



Two campers wait for a catch on the San Diego Bay in Coronado on Aug. 6. Staff photos by Michelle Armas.

New Coronado fishing camp is more than catching fish

BY MICHELLE ARMAS
The Coronado News

Larsen Hill had spent years fishing in Hawaii, but on the second-to-last day of Coronado's youth fishing camp he hooked something he had never caught before: a sting-ray.

The 12-year-old, who is entering sixth grade next year, reeled in the ray with a smile as he and another boy rushed down to the rocks to help pull it in.

They brought the baby fish up from the water looking ecstatic.

"I need pliers," one said as they worked to remove the hook while avoiding the barbed tail.

The camp leader and founder, Hudson Marovich, then helped throw it back into the water.

Hill was among 12 youngsters, ages 7-13 who attended the first ever Coronado Fishing Camp. The catch came toward the end of the week-long adventure, where campers spend late mornings to early afternoons learning



Larsen Hill pulls a baby sting ray to shore on Aug. 6.

about knots, rigging, casting basics, reading tides and fish identification.

That outing was a precursor to the final day, when the children would take the ferry across the bay and fish on the other side to use the skills they had accumulated that week. That side of the bay is about 20 feet deeper and has potential for different fish species or sand sharks because of the depth.

The camp is led by Coronado residents Hudson Marovich

and Emmett Warner, who often fish together in San Diego Bay.

Marovich is the founder of the camp and is now a sport fishing private charter boat captain for a company called Nauti Three Charters. Before this, he attended the University of Alabama, where he studied finance, but he worked on boats during the summers throughout college.

He learned to fish from

» Continued on Page 8

Marilyn Monroe's later career takes center stage at Hotel Del exhibition

BY MICHELLE ARMAS
The Coronado News

In 1958, rooms at the Hotel del Coronado cost roughly \$20 to \$50 a night. That same year, the hotel set aside more than 100 rooms for the cast and crew of "Some Like It Hot," the iconic Hollywood film starring Marilyn Monroe, during its on-location filming.

Now, for what would have been the 100th birthday of America's sweetheart, the hotel is hosting an exhibition celebrating some of Monroe's most defining roles as an actress.

The exhibition, according to heritage manager Gina Petrone, is a collaboration between the Hotel Del and Lawrence Schiller, the American photo-journalist who captured Monroe in glamorous and intimate behind-the-scenes photographs during the last years of her life.

The exhibition gives little attention to her earlier years and instead focuses on the latter part of her life. Schiller's photographs date to 1960, when Monroe was married to playwright Arthur Miller and around that time renegotiated her contract with 20th Century Fox to give herself more say in the roles she would undertake, according to Petrone.

During this era, Monroe spent two years at The Actors Studio perfecting her craft. She thereafter was asked by renowned director Billy Wilder to be in "Some Like it Hot," one of her most successful films. The exhibit concentrates on this turning point. The Del and Schiller worked with Artefact Designs to curate an intimate layout where guests can be up close and personal with the images.

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Photographs from the filming of "Some Like It Hot" at Hotel del Coronado in 1958, displayed at the hotel's Ice House Museum on Aug. 13. Staff photo by Michelle Armas.



Nancy Teague Plank uses a palette knife to mix color swatches inside her studio in Little Italy. Staff photo by Julieta Soto.

Beauty is in the eye of the beholder

Nancy Teague Plank brings floral paintings to Coronado

BY JULIETA SOTO
The Coronado News

In early August, Nancy Teague Plank plans to subtly tweak the lips of a sleeping child in a mostly completed portrait showing her grandson cuddling two stuffed animals.

Plank, a member of the Coronado Art Colony, stands inside a small and cozy studio nestled in the heart of Little Italy. The structure is a former mattress and furniture building turned art complex where antique red

bricks make a nod to the past while the overhead roar of commercial jetliners flash to the present and future.

But it's the paintings on the four walls, and on Plank's easel, where time freezes in images of family members, travels to Paris and plenty of eye-catching beauty for the artist.

Plank, who turns 73 in September, paints almost everyday inside this downtown studio and it is here where six years ago she made floral paintings on exhibit at the Coronado Community Center and Chase Bank. Her paintings were previously in the "It's A Beautiful Day" exhibit at the Coronado Library.

Describing herself as a con-

temporary realist artist specializing in oil paintings of florals, landscapes, portraits, and still life, Plank said she looks for a strong composition with fresh and honest beauty or depth in a scene or photo.

"I'm gravitated to things that are beautiful," said Plank. "I believe in God and I think of God in everything that's created... What really resonates with me is when I see something that I go, 'That's it.' And I'll see it in a photo or I'll see it in life and it has it all there. ... And I try to bring the essence of what makes it really beautiful."

Plank said Tina Christiansen, a

» Continued on Page 10

this week

23 • Sunday

Coronado Promenade Concerts' summer series continues with Military Appreciation Day on Aug. 23. Navy Band Southwest's 32nd Street Brass Band will perform at 4:30 p.m. in Spreckels Park, followed by "SixWire" and guest performers at 6 p.m.

25 • Tuesday

A local farmers' market will be set up at the Coronado Ferry Landing from 2:30 to 6 p.m. on Aug. 25, featuring fresh produce.

28 • Friday

The Coronado Roundtable meets monthly at the Coronado Public Library. On Aug. 28 at 10 a.m., San Diego port Commissioner Frank Urtasun is the featured speaker.

29 • Saturday

The Coronado Public Library is hosting the Avanti Flute Choir for a free concert at 1 p.m. in the Winn Room. The group will perform a variety of film and pop tunes.

