiley, Lionel Rowe and Anne Hamrick are pictured at the War & Remembrance event in 1995. *Photo provided by Coronado Historical Association.*

Stone said her role at the association in the mid-90s was crucial for fundraising efforts for the Beach House Museum on Loma Avenue. She coordinated a block party celebrating the 50th anniversary of the end of WWII, complete with the WWII era vehicles, food and the singing group, the "Andrews Sisters."

The luncheon will end with a silent auction of homemade baked goods.

All funds raised support the operations of CHA's Collections Department, which is tasked with preserving the artifacts and archives that make up the association's collection.

Tickets are $75 per person, $550 for a table, and can be purchased at coronadohistory.org or by calling (619) 435-7242.

Meet Rosalind, the pet of the week. She's at PAWS of Coronado and is looking for her forever home. See all adoptable animals: Scan the QR code with your smartphone camera, and tap on the link. *Graphic/photo provided by PAWS of Coronado.*

PET OF THE WEEK

Meet Rosalind

PAWS of Coronado

Meet Rosalind, a 10-month-old labrador retriever with a heart full of love and a tail that never stops wagging!

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All animals at PAWS are spayed/neutered, microchipped, vaccinated and up to date on flea prevention. Adoptions are by appointment only. If you are interested in adopting Rosalind or other pets, please visit pawsofcoronado.org.

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OPINION

A suicide deterrent is long overdue for the Coronado Bridge

BY THE EDITORIAL BOARD
The Coronado News

Caltrans has announced construction on the suicide deterrent project for the Coronado Bridge will begin next summer. *Staff photo by Madeline Yang.*

Since the Coronado Bay Bridge opened in 1969, there have been over 400 deaths from people choosing to jump.

In the more than half-century it's been around, the structure – built in a showstopping curve to make Coronado accessible while allowing Navy ships to pass underneath – has adopted another moniker. It's often recognized as the second-most utilized bridge in the nation for suicides, after the Golden Gate Bridge.

For over a decade, activists have been fighting to put a physical barrier in place. One advocate, Bertha Loaiza, survived the over 200-foot fall in 1985 when her mother jumped off the bridge with Loaiza, then 3 years old, in her arms. As an adult, Loaiza has been outspoken about bridge safety and mental health awareness, pushing for a barrier that would prevent such tragedies.

"When my mom died, it was a month before my fourth birthday," Loaiza told the San Diego Union Tribune in 2021. "I just celebrated my 40th birthday. I wasn't even expected to make it to 4 years old, let alone 40."

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) recently announced plans to install vertical steel netting between 7 ½ and 8 ½ feet above the bridge's concrete barrier, at a cost of $140 million. Construction is slated to begin in summer 2026, with an estimated completion date in late 2028.

Horizontal netting, similar to the layout of the Golden Gate Bridge, was also considered at one point. That style has proven successful, as suicide rates at the San Francisco bridge have dropped 73%. But horizontal nets require bridge closures so first responders can safely retrieve individuals. In 2022, The San Diego Fire-Rescue Department and police department said a horizontal net "creates additional risk to both public safety personnel and the person that would have to be extracted from this type of deterrent."

The vertical netting option, on the other hand, is designed to eliminate jumping altogether. It was implemented to Florida's Sunshine Skyway Bridge in 2021 and, a year after installation, there were only four deaths by suicide compared to the 12-to-15 yearly average before that.

Either way, what's clear is that a net barrier delivers results, and it is long overdue in Coronado.

It's important to note that the nation's mental health crisis needs to be met with other avenues of support. There are local nonprofits dedicated to providing mental health care, such as "Strength in Service," and perhaps we should also be focusing on building a crisis care center. Utah just opened the nation's first mental health crisis center, and this might serve as a template for our community. We need to be strengthening suicide intervention measures before anyone reaches the edge, along with building a physical net deterrent.

We can safely say that the four-inch spikes added along the railing of the bridge in 2019 have done nothing to deter suicides. In fact, some people argue that the spikes actually prompt a more immediate jump.

Sure, Coronado's net deterrent has a hefty price tag with a timeline that's a few years out, but enough with the spikes. We've gone far too long without a real deterrent. The mesh represents a positive step toward change, and the high cost is worth the protection of human lives.

The funding, which Caltrans is responsible for, has not yet been secured. (Yes, we are talking tax dollars here.) Fatalities caused by suicide do not qualify under the Highway Safety Improvement Program criteria, so the project is not eligible for that type of federal funding. With no clear funding avenue at the moment, there is reason to be concerned that the project could get stalled.

The project is however, a progressive design-build format allowing the deterrent to be designed and constructed at the same time, which officials tout as saving time and money.

But let's consider for a moment just how large our price tag is: $140 million compared to the $3.4 million it cost to install a very similar design on the Sunshine Skyway Bridge. Granted, that was in 2021, but those are still drastically different numbers.

We've got a potential design and timeline, and for that, everyone is grateful. Above all, our north star is to get this project done. But moving forward, we need to critically examine the cost breakdown to see if there are ways to cut costs while achieving the same result.

If you are having thoughts of suicide, or are concerned that someone you know may be, call or text 988 to reach the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

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CORONADO

FORK FIRST WITH LILLY

A colorful macaroon selection bayside rounded out my day. *Staff photo by Lilly Corcoran.*

Review: On nondescript desserts and feeding wildlife

Welcome back to Fork First with Lilly, a column highlighting the plates and places shaping Coronado's food scene

BY LILLY CORCORAN
The Coronado News

The sun hung low in the sky and illuminated the glass panes across the bay. Seaport Village was sleepy, small groups of tourists shuffling around taking selfies and purchasing matching Coronado gear.

Somnolently, I ambled along the waterfront ending up at Parfait Paris, a French bakery and cafe. The glass display boxes full of rich baked goods and vibrant macaroons caught my attention. I ordered six macaroons, aiming to get a few unorthodox flavors. My selections: popcorn, avocado, rose, birthday cake, lemon and vanilla. At a little over $18, I needed to be wowed.

I took my loot beachside, admiring the skyscrapers sparkling in the sun as it sank languidly behind me.

As lovely as it was, I quickly realized an unsavory truth: nearly every macaroon tasted the exact same. If you had blindfolded me I would not have been able to tell the difference between popcorn, avocado, birthday cake and vanilla. They all tasted like a box cake mix, which made sense for birthday cake and vanilla, but was a disappointment for popcorn and avocado. I was excited to wrestle with a buttery salty macaroon or a nutty earthy one, but ultimately was left empty handed.

