

Seashore News



November 2026

Published Monthly by Niguel Shores Community Association

Issue 634

HOLIDAY OF GRATITUDE

A Thanksgiving Message

Thanksgiving is an opportunity for people of every faith and tradition to pause and be grateful for the family, friends, and connections that support and sustain us. May our thoughts of gratitude deepen our appreciation for one another, inspire kindness, and foster goodwill. Wishing everyone a peaceful and meaningful Thanksgiving.

HOLIDAY ABOUT HEROES

Honoring Veterans

On November 11, we recognize the men and women of the military who have served our nation with courage and dedication. To all veterans and their families—thank you for your service, your sacrifice, and your steadfast spirit.

READY, SET, GO!

*It's time to...
Honor Our Vets,
Count Our Blessings,
and Get Ready for
the Holidays!*

5K WALK,
RUN, STROLL
OR SCOOT!

Thanksgiving Turkey Trek

Thursday, November 26 at 8:00 a.m.
Meet at the Bluff • Rain or Shine

Bring a breakfast treat to share, wear something festive, and join your neighbors for a Thanksgiving morning tradition. Free event • No registration required

LIGHT UP THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Deck The Shores

Decorating Begins
November 27

Judging on Wednesday,
December 16
from 5 to 7 p.m.

(See judging
categories on
Page 7 of this
issue.)

SAVE THE DATE

Tinsel At The Shores
Thursday, December 3
from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Santa photos, holiday treats, children's activities, a performance by award-winning Titanium Choir, toy drive for the Marines, and our community tree lighting!

KATHY SAMUEL LUXURY REAL ESTATE

TOP 1%

Real Estate Agents in California

#1

Monarch Beach Homes Sold

377+

Keys Handed Over

\$416+ MILLION

Closed Transactions

Together we CAN make a Difference

Niguel Shores Canned Food Drive

Over the years we have donated **55,000+** meals, lets continue the great work!

Virtual Donation: Now - November 22, 2026

Physical Pick Up: November 16-22, 2026

AS ALWAYS I WILL MATCH YOUR CONTRIBUTION & PROVIDE A CASH DONATION OF \$500.

EASY TO DONATE

USE THE QR CODE BELOW OR
TEXT KATHY 949.444.1674



USING YOUR SMART DEVICE
CAMERA CLICK THE QR ABOVE.



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NSCA is not responsible for any work done nor are we recommending any of the advertised companies

FROM THE HELM

We're kicking off this month's column with a huge thanks to our residents' participation in our monthly Board meetings. Feedback—whether positive or challenging—is how we continue to improve our community. Tracking and response to Homeowner Forum comments have helped keep focus on specific issues, and we want to give a special 'shout-out' to **Lilly Ekuan** who was the catalyst in the installation of lights to improve visibility and safety at the 3-way intersection of Niguel Shores and Mariner Drives. And on a related note, we have approved a **new Traffic & Safety committee**. We'll share more details on the committee and how to apply to participate in an upcoming eblast.

Protecting our Slopes—Our geotechnical consultants are currently conducting a biannual survey of all NSCA slopes. They are also assessing several areas with significant water flows to proactively reduce risk of slope issues during periods of extreme rain. These include Cabrillo, Nauticus and Mercator Isles. We have also approved repairs to the Brigantine slope.

The Breakers Isle revetment was damaged by waves at high tide in mid-October. We immediately notified and met with Orange County officials onsite to determine the extent of the damage and the appropriate next steps regarding repair. We are in ongoing communication with the County to ensure an effective and expedient solution.

Preserving our Amenities for Niguel Shores Residents—Niguel Shores is unique in the variety and quality of its amenities, with many residents citing that as one of the primary reasons they bought in Niguel Shores. Preserving

those amenities requires respecting the NSCA rules and regulations regarding use by residents and their guests.

Over the past several months, issues have surfaced where our amenities are being used as a gathering place for large groups of non-residents, particularly The Bluff. We want to refresh everyone on the rules regarding use of our amenities and have included those rules in the call-out box on Page 4. Please take this opportunity to review the rules.

For better control, NSCA Security patrols will be increased at The Bluff, including spot checking of residency or validation that the Resident sponsoring a group is present. Please treat them with respect and do not be offended by the question. This is to preserve our investment in this community. Also, if the sponsoring resident is not on site, those guests will be asked to leave.

Important reminders for November

- We are holding a **Town Hall** on **Wednesday, November 4 at 6 p.m.** in the **Clubhouse** to present the 2027 draft budget. Please plan on attending.
- **November Board meeting is Thursday, November 19** due to Veterans Day holiday on November 11.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy season of thanks to all our **service men and women** on **Veterans Day** and to our **family and friends** as we celebrate **Thanksgiving** at the end of the month.

—Niguel Shores Board of Directors

MATT NORTHROP PROMOTED TO ARCHITECTURAL MANAGER

The Board is pleased to announce the promotion of **Matt Northrop** to **Architectural Manager** effective immediately. Matt has been serving in an interim capacity for the past three months and has demonstrated his leadership in support of the residents and the Architectural Committee (AC). The Board and the Architectural Committee unanimously endorsed Matt.

It's a tough job. Renovation and new construction in Niguel Shores is at all-time high level—and continues to grow. We're excited about the fresh perspective Matt will bring to the role. His knowledge of the AC Rules and Regulations is deep, and his steady hand in navigating the processes is impressive. Matt supported the AC for seven years, from 2014 to 2021 in a cross-training role which has proven critical over the past 90 days.