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

AROUND THE COMMUNITY



E-bike use is prohibited on all city sidewalks, beaches and parks.
File photo by Julieta Soto.

A refresher on e-bike safety tips and rules

Coronado News staff

Coronado is a popular city for e-bikes, especially in the summer months. To refresh riders on the city's rules for usage, a list of safety tips was included in a recent update from the City Manager's Office. According to the city, e-bikes are allowed on roadways, bike lanes and designated bike paths. Riding on sidewalks, beaches, parks, the Hotel del Coronado Paseo, the Coronado Shores boardwalk, and the Promenade between Glorietta Bay Park and Bluewater Boathouse is prohibited. Additionally, all children under the age of 12 are not allowed to ride e-bikes in Coronado. Fines of up to \$25 may be imposed for violators. Helmets are required for all riders under 18, and strongly recommended for any rider regardless of age. Visit projectcoronado.org for more information.

PET OF THE WEEK

Meet Shiba

PAWS of Coronado

Shiba, a 5-year-old rottweiler, is up for adoption at PAWS of Coronado. Staff members at the non-profit, which provides adoption and rehabilitation services to animals, said that Shiba is a gentle dog who thrives as the main attraction in a home. Those interested in adoption can visit www.pawsofcoronado.org. Fostering, donating and volunteering are other ways to support the organization.

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 Shiba or other pets, please visit pawsofcoronado.org.



Meet Shiba, 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.

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OUR STORY

“Once Upon A Time”

My son and I were discussing the advancements of solar systems and their applications. Being licensed commercial electricians with 15+ years of experience, we were familiar with the solar industry. After conducting further research, we determined solar technology had advanced to the point that 1 solar panel could be installed on the roof of a golf cart.

We also determined that if the panel wattage was great enough, no conventional plug-in charging would be required under most travel conditions. In addition, the solar system would add up to 30% longer travel range and extend the battery bank’s life by years, before needing an expensive replacement.

I recently moved to Coronado, California, and purchased a golf cart, and we installed a system on my cart. I was able to travel 8 months without conventional charging and it was only necessary to plug in due to extended travel at night in some limited instances.

We then began telling our friends and neighbors and advertising in the local Coronado newspaper. The idea was accepted in the community, and many carts were converted to solar power.

There is more to the story, and we encourage you to text or call us directly. We always answer our phone when we’re not busy installing systems.

Due to our success, we have expanded to all of San Diego County and have begun installing solar systems on RVs and boats.

Richard Stachowicz
Ride All Day Solar Carts
Owner and Coronado Resident



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COMMENTARY

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Kaye Schneider announces candidacy for school board

BY KAYE SCHNEIDER
Letter to the Editor

To my neighbors and friends,

I am pleased to announce my candidacy for the Coronado School Board, a decision rooted in a lifelong commitment to education and a deep love for our community.

I was raised in a family that believed strongly in the value of education. My father was the first in his family to graduate from college, beginning a three-generation legacy of educators. In our family, education has always been more than a career — it has been a way to learn, connect with one another, and better understand the world around us.

Before moving to California, I spent more than a decade as a middle school teacher in Arizona. After my family moved to Coronado in 1992, I continued supporting education by volunteering in our schools. This included room mom, serving as a president of the Coronado Middle School PTO, and assisting in the classroom. These experiences gave me a firsthand insight into the importance of strong schools, dedicated faculty, engaged families and supportive communities. My love of learning led me

to pursue graduate education after my children were grown. My work focused on the health of family systems and the impact on children's ability to learn. I believe the most effective schools are those in which the whole child is addressed.

Academic excellence aligned with character and life skills, leads to success in the classroom and in life. Strong school communities are built through collaboration, communication and a shared belief that every child deserves the opportunity to learn, feel valued and reach their full potential.

I am running to return to serving our community. I will bring experience, fresh perspective, and passion for education to the school board. Learning has been a defining part of my life. I would be honored to listen to our students, families, educators, and community members and work together toward thoughtful, responsible decisions that keep students at the center. It would be a privilege to support the CUSD Schools through serving as a trustee.

I respectfully ask for your support and your vote.

Sincerely,
Kaye Schneider

Rebecca King announces candidacy for City Council

BY REBECCA KING
Letter to the Editor

I am excited to announce my candidacy for the Coronado City Council.

My Coronado story began in 2007, when the Navy stationed my husband, a Navy physician and former Surface Warfare officer, here. Like so many military families, we fell in love with this community and made it our permanent home in 2018. Our eldest son attended Coronado public schools from 2007-2010 and is now a chemist, working towards his master's degree at UCLA. Our youngest son attended Coronado public schools from 2018-2024. He is pursuing his dream of becoming a Broadway actor, studying musical theatre at Shenandoah University in Virginia.

I have worked to give back to this community which has given my family so much. My civic involvement ranges from serving on the city's Planning and Design Review Commission and the school district's Guiding Coalition to volunteering for the Coronado Island Film Festival and the Coronado Woman's Club.

Professionally, I bring a unique skill set to the table. I practiced law for over a decade, serving most of that time as a deputy and assistant city attorney for Norfolk, Virginia. This gives me firsthand knowledge of how municipal systems operate and

how to build consensus among competing interests. This critical legal perspective is one reason Council member Carrie Downey and former Mayor Casey Tanaka have endorsed my campaign.

If elected, I will serve the entire community while focusing on clear, actionable goals to protect our quality of life:

- Clean water: Finding a permanent solution to the Tijuana River sewage crisis.
- Transparency and accountability: Insisting on transparency from City Hall, particularly with privatized city services and contracts.
- Public safety: Fast-tracking the construction of modern fire stations that meet the recommendations of the Community Risk Assessment. Amending the city's e-bike ordinance to include impoundment and a mandatory safety course in certain circumstances.
- Infrastructure: Prioritizing the replacement of our deteriorating water and wastewater pipes.