The rose and lemon were alright. I thought the distinct flavor profile of rose could be offensive or overpowering, but the flavor was so subtle it was almost undetectable. Which I suppose is a good thing. The lemon was also tragically bland, no euphoric bite of sour followed by a wave of sweet.

The cookies themselves were fragile to say the least; the walk from the store to the water nearly did the popcorn macaroon in, the top collapsing into itself with the smallest amount of pressure. The fillings were syrupy and uninspiring.

I sat on a concrete retaining wall sampling the different flavors, trying to extract any perceptible notes. Birds flocked to me, pecking at the crumbs I dropped. Entertained, I watched them. They didn't seem to mind the blandness, in fact they loved it. Fighting over the few fragments, they looked at me for more. I chuckled to myself; they had expensive taste.

The Coronado location of Parfait Paris is open seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. and 10 p.m. on the weekends.

———————————

Dear reader as I close in on 10 weeks of Fork First I have a small favor to ask. Is there a restaurant you have been going to for years that you love? One you are interested in but hesitant to try? Are you a part of a food-based community group? Let me know by sending me an email at lilly@thecoronadonews.com! Food is a powerful way of bringing people together, and I want to use it to continue to strengthen our community. Thank you for your continued support and kind messages.

Contact: lilly@thecoronadonews.com

CORONADO

Tickets to NASCAR in Coronado will go on sale in just a couple weeks

BY MADELINE YANG
The Coronado News

Tickets for the first ever NASCAR race on a military base will be going on sale in just about two weeks. The race will be held at Naval Air Station North Island on Coronado in June of 2026 to celebrate the country and U.S. Navy's 250th birthday.

The race will feature all three of NASCAR's national events: the Craftsman Truck Series race on June 19, the Xfinity Series race on June 20 and the Cup Series race on June 21.

The Craftsman Truck Series is an entry-level race with drivers competing in modified pickup trucks. The Xfinity Series is the second tier of NASCAR racing and serves as a feeder into the Cup Series. The Cup Series is the most advanced race, with the best drivers in the sport vying in stock cars.

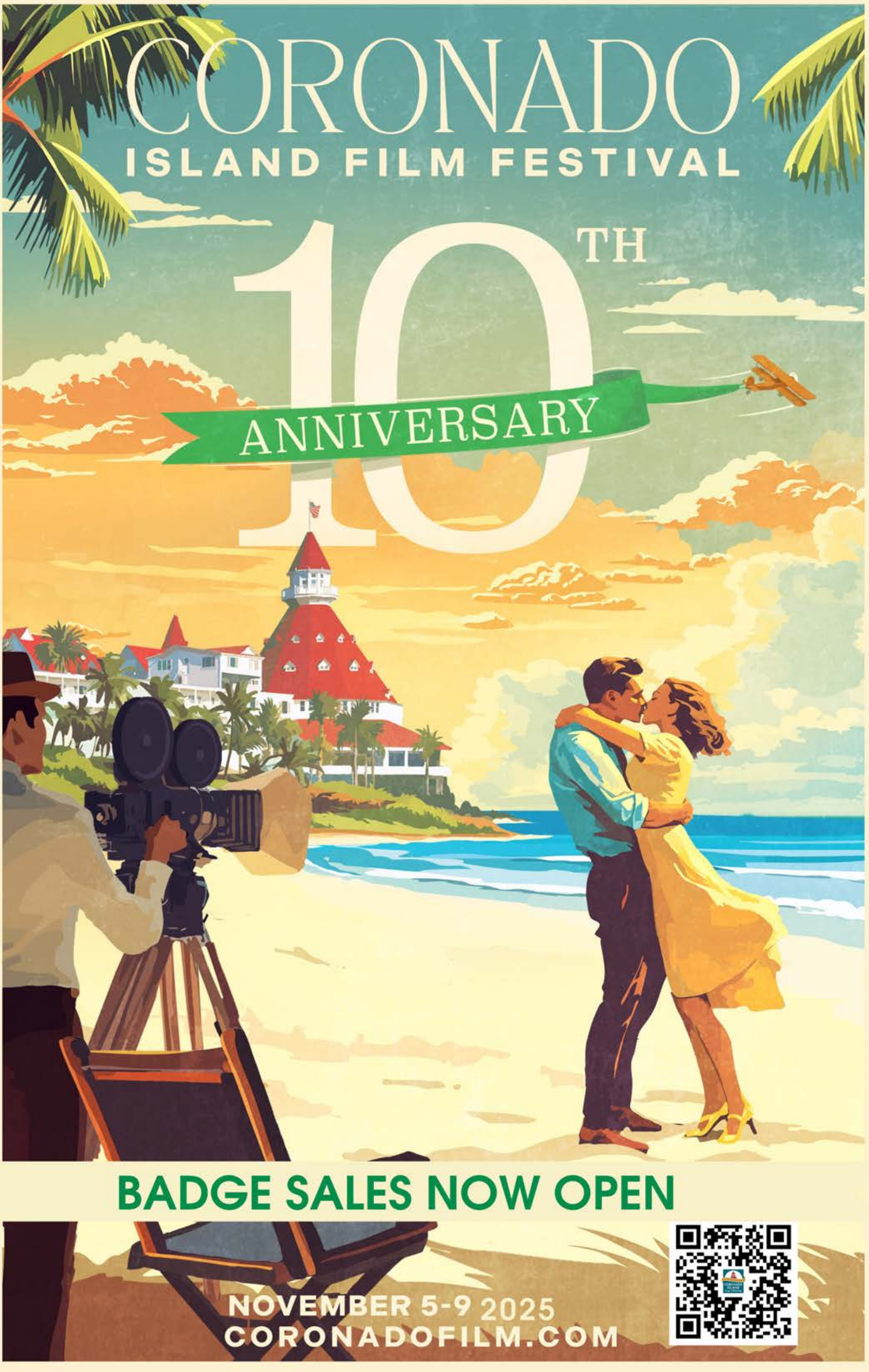
"NASCAR is committed to supporting Navy morale and recruitment," said Amy Lupo, the president of NASCAR San Diego, at the Sept. 16 Coronado City Council meeting. In addition to the race, she said, activities will include a Navy community day on June 19 for Navy personnel and Coronado residents.