As a mother, retired military spouse, and former city attorney, I believe I will bring the right mix of civic engagement and government experience to City Council. I look forward to earning your vote this November.

Sincerely,
Rebecca King

How to be a part of The Coronado News:

- Submit a news tip
- Capture a cool photo of Coronado and send it in for publication consideration
- Respond to an editorial or a news story by writing a letter to the editor

• All submissions can be sent to newsroom@thecoronadonews.com

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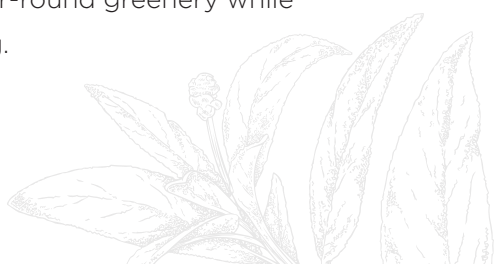


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CORONADO

Stingray lashings up as marine heat wave off Southern California draws more to shore

Associated Press

Jake Hemann grabbed a board and headed out to surf. But an hour later, he wound up sitting at the lifeguard station soaking his foot in a pail of hot water alongside four other beachgoers.

It is a common scene at Bolsa Chica State Beach and some other popular beaches in Southern California where the number of people being hit by the sharp, serrated caudal barbs found on the tails of stingrays has gone up significantly from a year ago as a marine heat wave draws more stingrays — and people — to shore.

Hemann, a 31-year-old tourist from New Mexico, said he was learning to surf when he hopped off his board and landed on what he thought was a sharp stick. “It hurt pretty bad,” he said, while sinking his throbbing foot into the hottest water tolerable to ease the pain. “It was radiating up to my ankle.”

Bolsa Chica and Huntington State Beaches reported more than 3,100 incidents so far this year, twice the number for all of 2025. The city of Huntington Beach’s 3.5-mile (5.6-kilometer) stretch of shoreline has reported more than 2,000 such incidents so far this year, more than during all last year, while more than 900 stings were recorded on San Diego’s beaches during the first half of 2026, more than during the first six months of any of the past five years, lifeguard data shows.

“We’re definitely seeing an increase,” said Bryan R. Etnyre, state park superintendent in northern Orange County. “A lot of it is due to warming ocean temperatures that are consistently staying in the 60s. I don’t think there was a week all winter where we dropped below 60 this year.”

Warmer water draws rays and people

Round stingrays are found in Pacific Ocean waters from Panama to Southern California and are known to veer toward the shore when the swell is down and the water warm.

In recent years, many species that feed on rays, such as sharks, sea lions and giant sea bass, have seen their populations dwindle, causing the number of stingrays to grow, said Chris Lowe, a professor of marine biology and director of the Shark Lab at California State University, Long Beach.

Rays are known to prefer warmer water, such as lagoons. Females prefer these waters to reproduce, and during the summer male rays have a higher metabolism that drives them to seek out food in the invertebrates along the shore, Lowe said.

“They’re really a subtropical species that is thriving at the end of its range because of climate change,” Lowe said.

The ocean already has been warming because of human-caused climate change, according to meteorologists.

This year has seen even more rays with a marine heat wave persisting off parts of the West Coast, marking the third time on record that such a large section of coastal waters stayed warm for so long, according to the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. In June, officials confirmed the formation of an El Niño, the natural warming of parts of the central Pacific that alters weather worldwide, that is expected



Researchers gather around a pile of stingrays to clip their barbs after catching them in Seal Beach, Calif., Friday, Aug. 7, 2026. AP Photo/Jae C. Hong.

to grow to historic strength. Meanwhile, more people have been heading to beaches seeking outdoor recreation since the coronavirus pandemic. And when the water is warm, they are more likely to swim.

When rays are stepped on, they instinctively flick up their tails, stinging people with venomous barbs. Lifeguards urge bathers to shuffle their feet as they enter the water as the movement often gets rays to slide out of the way without stinging.

In Southern California, lifeguards can treat 10,000 stingray injuries a year, Lowe said.

In Seal Beach, one area draws so many due to an influx of warm water from a nearby power plant it is known as “ray bay,” though lifeguards there haven’t seen much change in stings this year.

Using a 75-foot-long net, researchers swept up some 200 stingrays, each about the size of a dinner plate, on a section of the beach on a recent morning.

“There can be so many that they actually carpet the bottom, like you can’t see sand,” Lowe said. “During El Niños, we get more of them up from the south, and they come closer to shore. So this year, we’re expecting record numbers.”

Sting advisory and booties aim to help

Lowe said he is working with television stations to develop a stingray advisory to help reduce the number of people who get stung, and the number of rays that get squished. Rays help keep the beach healthy by feeding on small clams and aerating sediment.

Many beaches use an app to notify bathers when there are multiple stings at a location. Meanwhile, a company has developed surf booties that claim to be barb-resistant — though swimmers are urged to still tread lightly to avoid trampling the rays.

At Bolsa Chica State Beach, swimmers suffering stings to the sides of their feet and toes sat in a circle refilling their pails with hot water from a hose. Some were there more than an hour waiting for the pain to ease.

Most stings don’t require addition-

al medical attention. If redness and swelling continue more than four or five days, there could be a medical complication such as an infection or a retained barb that can be seen on an X-ray, said Dr. Christanne Coffey, who researches the stings at University of California, San Diego Health.