Lupo said the organization is working on the venue layout, developing transportation plans in partnership with the Navy, the city and the California Department of Transportation.

Pre-sale tickets can be found at nascarsandiego.com.

Contact: madeline@thecoronadonews.com

NASCAR will hold its first ever race on a military base, Naval Air Station North Island, next year for the Navy's 250th birthday.
Photo taken from NASCAR.



CORONADO

Four Imperial Beach residents move to second round of City Council seat interviews

In an effort to appoint someone to the empty District 3 council seat, the City Council interviewed eight applicants

BY JULIETA SOTO
The Coronado News

The Imperial Beach City Council has narrowed the field of candidates for an open seat, and is scheduled to vote on a final decision during the Oct. 1 meeting.

At a Sept. 17 meeting, the council selected four District 3 residents from a list of eight candidates to move forward to another round of interviews following all applicants addressing the council that evening. Mayor Mitch Mckay, Mayor Pro Tem Carol Seabury and Councilmember Jack Fisher selected Brian Patrick Bilbray and Mariko Renee Nakawatase. Matthew Leyba-González selected Beatriz Sanchez Blevins and John Patrick Keating.

The open seat was created when McKay, who formerly held the District 3 seat, was selected to fill a mayoral vacancy after Paloma Aguirre, the former mayor, was elected as District 1 supervisor for the San Diego County Board of Supervisors.

McKay was sworn in Aug. 20 to serve as mayor through November 2026. On the day McKay left his council seat, the council decided to fill it through an application and appointment process.

Eight applications were received prior to the Sept. 10 deadline.

According to City Manager Tyler Foltz, state law requires the council to either appoint someone by Sunday, Oct. 19 or call a special election. State law, however, does not provide a specific process for appointments, said Foltz.

On Sept. 17, the council unanimously voted to plan for a second round of interviews on Oct. 1.

The four candidates will need to answer two questions prepared by McKay and city staff, which will be shared with candidates prior to the October meeting.

Public comments will be taken after the responses. Then, each council member will have an opportunity to address one question to rival candidates.

The Imperial Beach City Council will once more interview four candidates vying for the empty District 3 council seat on Oct. 1. *Staff photo by Julieta Soto.*

Council members will then vote on who should fill the vacant seat.

At least three council votes would be needed to move forward with the appointment. If there is not a majority selection, a special election would be triggered.

An appointment on Oct. 1 would mean the new council member takes the oath of office on Oct. 15, ahead of the appointment deadline.

The new District 3 councilmember would fill a vacant seat that runs through November 2026.

District 3 candidates

Bilbray, a maritime captain and former Imperial Beach City councilmember (2010-2016), has lived in the city for 36 years, according to application materials. Bilbray has also served on the Alleyway and Medical Marijuana Ad Hoc committees, as well as the San Diego Association of Governments, a regional planning organization.

"I feel a deep sense of duty to serve Imperial Beach at one of the most important times in our history," Bilbray told the city in his application. "My lifelong residency and prior service on the City Council give me both the perspective and the passion to continue strengthening our community."

Blevins, a deputy public administrator with the County of San Diego and published author, has lived in the city for seven years, according to application materials.

Blevins is involved with the Sweetwater Union High School District's parent advisory council and the Imperial Beach Neighborhood Center board.

"I was raised in the community of Imperial Beach and (am) currently living as a District 3 resident," Blevins said in the application. "I feel more than ever we need to build bridges between neighbors and business, while ensuring safety and a sense of belonging in our community. …I have been a community leader and feel well rounded for this role."

Keating, a retired traffic engineer and business owner, has lived in the city for eight years.

He has been a member of IB Tidelands Advisory Committee since 2021 and was a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers SD Chapter in 2001.

"I have extensive experience in land-use planning, public works projects, interagency coordination and budget management," said Keating in the application. "I have participated in hundreds of public meetings and hearing(s), usually in an advisory role."

Nakawatase, who has lived in the city for 22 years, is currently the district director with the County of San Diego's District 2. She is a Japanese American Citizens League member, and attended Mar Vista High School serving as Key Club advisor.

Nakawatase holds a bachelor of arts in philosophy and pre-law with a minor in political science as well as a master of public administration from Arizona State University.

"I bring with me a record of public engagement, collaboration with regional partners, and dedication to solving problems with both creativity and pragmatism," said Nakawatase in the application. "If selected, I will prioritize engaging with residents directly, elevating their voices in the decision-making process, and fostering policies that balance economic growth with enhancing the everyday quality of life for residents."

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CORONADO

Coronado's Harvest Hoedown returns Oct. 10

The community-wide festival will bring its 29th year of lively seasonal activities this fall

BY JULIETA SOTO
The Coronado News

Parents and students at Village Elementary School enjoy line dancing during Coronado's 2024 Harvest Hoedown. *Staff photo by Kylie Capuano.*

Western dancing, pumpkin decorating and other seasonal events will once more occupy Village Elementary School this fall with the return of Coronado's community-wide "Harvest Hoedown" celebration.

Every year, the nonprofit Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) at Village Elementary School presents a family-affordable event for the entire city.

According to Megan Settle West, the Village PTO yearbook chair and Harvest Hoedown chair, last year the organization donated over $54,000 in educational supplies to the school.

West, who was born and raised in Coronado and attended Village Elementary, said her fondest memories of school were attending the Harvest Hoedown.

"I am hoping in hosting this event the PTO is doing the same for today's generation," said West.

According to West, last year's Harvest Hoedown was attended by more than 2,000 people.

"While we did make some money, this isn't the goal," she added.

This year's Hoedown is scheduled Oct. 10 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at 600 Sixth St.

Attendees can expect a DJ and live line dancing instruction, a photobook, a craft corner and yard games such as pumpkin bowling, Connect 4 and tic tac toe.

Game tickets or an unlimited wristband are required for carnival games, the petting zoo, face painting, balloon animals, hair dying, a cake walk, and caricature.

Organizers said half of all pizza and ice cream proceeds will go to the PTO. The event will also have popcorn, cotton candy, slushies and water.

"The Village PTO puts on the event and we reach out to community and business members looking for sponsors to help," said West.

West said the organization still has sponsorship opportunities available to help make the night magical for the kids. Interested sponsors can reach out to West by email at harvesthoedown@villagepto.org.