Allen Lowry said he was playing with his 7-year-old grandson when he came down on something squishy. He lifted his foot and saw blood so his

wife drove him to the lifeguard station for a hot water soak, which is the remedy for stings.

Lowry, 69, said he swims three times a week at another beach, and getting stung, though painful, won’t change that. He said some people in his swim group have been stung multiple times.

“Usually, once the pain you feel goes away, you feel fine the next day,” he said.

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SCAN ME



New Coronado fishing camp is more than catching fish

» Continued from Page 1

working on boats his whole life and learning from his parents and grandparents. He also hung out dockside and asked other fishermen what to do. He wants to encourage the next generation to get off their phones and have those experiences.

Emmett Warner recently graduated from Chico State and now works at a jet ski rental at the ferry landing.

“Me and my friends would go out and just ask old guys on the pier how to tie different knots. You don’t really see kids doing that anymore,” Marovish said.

Marovish said he created the program after noticing a lack of fishing camps for young kids in San Diego.

“We heard the yacht club had one, but they just take them out and pre-set rods. You don’t really learn to fish,” Marovish said. He said he wanted the camp to focus on teaching children how to fish rather than simply creating an opportunity for them to catch a fish.

At his camp, there are no phones. Instead, the focus is on being outdoors and understanding the process behind fishing. Throughout the week, campers learn how to set up their own gear and prepare for a day on the water.

Marovish recalled a 7-year-old camper who became frustrated after failing to catch a fish. He talked the boy through his frustration, explaining that fishing requires a lot of sitting and waiting.

“He finally caught a fish,” Marovish said. “Then he was ecstatic, and all he wanted to do for the rest of the week was fish.”

Throughout the week, Marovish was surprised by how eager the campers were to learn. By the end of the week, they were taking initiative, going to grab what they needed to set up their own rods.

“I like it because it’s chill, but when you catch something, it’s like really cool,” camper Callahan Dugan, 12-years-old, said after he demonstrated how to tie a knot.

The camp is \$399 for the week and includes fishing rods tackle, hooks, weights, lures, bait and line. Marovish said this year’s camp lasted only one week, but next year he’s planning sessions throughout the summer.

Contact: michelle@thecoronadonews.com



ABOVE: A camper fishes at the San Diego Bay during the Coronado Fishing Camp on Aug. 6.



LEFT: Hudson Marovish (left) helps Callahan Dugan (right) tie a knot for the fishing rod on Aug. 6.

Staff photos by Michelle Armas.

! Stop. Hang Up. Tell Someone.



A Message from the San Diego County District Attorney



Microsoft isn’t calling – scammers are.

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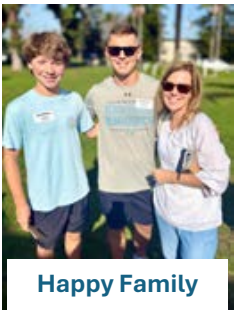


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**DON'T BE AFRAID
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Marilyn Monroe’s later career takes center stage at Hotel Del exhibition

» Continued from Page 1

“Unfortunately, her life was cut short, but to me, those final years demonstrate her optimism and courage to take greater control of her career and define herself on her own terms,” Petrone said.

Along with archival photos from films such as “Some Like It Hot,” “Let’s Make Love,” “The Misfits” and “Something’s Got to Give,” the exhibition features various artifacts such as: the keys to the film crew’s Beach Cottages, a receipt showing Marilyn Monroe’s name and room reservation; and a Monroe-autographed picture for a Coronado resident, Sandra Barkhurst, then an 11-year-old girl watching the filmmaking from the sidelines.

According to a statement in the exhibition from Schiller:

“Marilyn was a photographer’s dream. While naturally insecure and shy, when the cameras rolled, she came alive. There was no hint of the woman who had been in trouble for most of her life. Her wet skin glistened. Her smile was provocative.”

Monroe, best known as a pop culture sex symbol and actress, had a turbulent childhood. Her mother, Gladys Baker, struggled with mental health issues and was institutionalized, leaving Monroe to spend much of her childhood in foster homes and with relatives.

As a young adult, Monroe was discovered by a photographer while working at a munitions factory in California, launching her modeling career and eventually leading her to sign with 20th Century Fox in 1946. Her role in “Some Like It Hot” became one of her most successful, earning



Promotional advertisements for the "Some Like It Hot" film from 1959 are on display at the Marilyn Monroe Exhibition at the Hotel del Coronado on Aug. 13. Staff photo by Michelle Armas.

her a Golden Globe for Best Actress in a Musical or Comedy in 1960. Her life was cut short in 1962 at age 36 from an overdose of barbiturates.

In the audio-visual tour at The Del, visitors can go see the filming locations for themselves with anecdotes and trivia regarding “Some Like It Hot.”

One stop takes visitors to the beach in front of the Del where, according to the tour, bystanders gathered to catch a glimpse of the filming but did not

always stay quiet — until Monroe told them to. “Marilyn was rumored to be hard to work with,” says a narrator in the tour audio. “In one scene, she had a single line: ‘Where’s the bourbon?’ She couldn’t do it. After 37 takes, they called off shooting for the day.”

Petrone said it’s been especially rewarding seeing younger visitors excited to learn more about Monroe, sometimes encountering her work for the first time. “More than 60 years after her death, she still has an extraor-

dinary ability to connect with new generations,” she added.

The exhibit opened May 30 in the Hotel Del’s Ice Museum and will continue through Aug. 30. Tickets are \$12. The artifacts will return to the Del’s archives, while Schiller’s photographs will return to him. For more details, visit hoteldel.com/experience/marilyn-exhibit.

Contact:
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Floral paintings by Nancy Teague Plank on display at Chase Bank. Staff photo by Julieta Soto.