"The Harvest Hoedown is an event for the entire community," said West. "With the help of our sponsors and partners we hope to make it a family-affordable event. We would love anyone who wants to come to be there. If finances are an issue we want people to reach out and we will make sure to get you in."

To learn more about the event and admission packages visit: https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/harvest-hoedown–2025.

Contact: julieta@thecoronadonews.com

Coronado veteran will be honored in a late September homecoming

» Continued from Page 1

frame that succinctly captures more than half of Callaway's life dedicated to his country. It contains more than a dozen service medals, including a Bronze Star with Combat "V," which Callaway said he received for direct combat with the enemy.

Throughout his career, Callaway served on numerous destroyers as a damage control assistant, chief engineer and executive officer. He also commanded the Coastal River Division Eleven at Mare Island in California and Special Boat Unit Twenty-Two at New Orleans, Louisiana.

Totalling more than 48 years of service, Callaway was on active duty for 31 years followed by a 17-year civilian career in Navy Bachelor Housing.

This month, Callaway is among 90 WWII, Korean War, Vietnam War, and terminally ill veterans participating in Honor Flight San Diego's three-day trip to Washington, D.C., planning to visit the memorials built to honor their service, comrades and sacrifice.

"The Vietnam (memorial) will be the most special," said Callaway, a U.S. Navy Vietnam War Veteran. "I've been there. I know a lot of the names, people that were under my command that got killed."

"The Vietnam (memorial) will be the most special. I've been there. I know a lot of the names, people that were under my command that got killed."

- Retired Navy Capt. James Ginn Callaway

Retired Navy Capt. James Ginn Callaway describes his participation in the Vietnam War while pointing to an oil painting depicting the Vietnam combat experience. *Staff photo by Julieta Soto.*

Vietnam experience

Born in Huntington, West Virginia, Callaway graduated from the University of Michigan in 1964.

After completing his undergrad, a 21-year-old Callaway set out on Navy tours with the Flagship of the Middle East Force followed by "Operation Deep Freeze" during which he sailed between New Zealand and the South Pole.

After three years Callaway temporarily left the Navy and went on to receive a master's degree from Ohio State University in 1968. That same year he returned to the Navy and training brought him to Coronado for the first time, where he learned Vietnamese.

Callaway deployed to Vietnam in 1968 with river patrol boats. The following year he became the first naval riverine advisor at a time when President Nixon was turning those operations over to the South Vietnamese military.

Inside his garage, Callaway reflected on the Vietnam combat experience while pointing out a painting of the river patrol boats, or PBRs, used in Mekong Delta, near Saigon.

"The boats that I was on were in a lot of combat down the rivers," said Callaway.

"I'd be right in here someplace controlling what's going on," said Callaway. "You also wore a groin protector, you wore a flat vest, and you wore helmets – even in the heat when you were on patrol – for protection. ... You're sweating like crazy. You have to stay hydrated. At night, we would set ambushes on a canal or something. So you could see the Vietcong getting ready to come down from Cambodia."

"I didn't talk about it for years because I had a lot of people under me that got killed. I had to identify their bodies and write their parents and everything," added Callaway. "But in Vietnam, we were in combat, and that's what happened."

"It's not easy when you're losing people, not on a daily basis, but quite a few times," said Callaway. "There's nothing romantic about war."

Callaway said the Navy memorabilia are all important to him.

"They're all sort of building stones, you're not going to do the one thing unless you do the other and do it right, if you have a ship and you run in the ground, that's the end of your career," said Callaway.

Callaway credits his wife, Beverly, and family for their unwavering support throughout his years in the Navy.

"I have one of the best Navy wives ever," said Callaway about his partner of over 50 years.

In 2023 Callaway was honored in the Avenue of Heroes, Coronado's military service recognition program, following a friend's nomination.

Today Callaway prioritizes health and community service alongside Beverly in Coronado where they chose to retire in 1995.

"We love Coronado," said Callaway. "It fits our lifestyle extremely well."

Every Tuesday Callaway, 83, meets up with friends, hops on the ferry and completes a two-or-three-hour bike ride around the Bay, through Bonita and Imperial Beach, stopping for coffee at Cow-A-Bunga, before returning home.

The following morning, Callaway and other runners circuit over a several miles stretch at Balboa Park in San Diego.

Callaway, who did track in high school and attended Michigan on a track scholarship, has won national competitions and completed 50 marathons.

With an Oura Ring in one hand and a HidrateSpark smart water bottle in the other, Callaway said he plans to live to 106.

"I'm looking forward to (the Honor Flight San Diego trip) to be helpful to the other veterans that are there," said Callaway.

This year marks the Honor Flight San Diego's 15-year anniversary of having flown over 2,000 veterans. The trip Callaway will join on Friday, Sept. 26, marks the organization's 31st mission and includes veterans aged 81 to 98.

"It is more than visiting memorials, it is also about the veterans having camaraderie, closure, and being truly honored," said Holly Shaffner, the organization's vice-chairman and director of public relations. "Some veterans say the trip was a life changer, life extender, and trip of a lifetime."

The volunteer-based organization said private donors, organizations, American Legions, VFWs, and community events help raise funding for two trips every year. This allows veterans from every branch of service to travel at no cost in an effort to thank them for all they did for their country.

"One of (the) highlights of each flight is the homecoming when we arrive back to San Diego," added Shaffner. "There will be 800-1,000 people dressed in red, white, blue and carrying American flags and signs to welcome our hero's home! We say that they are getting the homecoming they didn't receive after war and the homecoming they truly deserve."

The homecoming is on Sunday, Sept. 28 at 1:15 p.m. at the Terminal 2 Baggage Claim. For more information visit: www.HonorFlightSanDiego.org.

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Coronado will be losing 29 affordable housing units by the end of January

» Continued from Page 1

Morse and Cannon both rely on social security checks while Cannon works at the local grocery store, Boney's, part-time.

Coronado's housing element

Kelli Maples, the city's senior management analyst, said the city reached out to the new owners about re-signing a low-income housing contract, but said that they chose not to renew.

This change in affordable housing units does not impact the city's housing element because that plan focuses on preparing for new developments, said Maples.

Maples explained that when the state sets the affordable housing numbers, they aren't based solely on the units a city already has. The Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) process takes into account a variety of factors when assigning a certain number of new units.

For the latest housing element update cycle, the RHNA number was established using the number of jobs on the island and transit access in the jurisdiction.