Beauty is in the eye of the beholder

» Continued from Page 1

Coronado resident and artist, invited her to local exhibitions and she eventually joined the city’s Art Colony founded by Christiansen.

“They seem to love it,” said Plank about the community’s reception to her artwork. “They seem to really think it’s beautiful.”

A lineage of artists

Plank credits her start as an artist to her maternal grandfather who she called “Papa.”

“He could draw anything we asked and he could draw it beautifully,” said Plank.

Following in his footsteps, at age 10 she made an oil painting with him, where she learned about the medium.

Plank said there are different ways to go into a painting, but when she begins sketching – or grids for placement – she is committed to a piece.

“It just starts to grow until it’s all done,” said Plank, noting she will usually not touch the piece thereafter but sometimes revisits paintings for improvements.

Plank studied at the American Academy of Art, the Brooklyn Museum, and the National Academy of Design School and Fine Arts. On the West Coast, her formal art training includes studies at Watts Atelier, La Jolla’s Athenaeum, and workshops with art masters.

“I cannot tell you how much I love

it. I love painting,” said Plank. “... I know it sounds a bit morbid, but I hope I die with a paint brush in my hand and I just get a little bit more before I go.”

Plank’s artistry is shaped by some of her favorite artists such as John Singer Sargent, an American artist, whose “Carnation, Lily, Lily, Rose” blew her away in London.

Plank also teaches oil painting for beginners at Art on 30th, and welcomes her family into her studio where they paint as well.

Across her paintings, Plank aims to resonate with viewers as is usually the case with her portraits.

Plank said the ideal reaction of someone looking at one of her paintings is that they feel better, lighter and more peaceful as a consequence of spending time with it.

“That the beauty is such that they feel elevated,” said Plank. “And it doesn’t have to be joy, but it settles in their heart that there’s good in the world, there’s beauty in the world.”

As she continues her work on commissioned pieces, she looks to limit her color palettes and begin daily painting, or timed pieces on small canvas.

“I live in Scripps Ranch but I have a big piece of my heart in Coronado,” said Plank.

To learn more about Plank, visit: <http://nancyplankart.com/>.

Contact:
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THE CORONADO NEWS

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SPORTS

Coronado father-son duo goes back to lawn bowling U.S. National Championships

Javier and Angel Gomez won second place at the championships two years and they're back to try to win

BY MADELINE YANG
The Coronado News

Like rolling bowls and chasing the jack, Coronado duo Javier and Angel Gomez are chasing the U.S. National Championship this year as they try to overtake their second place win from two years ago.

The pair competed in doubles in 2024, clinching the silver and becoming the first father-son duo to reach the podium in the event's 67-year history.

They secured one of only two Southwest Division spots when they won this year's Southwest Men's Pairs Playdowns in Laguna Beach, an official regional qualifying tournament for the National Championships. The pair will return to Laguna Beach for the championship in September.

"We're just going to take it one game at a time, one ball at a time, and see where it ends up," Javier, 55, told The Coronado News. "As much as we'd love to win it ... for me, I've already won just by playing with my son."

"I don't think there's a father out there that would not love to play a sport with their own kids."

Javier said he's lived in Coronado for pretty much his entire life and he and his wife have raised their three kids on the island.

Separately, Javier will travel to England to play the Professional Bowls Association (PBA) tournament while Angel will go back to Hong Kong where he finished fourth at the 2024 World Bowls Junior Indoor Championship.

Angel, 21, is the youngest bowler on the U.S. national team.

Javier is hoping that their sport will make it to the Olympics in 2032.

The father and son started play-



Angel (left) and Javier (right) Gomez won the 2026 Southwest Division (SWD) Men's Pairs Playdowns earlier in August. Photo provided by Berie Grobe.

"As much as we'd love to win it ... for me, I've already won just by playing with my son."

- Javier Gomez

ing in pairs together a few years ago in local competitions, but, in singles, they sometimes end up bowling against each other. At the South Central Open in Arizona, where players draw a card to see who they're playing against, Angel drew his father's name.

Angel took the first set. Javier took the second, and ended up

winning the match by a few millimeters.

"I've been his coach this entire time," Javier said. "There's really nothing I can hide from Angel, and there's nothing that he doesn't know that I'm ... going to do."

Javier's been lawn bowling since 2013 when the family was introduced to it at the Coronado Lawn

Bowling Club, based at the John D. Spreckels Center.

Angel started seriously playing several years later, in 2020.

"A family that bowls together, stays together," Javier said. His entire family plays the sport and although his two older children aren't at home anymore, it's something they all enjoy doing together when they can.

Javier and Angel also teach the sport at Christ Church on the island as part of a school elective for kids 6-8th grades, and Angel will be teaching young adults at the Coronado Community Center.

Contact: madeline@thecoronadonews.com

New MLS commissioner Larry Berg aims to keep league's growth

Associated Press

Incoming Major League Soccer Commissioner Larry Berg sees his role as continuing the trajectory of the league under his soon-to-be predecessor, Don Garber.

The 30-team league that Garber grew during his 27-year tenure now looks to Berg to capitalize on the success of the World Cup this past summer and guide the transition to a new international schedule next year.

"I think one of the reasons that I raised my hand is I feel like I have the enthusiasm and the passion to hopefully have other people, in some cases, see it through my eyes and understand where we're going and where it can go and what it can be," Berg told The Associated Press. "I'm very proud of where we already are. I think we've come a very, very long way."

Berg, a co-owner of LAFC, will formally take over as commissioner at the start of next year. Garber, who has served as the league's commissioner since 1999, will help guide the transition before moving into a new role as chairman.

Garber said the ideal candidate would unite the entire MLS ecosystem around a shared vision. And he believes the league will have that under Berg, who will become just the third commissioner in the history of the league.

"I think he's convinced the ownership through a very comprehensive process that he has what it takes to do the two most important things, which is to create that vision, and then to get the owners to unite around it," Garber said. "That requires great relationships. It requires the capability to put the plan together and do the work. ... He (Berg) is super smart. He doesn't lead with ego. He leads with understanding perspectives, and I think that's a super important part of being the commissioner."



FILE - Los Angeles FC lead owner Larry Berg gestures during an interview at the Major League Soccer 25th Season kickoff event in New York, Feb. 26, 2020. AP Photo/Richard Drew, File.

The 60-year-old Berg, who has served as co-chair of the MLS sporting and competition committee, will divest his ownership interest in LAFC. He was formally introduced as the incoming commissioner on Tuesday at the league's New York headquarters, a day after he received the required two-thirds of the votes from the owners.

"First of all, he loves soccer, and I think next to his family, soccer is the most important thing in his life. Second of all, he knows the league really well. We have 30 great owners, and all of them are very involved in the league. But Larry is, I think it's safe to say, has been over the last five years the most involved owner," Columbus Crew owner Jimmy Haslam said. "He understands what we do well, where we have opportunity. I think he has a great relationship with all the owners. Going through this process certainly enhanced that."

Berg previously held ownership stakes in Italian club AS Roma, as well as English league team

Swansea. Under Berg's ownership, LAFC won the MLS Cup in 2022, and the Supporters' Shield in 2019.

Under Garber's watch, the league has expanded from 12 to 30 teams. He introduced the league's marketing arm, Soccer United Marketing, encouraged the construction of soccer-specific stadiums and spurred the growth of an academy system to develop players in the United States.

Five clubs, Inter Miami, the home of Lionel Messi, LAFC, LA Galaxy, Atlanta United and NYCFC are valued at more than \$1 billion, according to Forbes.

At the start, Berg will oversee the league's shift to a new calendar, with the season running from on a summer to spring schedule to more align with its international counterparts. Currently the league plays a late winter to late fall schedule.

Following the conclusion of the current season, MLS will play a shortened 14-game "sprint season" in early 2027 before the league switches to its new schedule, kicking off in July with the league championship to be played in May 2028.

Berg will also be charged with negotiating a new media rights deal. The current contract with Apple TV ends in 2029. The league is also looking at changes to roster rules.

"This has been a passion my whole life. This sport and some of the great joys of my life have been involved in the LAFC and involved with the sporting competition committee," Berg said. "I have a lot of ideas."

I feel like we're at a point where a tremendous amount of success has been achieved with the games and the live gameday entertainment experience, etc. But as the World Cup showed, you can be incredibly happy and very successful, but somehow there's always more. You want to get to that next step."

SPORTS

Katie Ledecky surges to 1,500 free win for her first home-soil international medal

Associated Press

Katie Ledecky won the 1,500-meter freestyle on opening night of the Pan Pacific Championships, earning the first international medal of her storied career on home soil on Aug. 12.

The U.S. concluded a dominant night with a world record in the 4 x 100 mixed medley relay.

Ledecky, a two-time Olympic champion in the 1,500, was under her own world-record pace in the early stages of the 30-lap race, with young fans holding signs at the outdoor pool in Irvine, California, on their feet cheering throughout.

Ledecky touched in 15 minutes, 36.09 seconds. Lani Pallister of Australia gave chase early before Ledecky opened a body-length lead over her closest pursuer. Pallister took silver in a personal best 15:38.62. Moesha Johnson of Australia earned bronze.

“Not quite the time that I wanted, but again, you can’t complain with gold and getting my hand on the wall first,” Ledecky said. “It’s great to be in an environment like this.”

In the mixed medley relay, the American team of Will Modglin, Van Mathias, Gretchen Walsh and Kate Douglass won in 3:36.70. They beat the old mark of 3:37.43 set by the U.S. at the 2024 Paris Olympics.

Modglin got it started with



Katie Ledecky, of the United States, competes in the women’s 1500-meter freestyle final at the Pan Pacific Swimming Championships in Irvine, Calif., Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2026. AP Photo/Jae C. Hong.

backstroke before Mathias took over for the breaststroke leg. Walsh handled butterfly and Douglass brought it home on freestyle.

“As we were sitting back there for two hours waiting for this race to come, we kind of threw out the idea of breaking a world record,” Douglass said. “I love anchoring relays like this. They kind of do all the work for me. I get to just give my all at the end.”

Australia took silver in 3:39.30. Canada earned bronze.

Walsh won the 50 butterfly over Douglass to lead four 1-2 finishes by the United States.

Walsh touched in 24.65 seconds, bettering her time of 24.91 from the morning preliminaries. Douglass became the third woman to break the 25-second barrier in the event with a prelim time of 24.99. In the final, she finished second at 25.06.

Walsh was already in the sub-25 club, with the American record of 24.51 seconds. The other member is Sarah Sjostrom of Sweden, who holds the world record of 24.43 seconds.

Canada’s Taylor Ruck took bronze in 25.23 in the first Pan Pacs held since 2018. It was the first of three bronzes

she won.

The once-every-four-years event was canceled in 2022 because of the COVID-19 pandemic. This year’s event was moved from Canada to Southern California to give the region a major international meet ahead of the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics, where swimming will be held at SoFi Stadium in front of nearly 40,000 spectators.

Luca Orlando won the 200 butterfly over U.S. teammate Carson Foster. Orlando finished in 1:53.11, breaking the championship record of 1:53.80 set by Michael Phelps at the 2006 Pan Pacs in Van-

couver, British Columbia.