The city has a long history with the housing element. The San Diego Association of Governments, or SANDAG, a regional planning organization for the county, and the state determine how many affordable housing units Coronado is required to have.

Since 1969, California has required city and county governments to meet affordable housing needs within their jurisdictions. Key to that process is approval of a general plan segment, otherwise known as the housing element, that fulfills the obligation. The general plan is a blueprint for the city's future growth.

Every eight years, a new housing cycle starts and the state tells cities how many homes they must plan for to accommodate people of varying income levels, according to Coronado's Planning Division. A new cycle started in 2021 and will run until 2029.

Coronado's affordable housing requirement before the new housing cycle started in 2021 was only 52 units.

The jump to 912 units in the new cycle was around 1,800% more than the city had ever contemplated.

There was worry of a lack of space, increased traffic and safety concerns with potentially filling 912 units.

However, the city is not required under the state mandate to build the additional housing units. Rather, the city must ensure sufficient land is available to accommodate the required units so that developers can come in to build on the designated areas, city officials have said.

So, although Coronado is responsible for finding the space for more units due to the housing element, the city cannot force property owners to sign affordable housing agreements, and has no control over the amount of housing units currently available on the island.

An affordable housing complex at 308 Orange Ave will no longer be deed restricted as low income housing after January 2026. *Staff photo by Madeline Yang.*

Coronado resident Jim Morse in his one-bedroom apartment at 308 Orange Ave. He's lived here for more than 20 years. *Staff photo by Madeline Yang.*

Coronado resident Mike Cannon in his one-bedroom apartment at 308 Orange Ave. *Staff photo by Madeline Yang.*

Rent increase in Feb. 2026

But 29 units worth of Coronado residents will now have to find new accommodations or pay the increased market rate rent starting in February.

The average price for currently available one-bedroom apartments on the island seems to be around $3,000, with a range spanning anywhere from $2,500 to the most expensive being $7,000, according to Zillow.

In a letter dated Aug. 4, the new owners offered moving bonuses and stipends for residents willing to leave within a certain number of days.

"In recognition of the impact this change may have, we would like to offer voluntary relocation assistance for residents who wish to move prior to the expiration of the affordability agreement," the letter from R.A. Snyder Properties, Inc. read, "This includes a return of your full security deposit, one month's rent, and an additional moving bonus based on your preferred timeline:

"Vacate within 60 days from the date of this notice: Receive $3,000.00 bonus

"Vacate within 90 days from the date of this notice: Receive $2,000.00 bonus

"Vacate within 120 days from the date of this notice: Receive $1,000.00 bonus."

According to Cannon, the new management has not revealed what the new rents will be for people interested in staying past February.

"They're not transparent at all," Cannon said. He is not planning to take the moving bonuses, but he also can't make a decision without knowing what the new rent will be, he explained.

Cannon's apartment is slightly different from some of the other units in that he did some light renovations in the last couple of years. He replaced the flooring, repainted the walls and completed a few other smaller adjustments.

Part of the new management's plan is to renovate the apartments and relist them at market rate, according to the letter. And with Cannon's work, he is hoping they won't need to renovate his unit. But, he said they are not responding to him.

An affordable housing complex at 308 Orange Ave will no longer be deed restricted as low income housing after Jan. 2026.
Staff photo by Madeline Yang.

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Suicide deterrent on Coronado Bridge will start construction next summer

» Continued from Page 1

Bros., Inc., worked on the Coronado Bridge in 2000.

The construction companies are also partnering with two engineering firms, COWI and TYLin, both of which have designed stainless steel netting – most recently finishing the Mario M. Cuomo Bridge in New York with a similar mesh suicide barrier.

Gray said they are using a progressive approach, allowing the suicide deterrent to be designed and built at the same time, which he said would ultimately end up saving time and money.

"I just want to applaud the design-build concept," Mayor John Duncan said at the council meeting. "I truly believe it's cut a significant amount of time off of the project, so thank you."

The two-year time stamp on the project is due mainly to accessibility and seeing how to efficiently construct temporary access to the bridge and install the netting, and the fact that the deterrent will be blocking how the bridge gets regularly inspected and maintained, Gray explained. The construction team will have to build walkways underneath the bridge to allow for future inspections and maintenance.

Gray said most of the construction likely will occur at night so that traffic lanes will be open during the daytime.

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NAVY

California man who landed plane twice on island naval base pleads guilty to charges

Associated Press

A California man who illegally landed his small aircraft on a naval base twice and stole a Navy truck has pled guilty to federal charges, officials said.

Andrew Kyle White, 37, pleaded guilty to a felony count of theft of government property and illegal entry into a naval installation.

The San Diego man first flew a Glastar airplane — a home-built kit airplane popular among hobbyists — to San Clemente Island in October 2023 and landed on a U.S. Navy airstrip without permission.

The wind-swept island, part of Naval Base Coronado, is off the Pacific coast about 65 miles (100 miles) northwest of San Diego and is the southernmost of California's Channel Islands.

At the time, he received and signed a letter that notified him that it was a federal crime to travel to San Clemente Island without the Navy's permission and instructed him not to return.

But on April 6 of this year, military authorities say, White flew his plane to San Clemente Island again and landed it without permission. While on the island, he stole a Navy-owned Ford F-150 truck and drove it around the island, crashing it into locked gates that blocked off certain locations.

He was not detained until the next morning when he was seen on security footage walking around, according to charging documents. Officials discovered he had driven the truck onto unpaved terrain and gotten stuck.

White's attorney did not immediately respond to an emailed request for comment.

Officials estimate that White's intrusion onto the base cost nearly 500 man-hours and resulted in a $500,000 loss to the Navy.

"Whatever (White's) intentions were, the military did not know them," prosecutors said in court documents. "The island went on a complete lockdown."

White was initially released on bond but has been in federal custody since he cut off his ankle bracelet earlier this year.

He will be sentenced Sept. 29 and faces a maximum penalty of 10 years in federal prison for theft of government property and up to six months for illegally entering a naval installation.

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The Coronado News is direct mailed to every Coronado Residence every Friday and is now taking Obituaries and In Memorium notifications.

THE CORONADO NEWS

For more information contact Braeden@thecoronadonews.com

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SPORTS

CHS ROUNDUP

Islander sporting events this week

BY CADE MICHAELSON
The Coronado News

The 2-2 Coronado High football team looks to rebound after a 49-14 loss to Mission Bay. The Islanders are playing in their homecoming game – and second conference game of the season – against Mar Vista High, which is 3-2 on the season, in the "Battle for Strand Way." The Friday game starts at 7 p.m. at Coronado High.

26 • Friday:
The Coronado High boys' water polo team has a double header at Clairemont High. The varsity game starts at 3:30 p.m. with JV at 4:30 p.m.

29 • Monday:
The girls' golf team will compete in a tri-match in Coronado, teeing off at 3:30 p.m.

30 • Tuesday:
The water polo plays its second consecutive home match, this time against Grossmont High School. Varsity plays at 4:30, and JV starts at 5:30 p.m.

The girls' golf team is scheduled to compete against Scripps Ranch High at Coronado Golf Course, with a tee time of 3:30 p.m.

The girls' tennis team faces off against Canyon Hills High. Varsity is at home, and JV is on the road. Both games start at 4 p.m.

1 • Wednesday:
The girls' volleyball team hits the road to play Scripps Ranch High. JV/frosh starts at 4:15 p.m. The varsity game begins at 6 p.m.

Cross country will be competing in a cluster meet at San Diego's Morely Field. Heat times TBD.

2 • Thursday:
The girls' volleyball team travels to Cathedral High. JV/frosh starts at 4:15, varsity at 6 p.m.

CHS water polo heads to Patrick Henry High. Varsity plays at 4, JV at 5 p.m.

The girls' golf team plays another home match at Coronado Golf Course, against La Jolla High, with a tee time of 3:30 p.m.

Girls' tennis will face Mission Bay High. Varsity is on the road, JV is at home; both start at 4 p.m.

3 • Friday:
Varsity football plays at home, against Orange Glen High. The kickoff time is 7 p.m.

4 • Saturday:
Cross country heads back to Morely Field to compete in the Mt. Carmel Invitational. Heat times TBD.

Coronado football falls to Mission Bay; optimistic for homecoming week

BY CADE MICHAELSON
The Coronado News

The Coronado High School football team played its first conference matchup against Mission Bay High on Sept. 19. Though the Islanders hung tough for the majority of the game, the wheels fell off in the fourth quarter, and Mission Bay won 49-14.

The Islanders relied heavily on the arm of sophomore quarterback Jack O'Sullivan, who finished the night going 20-41 with 198 passing yards and four interceptions.

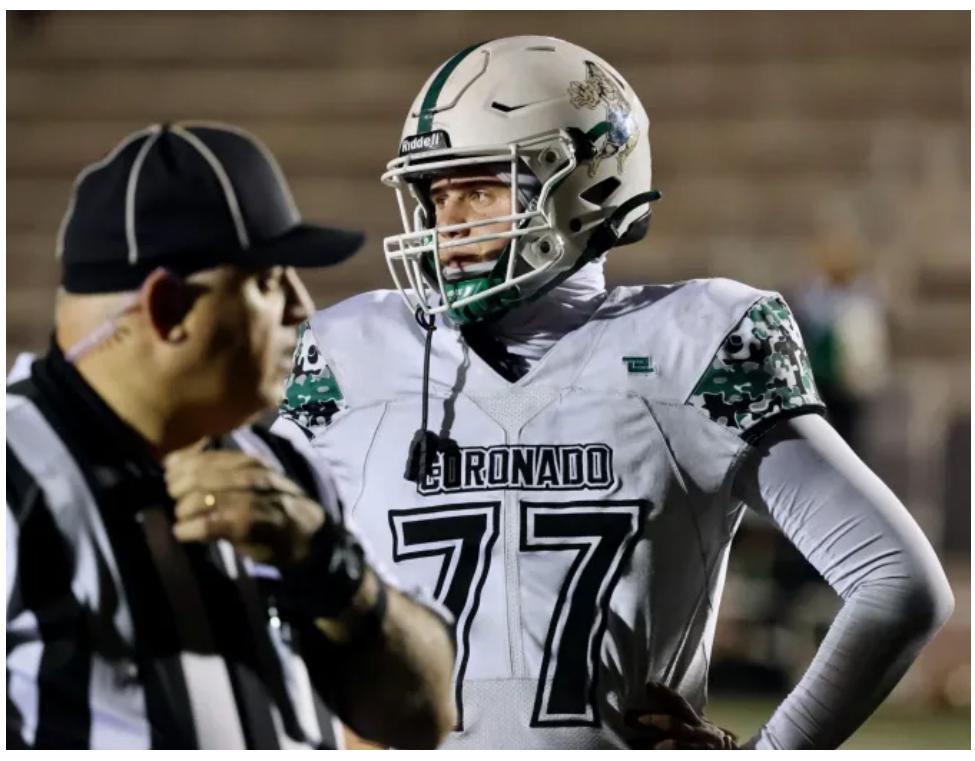
On the flip side, the Buccaneers' quarterback, senior Trey Arnold, ended with an impressive line of 25-35 for 421 passing yards and six touchdowns. Arnold used to play for Coronado, but transferred to Mission Bay following his sophomore season.

Senior lineman Walter Hardy said the team needs to be more consistent on all fronts.

"We needed to put it together better," Hardy said. "On one play, we would have – our defensive line would do really good – but linebackers wouldn't do good. But then the very next play, our line would do terrible and our linebackers would do great … we just need to play better as a team."

One of the bright spots of the night was senior offensive/defensive tackle Stanley Guymon, who had two tackles for losses on the night. Guymon said there were two main issues with the squad's performance on Friday.

"I feel like … just some stalling drives on offense and we gave up a couple of big plays on defense, which is bound to happen," Guymon said. "That's a really good passing offense we played."



Stanley Guymon (77) in a football game last season. *Photo by Kelly Moore.*

Guymon was proud of the way O'Sullivan kept the Islanders in the game in the first half, and suspects the defensive pressure may have gotten to him a bit more in the second half, leading to some of the interceptions that broke the game open late.

"I feel like a lot of people didn't expect us to stick that close to Mission Bay … I feel like we can go pretty far as a group." he added.

Coronado plays its homecoming game Sept. 26 at Coronado High at 7 p.m. against Mar Vista High in what they call the "Battle for Strand Way." Strand Way is the road that connects Coronado to Imperial Beach, the town where Mar Vista High is located.

Despite a tough loss, head coach Kurt Hines emphasized that team chemistry is still strong, and his players still believe in each other.