Phelps then presented medals to Orlando, Foster and third-place Harrison Turner of Australia.

“That was like a dream come true,” Orlando said.

American teammates Katharine Berkoff and world record holder Regan Smith finished 1-2 in the women’s 100 backstroke. Berkoff won in 57.93. Smith was second in 58.11, slower than the time of 57.86 she swam in prelims.

Ruck earned her second bronze in 58.40.

U.S. teammates Luke Hobson and Gabriel Jett finished 1-2 in the men’s 200 freestyle.

Hobson touched first in 1:43.85 with a stunned Jett second in a personal-best 1:43.96. Zhang Zhanshuo of China was third.

Pallister won the women’s 200 free in a course-record 1:53.67, beating Canada’s Summer McIntosh, who was second at 1:53.86. Erika Fairweather of New Zealand was third.

Ben Armbruster of Australia won the men’s 50 fly in 22.75 seconds over Van Mathias of the U.S.

The Pan Pacs limit each nation to just two swimmers in every championship final as a way to ensure greater representation among countries. That means swimmers can’t afford to ease through the morning prelims since a full-on effort could be required to make the evening final.



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SPORTS

The pull of a home Olympics: Why US medalists are coming back for Los Angeles 2028

Associated Press

For those who have competed — or nearly competed — under the Olympic rings, the fear of missing out the next time the Games beckon is real. Regardless of the venue. Regardless of the sport.

Athletes who try to run it back following a lengthy sabbatical (and in some cases, a lengthy retirement) is hardly new. The list is filled with household names, from Mark Spitz to Michael Phelps. From Lindsey Vonn to Simone Biles. And on and on and on.

Still, the steady drip figures to be more of a deluge as Los Angeles 2028 approaches. The inherent pull of the Games combined with the chance to compete at home on the world stage under the white-hot spotlight only the Olympics provide is already proving too tempting to ignore for a generation of American stars who have racked up medal after medal on seemingly every other continent but their own.

Track icon Allyson Felix is mounting a return in her early 40s. Six-time Olympic medalist and 2020 Olympic gymnastics all-around champion Suni Lee (with documentary crew in tow) announced last month she's started training for a shot at her third Games. Two-time Olympic gold medalist Jade Carey is already back, winning the vault and finishing fifth in the all-around at the U.S. championships over the weekend.

Asked how much of a factor the chance to do her thing on American soil played into her decision as she enters her late 20s, Carey just smiled. "I probably would have gone for it regardless," said Carey, who will be



All Around second place finisher Claire Pease, left, All Around Champion Hezly Rivera, center, and All Around third place finisher Charleigh Bullock, right, stand on the podium at the U.S. Gymnastics Championships, Sunday, Aug. 9, 2026, in Phoenix. AP Photo/Ross D. Franklin.

28 when the flame is lit at the Coliseum in Los Angeles. "But it does make it a little extra special that it's in the U.S."

Or maybe a lot more special. Oh, and conceivably a lot more lucrative too.

Olympic success at home can be life-changing

The media landscape has shifted dramatically since the 1996 Games in Atlanta. The rise of social media allows athletes to easily tell their stories directly to new audiences, and the ability to create and curate their own brand opens sponsorship opportunities that didn't exist a generation ago.

Finding your way onto the medal stand at the Olympics anywhere in

the world can make you a hero. Doing it in the States, however, can turn you into a legend. Mary Lou Retton, Mike Eruzione and Kerri Strug know how that goes.

Longtime agent Sheryl Shade, whose list of clients over the last 30 years has included a "who's who" of Olympians, from gymnasts Nastia Liukin and Shawn Johnson to soccer pioneer Mia Hamm and figure skater Tara Lipinski, called the opportunities for athletes to capitalize on success in Los Angeles "exponentially" greater than any Games that have come before.

"It's going to be long-range too," Shade said. "Because now it doesn't end at the Olympic Games. That's why LA is so important. This is about legacy."

Look no further than "The Magnificent Seven" for proof. Three decades ago, the members of the 1996 U.S. women's Olympic gymnastics team walked onto the floor of the Georgia Dome for the team final as underdogs. They walked off it with gold medals around their necks, their lives forever altered.

"I mean, we all knew that was going to be special," team captain Amanda Borden said.

Even if they had no idea how special at the time. While the group, all teenagers that summer, eventually retired and went on with their lives, to this day they get stopped by fans who remember where they were that memorable July night when the injured Strug gingerly stuck her vault landing to secure gold for the Americans.

They've lived the dream. In some ways, they're still living it. So no, they're not surprised that so many who've "already been there, done that" want to give it another shot.

"I can promise (for) every athlete that makes the team, this Olympics will be one of the greatest moments of their careers," seven-time Olympic medalist Shannon Miller said.

Her advice to anyone considering it: go for it, even if things don't work out exactly as you planned.

Miller decided less than a year before the 2000 Games in Sydney to give it one final shot at age 23 — considered ancient for a gymnast at the time, though not so much anymore. An injury at the Olympic trials ended that dream. Miller has no regrets, and a quarter century later it's considered largely a footnote for the most-decorated American women's gymnast not named Biles.

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SPORTS

A new football title chase lies ahead as women’s flag football closes in on NCAA championship status

Associated Press

The next college football power is being built on campuses from coast to coast. Not tackle, but in women's flag football.

New programs are game planning and rosters full of new players will be taking snaps this fall into spring to possibly become your NCAA national champion in 2028.

Women's flag football is on the fast track to gaining championship-sport status from the NCAA. There could be a national title game as early as spring 2028, before the LA Games, where flag football will make its Olympic debut.