"Morale is good heading into this week's homecoming game vs Mar Vista, and I expressed to the team that our goal of winning league has not changed!" Hines added.

Los Angeles Chargers running back Najee Harris, right, lays on the ground after getting injured during an NFL football game against the Denver Broncos, Sunday, Sept. 21, 2025, in Inglewood, Calif.

AP Photo/ Kyusung Gong.

Chargers' Najee Harris injures Achilles tendon during non-contact play against Broncos

Associated Press

Los Angeles Chargers running back Najee Harris injured his left Achilles tendon on a non-contact play in the second quarter of a 23-20 win over the Denver Broncos on Sept. 21.

Harris collapsed untouched in the backfield after planting his left leg behind him and taking a step forward on a snap with 5:02 remaining in the second quarter.

He immediately grabbed his left leg around his ankle and remained on the ground as he was tended to by trainers. He was helped off the field by trainers and carted to the locker room.

Chargers coach Jim Harbaugh said preliminary testing determined it was an Achilles tendon injury and that Harris had imaging tests after the game to determine the severity.

"Just hoping for the best," Harbaugh said. "I told him at halftime, 'You'll be back, kid,' and I know he will."

The 27-year-old Harris signed a one-year, $9.25 million contract with the Chargers in the offseason after four seasons with the Pittsburgh Steelers.

He rushed for at least 1,000 yards in each of his seasons with Pittsburgh and was expected to play a central role in the Chargers' revamped rushing attack in their second season under Harbaugh.

Harris missed training camp after suffering an eye injury in a July 4 mishap in Northern California. His eyesight was not affected and he called it a "superficial" injury. He played in the Chargers' first two wins over Kansas City and Las Vegas and had six carries for 28 yards against the Broncos.

Harris played in 71 consecutive games since being drafted by the Steelers in the first round in 2021 out of Alabama. He has never missed a game in his NFL career.

"It's always too tough to lose a brother like that," Chargers quarterback Justin Herbert said. "You never want to see that from any of your own players or an opponent. I haven't heard anything yet, but hoping for the best for him."

Chargers right guard Mekhi Becton sustained a concussion in the second quarter and did not return. Harbaugh said Becton is in concussion protocol.

Becton, 26, signed a two-year, $20 million contract with the Chargers in the offseason after winning the Super Bowl with the Philadelphia Eagles.

Chargers linebacker Khalil Mack to miss at least 4 games with elbow injury

Associated Press

Linebacker Khalil Mack will go on injured reserve with an elbow injury, leaving the undefeated Los Angeles Chargers without one of their top defenders for at least the next four games.

Mack dislocated his left elbow in the first quarter of a win against Las Vegas on Sept. 15.

"It's one of the toughest things I've ever seen. I was staring right at it," coach Jim Harbaugh said on Sept. 17. "I've had an arm injury, too, and those are painful. I have a new level of respect for the toughness of Khalil Mack."

The Chargers have depth at Mack's position, with Bud Dupree and Tui Tuipulotu figuring to contribute. The edge rushers combined for 14 1/2 sacks last season, although neither has one so far this season.

Los Angeles Chargers linebacker Khalil Mack (52).
AP Photo.

SPORTS

Ava Schlomer (left) and Annalei Berke prep before the sophomore girls race. *Photo by George Green.*

Coronado High cross country posts personal records at Woodbridge Classic

Coronado News staff

Vincent Russo finished first for the Coronado High School boys' cross country team at the Woodbridge Classic, which over 400 schools participated in.

Nathan Ayan, Andrew Buck and Anton Youngblood followed closely behind Russo, all three posting personal records.

On the girls' team, Morgan Maske was Coronado's top finisher. Following Maske was Carly DeVore, Maesan Everitt, Vivian Scott and Lily Humphrey. Ava Schlomer was the team's top finisher in the sophomore race, followed by Annalei Berke.

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Hollywood endings: LA icons Clayton Kershaw, Anze Kopitar announce impending retirements on same day

Associated Press

When Clayton Kershaw and Anze Kopitar announced their impending retirements two hours apart on Sept. 18, the Los Angeles sports world changed forever in an afternoon.

The timing was pure coincidence for the Dodgers' enduring ace and the Kings' longtime captain, and their decisions were relatively unsurprising.

These two 21st-century LA icons still created one epochal sports day for their adopted town.

"I guess it's kind of funny how everything works out like that," Kopitar said. "It must have been something in the universe for us to decide to do it together this day."

After spending the better part of two decades as the heart and soul of their respective teams, Kershaw and Kopitar will step out of the Hollywood lights over the next year — Kershaw in a few weeks after the defending World Series champion Dodgers' playoff run, and Kopitar in 2026 after the Kings' upcoming NHL season.

The near-simultaneous announcements were even more poignant because these two superstars are friends who built parallel careers.

Kopitar arrived from Slovenia in 2006, while Kershaw landed from Texas in 2008. Both have shined ever since in the City of Stars, steadily beaming across a crowded sports landscape.

They've also brought home two rings apiece, with dreams of winning a third before they hang up their cleats and/or skates.

"I can't think of a better season to go out," Kershaw said. "We still have a lot to accomplish this month, and the last thing I want to do is be a distraction to anybody from accomplishing our ultimate goal: to win in the last game of the season."

But first, the 37-year-old Kershaw and the 38-year-old Kopitar wanted to get their respective decisions out into the world to minimize the distraction to their teams — and they accidentally ended up doing it nearly at the same time.

The Kings announced on Sept. 17 that they would hold a news conference on Sept. 18. The team didn't disclose the reason, but savvy fans and reporters could read between the lines.

About three hours before the scheduled start of Kopitar's event, the Dodgers announced Kershaw's decision on social media, calling their own news conference for later in the afternoon. Kershaw said his wife, Ellen, had encouraged him to make the announcement a day before he pitched in his final regular-season home game.

Baseball is bigger than hockey in Los Angeles, and Kershaw has accumulated even more individual honors and fame than the wildly accomplished Kopitar.

So Kershaw's announcement inevitably took some shine away from Kopitar's moment — but Kopitar didn't mind in the slightest.

"It was actually perfect for me," Kopitar said. "Now I can fly under the radar. Obviously he's a world-class ballplayer, and he deserves all the recognition he's getting and will get."

Kopitar and Kershaw have known each other for nearly their entire careers, with each supporting the other at their teams' home games over the years. They even shared the cover of Sports Illustrated in October 2014, with Kershaw's arm leaning on the seated Kopitar's shoulder while they smiled to the camera.

Their parallel careers have some remarkable similarities, too.

Both were first-round draft picks in the mid-2000s who arrived with significant expectations, although the Kings took a bigger risk on a relatively unknown prospect from a country that had never produced an NHL player than the Dodgers took on Kershaw, a dominant Dallas-area high schooler.

Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Clayton Kershaw. *AP Photo/Mark J. Terrill.*

Los Angeles Kings center Anze Kopitar. *AP Photo/Jae C. Hong, File.*

Both youngsters quickly demonstrated they were capable of handling major league competition and a big-city spotlight, making themselves vital to their teams shortly after reaching Los Angeles. Kopitar was the Kings' leading scorer by 2008, and Kershaw was a 20-game winner by 2011.

And both had to wait several years for any major playoff success — although Kershaw waited a whole lot longer than Kopitar, whose eighth-seeded Kings shocked hockey when they rampaged through the 2012 Stanley Cup playoffs to the Second Six franchise's first title.

That ring arrived in Kopitar's sixth NHL season, and he added another two years later. Kershaw's playoff history was grim for many years — in fact, it almost came to define his career as much as his regular-season dominance.

But Kershaw pitched that narrative into irrelevance for all but the most contrarian fans when he was a steady contributor to the Dodgers' 2020 title run, finally winning it all in his pandemic-truncated 13th MLB season.

Kershaw and Kopitar are both choosing to go out near the top of their careers, while they're still contributing at a level that belies their age and mileage.

Kershaw is 10-2 this season with a 3.53 ERA and 71 strikeouts, including the 3,000th of his career. He hasn't lost since July, and he won all five of his starts while allowing just six runs over 28 2/3 innings in a dominant August, doing more than his share to keep the faltering Dodgers and their leaky bullpen in the playoff race.

Kopitar had 21 goals and 46 assists last season as the Kings' second-leading scorer while still providing the two-way play that won him two Selke Trophies. He needs only 30 points this season to pass Marcel Dionne to become the top scorer in history for the Kings, who appear to have the roster to improve on four consecutive first-round playoff exits.

Finally, Kershaw and Kopitar both said they were putting family first by retiring to spend more time with their growing children.

Kopitar and his wife, Ines, intend to return to Slovenia, where their nearly-teenage son and daughter are active in hockey and figure skating.

Clayton and Ellen Kershaw have four busy kids — and a fifth on the way.

While Kershaw shed more tears than Kopitar during their announcements, both reflected poignantly on the waning days of two remarkable careers while looking to the remaining future with optimism.

"I'm at peace with it," Kershaw said. "I think it's the right time."

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SPORTS

Alex Morgan moves from the pitch to the boardroom post retirement

Associated Press

FILE - United States' Alex Morgan, center, holds the trophy celebrating at the end of the Women's World Cup final soccer match between U.S. and The Netherlands at the Stade de Lyon in Decines, outside Lyon, France, Sunday, July 7, 2019. *AP Photo/Francisco Seco.*

Alex Morgan didn't retire so much as she shifted focus.

The two-time Women's World Cup winner with the United States was always more than simply a soccer player, but since she stepped away from the game she's thrown herself into her different business ventures.

"It didn't feel like I was stopping being something and needing to start something else the next day," she said. "I felt like I was stopping soccer, but a continuation of so many other parts of my life."

The 36-year-old Morgan retired from soccer last year when she became pregnant with her second child. At the time, she and her husband, Servando Carrasco, already shared a daughter, Charlie, and Morgan was playing for the San Diego Wave.

Morgan was among the first players signed by the Wave after the club joined the National Women's Soccer League in 2021. She went on to play 63 matches with the team, scoring 28 goals, including the team's first.

Recently the Wave retired her No. 13 jersey. The national team is set to honor Morgan at a match in October.

While other former athletes have written memoirs, taken up broadcasting or even started podcasts upon retirement, Morgan went in a different direction: She founded a venture capital firm with Carrasco.

The firm, Trybe Ventures, focuses on early-stage companies in health tech, sports tech, media and emerging sports properties. One of its high-profile investments is with Unrivaled, the 3-on-3 women's basketball league.

She has also partnered with JPMorgan Chase as part of an initiative to support women's sports beyond traditional sponsorships. And she became a minority equity partner in the Wave, something that was important to her because she calls San Diego home.

Morgan had already laid the groundwork for her transition. In 2021, she co-founded Togethxr, a sports media and commerce company, along with fellow athletes Sue Bird, Chloe Kim and Simone Manuel. The company aims to highlight the stories of female athletes and push innovative media coverage of women's sports.

Togethxr created the "Everyone Watches Women's Sports" T-shirts that have generated $6 million in revenue.

Morgan's work on the business side of sports is a natural progression, given the rise of women's soccer.

"As we looked at the last five years of NWSL, we've seen the valuations of teams continue to multiply, sometimes by 10 or more than that, in only a couple of years. I think that's turning the heads of a lot of people in the investing world," she said.

Morgan played in 150 NWSL matches over her career, which included stints with the Portland Thorns and the Orlando Pride.

In addition to World Cup titles in 2015 and 2019, Morgan also won an Olympic gold medal in 2012 for the United States. She played in 224 matches for the U.S. with 123 goals (fifth on the career list) and 53 assists. She was named the U.S. Soccer Player of the Year in 2012 and 2018.

Off the field, Morgan advanced women's soccer through her fight for equal pay. The U.S. women filed a lawsuit in 2019 that led to a historic agreement in 2022 that provided the women with pay equitable to what U.S. men's players received.

She was also instrumental in shedding light on misconduct and harassment in the NWSL in 2021 that led to league-wide protections for players.

Her business ventures align with those values of equity and justice, as well as maternal rights. She founded the Alex Morgan Foundation in 2023 to further her commitment to those issues.

"I think something that's really important, is just challenging yourself and knowing that I don't have all the answers. If anything, I'm coming into the business world very late, with much less experience. My experience really is in the sports field. And so it's learning a lot every single day. It's not being afraid to ask for help or advice. It's finding those mentors that would want to help," she said. "Also, doing it with my husband makes me feel very confident and very comfortable. You already have that sense of teamwork, so to speak, in a way that I have been able to rely on my whole life in sports."

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