Flag football currently falls under the NCAA's "emerging sports" umbrella with more than 120 schools slated to field a squad this academic year. There will be a vote in January on all levels — Division I, II and III — to lock in the sport's addition. It's already gained championship status on the NAIA level through a decision this summer and a title game will be held in May.

Schools on every level are already busy assembling coaches, players and recruits — assessing name, image and likeness potential as well as schedules and logistics — to get a head start.

The first sanctioned NCAA Division I champion in the sport might very well be a school that's not exactly known as a football factory.

Maybe a Cal Poly, which is famous for astronauts (think: Artemis II pilot Victor Glover) but has already recruited two of the top players in the country to campus.

Or maybe a program with a tackle-football pedigree such as Nebraska,



In this image provided by USA Football, USA Football national team players Maci Joncich (7) and Ashlea Klam, second from right, who will be flag football teammates in the fall at Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo, Calif., huddle with their teammates during USA Football's Rivalry Series game against Canada, Sunday, June 19, 2026, at Dignity Health Sports Park in Carson, Calif.

Kelli Tolar/USA Football via AP.

which hired Liz Sowers as head flag football coach after she led Ottawa University (Kansas) to five national NAIA crowns.

As for the next star? It just might be that intramural sensation on campus who played in high school. Or a player from the youth flag football pipeline who's perhaps from a team backed by the NFL. Or one suiting up for a national team as part of USA Football.

"For so long, flag football was seen as just the female version of football or the easier version of football," said Maci Joncich, a quarterback/receiver for Cal Poly and a member of USA Football's national squad. "Now, it's getting the respect it deserves."

The stars of tomorrow

Rod Sherman was brought on board with his wife, Kristen, in March to oversee the program at Cal Poly (notable alum: Hall of Fame coach John Madden). A longtime high school football coach, Rod Sherman once mentored NFL standout Christian McCaffrey. Sherman also helped his wife oversee a successful high school women's flag football program in California.

They're already assembling an All-Star roster, landing Team USA receiver/safety Ashlea Klam and Joncich. Klam came from NAIA power Keiser University in Florida and Joncich from Florida, where she played for the club team. Team meetings, practices and lift sessions start this month as they prepare for a spring season. The Mustangs are slated to play a 24-game varsity schedule that's still being finalized with planned trips to Texas, New York, North Carolina and Arizona.

Looking down the road to a looming NCAA title game, Joncich said: "It's so cool."

Women's flag football is looking to join a list of sports that have gained NCAA championship status through the Emerging Sports for Women program, which was designed to bridge the participation gap between genders. The program has led to the inclusion of women's sports such as ice hockey, wrestling, and, new this academic season, acrobatics and tumbling, along with stunt (derived from cheerleading). Flag football was approved as an emerging sport last January, effective immediately.

"We're a very football-heavy country," said Gretchen Miron, who amplifies women's sports through her role as the NCAA's director of education and external engagement. "So for women and girls to move directly into this as participants rather than just as observers or contributors in other ways has been very exciting to see."

The NFL has thrown its weight behind the sport by sponsoring teams and tournaments. Last month, the NFL Flag Championships were held in Westfield, Indiana, where 350 squads — more than 3,500 girls and boys — from 13 countries took the field. It played well across ESPN platforms as the girls' high school championship contest averaged 1.12 million viewers. College flag football coaches showed up to scout potential players.

"Having different visions of what (female players) can do because of what they'll see as possible by this current group of trailblazers that have done so much for this younger generation is symbolic of so much in our society," Sherman said. "They don't have to compromise on their quest to be great."

Flag football at the club level

Think of UCLA football and Hall of Fame names such as Troy Aik-

man spring to mind. Tenley Hill is creating her own gridiron legacy as the president of the UCLA flag football club. The linebacker/receiver/communications major assembled a 19-player squad from scratch after playing in high school.

This club team could possibly become a foundation for the varsity squad. It's not unprecedented. The men's and women's hockey teams for Penn State played club in the American Collegiate Hockey Association before transitioning to the Division I ranks.

"It's been surreal to help lay the groundwork for what I see as the next big sport," Hill wrote in an email to The Associated Press. "A lot of the girls who joined had never played flag football before, but turned out to be incredible athletes and have become incredible flag football players."

To assemble the squad, Hill relied on the assistance of NIRSA, an organization that provides resources for college club and intramural teams. It already has numerous schools signed on this season for women's flag football as a club sport, ranging from Georgia to Florida State to Indiana (home of the NCAA football national champions).

"The growth is incredible," said Pam Watts, the executive director of NIRSA. "The pace is like something we've never seen."

Flag football is now sanctioned as a high school girls varsity sport in more than 20 states. What's more, the NFL teams voted last December to support the development and launch of a pro flag football league.

USA Football also fosters growth. Joncich and Klam are heading to Germany this month as part of Team USA for the IFAF flag football world championships before returning to Cal Poly for classes and more flag football.

NFL legends are getting involved

NFL legends are also getting involved in women's flag football. Hall of Fame quarterback Steve Young has two daughters, Summer and Laila, who've shined in the sport.

"This game is made for girls," Young said at a recent camp he put together at a high school in Oakland with his foundation and through Sutter Health. "At its roots, the tactics and the choreography, not the hitting, but the choreography, the roots of football, it's made for girls."

"Now that it's getting into college and you'll see it in the Olympics, there will be an explosive effect to it. The girls are going to thrive."

More than 68,800 girls played high school flag football in 2024, according to a participation survey by the National Federation of State High School Associations.

"The boys had the game forever," Hall of Fame receiver Jerry Rice said, "and now the girls have the opportunity."



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