Matt has been an integral part of the Niguel Shores team for the past 17 years. Most recently he served as

Community Administrator where he interacted with the Board, Management, Committee Leadership and residents on a wide range of issues related to Landscape, View Preservation, Communications (including *niguelshores.org*), and Information Technology.

Matt holds a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from California State University Fullerton, a CMCA (Certified Manager of Community Associations) credential since 2012 from the Community Association Institute (CAI) and previously held an AMS (Association Management Specialist) credential.

Please join us in congratulating Matt on this important and well-deserved promotion.

—Niguel Shores Board of Directors



Matt Northrop

Information for the Community from the NSCA Board of Directors

UNDERSTANDING NSCA RULES ON USE OF AMENITIES

GUESTS:

Residents are permitted guests at our amenities, with limits on the number of guests as outlined below. **ALL guests must be accompanied by the sponsoring resident at all times.**

GO ACCESS:

Registration in Go Access as a temporary or permanent guest of a resident **does not mean free access to our resident amenities.** For example, Guests are not permitted at the Bluff or the pool if not accompanied at all times by the sponsoring resident.

THE BLUFF:

- ▶ **Guest Limit.** The limit of guests at The Bluff is 20 guests. This means 20 individuals—adults and/or children—not 20 cars. If a resident wants to host a larger group, **the maximum group size at The Bluff is 36 individuals** and **must be registered with the office ahead of time.** Registered groups up to 36 are restricted to the area on the north side of The Bluff. Large groups may not spread out across the tables and benches and should be prepared to bring their own folding tables etc. to use in the north side green space. This is to ensure the use of The Bluff by all residents.
- ▶ **Group Reservations.** No ‘standing reservations’ are allowed. Meaning, a resident may not reserve the north side of The Bluff every week for a specific day and time. Each resident is limited to four (4) reservations per year. This is to ensure that all residents have an opportunity to entertain a large group of guests for a special occasion throughout the year.
- ▶ **Holidays and Summer Reservations.** Reservations are not allowed on any Holidays or during the summer from July 1 through Labor Day.

THE CLUBHOUSE:

Larger events at the Clubhouse or Patio must also be registered with the office ahead of time, and the Clubhouse has a rental fee. **NO non-Niguel Shores clubs or social groups are allowed to use the Clubhouse on an ad hoc basis.**

COMMUNITY GREEN:

The green space behind the clubhouse and adjacent to the sport court (commonly referred to as ‘the Park’ or ‘the Green’) is available to all residents, **with no limit on the number of guests.**

PICKLEBALL, TENNIS & SPORT COURTS:

Specific rules for use of these courts are posted inside the court areas and will be shared via an upcoming e-blast. Existing rules on Music and BBQs apply to these courts at all times.

MUSIC & BBQs:

- ▶ **Music.** Music of any kind is not allowed at any of our amenities, e.g. The Bluff, pool, pickleball, tennis or sport courts or other areas, unless it is a community-wide event where a DJ or Band is being brought in by the NSCA.
- ▶ **BBQs.** No portable charcoal grills are allowed at The Bluff, pool, pickleball, tennis or sport courts or other areas. During Community-sponsored summer events the NSCA grills are brought down for holiday weekends. That is the only time grilling is allowed.

BICYCLES, SCOOTERS, SKATEBOARDS (electric or traditional):

These are not allowed on our walkways, paths or grass areas throughout the entire community, including The Bluff.

If you have any questions regarding the use of our amenities, please see the **NSCA Rules & Regulations** on the Niguel Shores website niguelshores.org for more information.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE

A Complete Application: Your Fastest Path to Approval

Whether you're repainting, replacing a roof, or planning a full remodel, the most common cause of delay at the Architectural Committee is the same: an incomplete application. Here's how to get it right the first time.

Choose the right application. Changes to a home's exterior profile or footprint begin with a Preliminary Application, which is advisory only and not an approval. A Final Application is required before any demolition, construction, or exterior modification begins. Changes to an already-approved project require a Change Order.

Include everything. A Final Application missing required plans, product brochures, material samples, or photos will be disapproved, and you'll need to submit a new application. For landscape and hardscape projects, expect to provide a complete plan set, drainage details, and lighting specifications. Exterior lighting must be low-lumen, low-kelvin, and directed downward.

Plan for story poles. The Committee may require a full-scale mockup of your project, with a surveyor- or engineer-certified staking plan, so neighbors and the Committee can see its impact. Build that time into your schedule.

Don't forget the City. Committee approval doesn't replace City of Dana Point permits. For projects that alter the building envelope, the City-approved plans must come back to the Committee to confirm they match what was approved before construction begins.

Watch the calendar. The Committee must decide a Final Application within 45 days of receipt. The published AC Calendar is in the monthly community calendar, so you have access to know when we meet. Once approved, projects must be finished within 3, 6, or 18 months, depending on scope.

Questions before you submit? Contact the NSCA Management Office. A complete application is the surest way to keep your project moving.

—*Architectural Committee*

COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

Speak Up, Be Heard, Get Results. If you have a comment or suggestion for improvements in our community, effective communication with the right people can bring results. For instance, during Open Forum at a recent Board Meeting, one resident presented several clear reasons why we need reflective stop signs in the community. This prompted a followup by the Board and—very quickly—positive action to make this improvement.

As other examples of speaking up and being heard, a resident requested the Board for a change in how many fobs an owner can have; another resident asked for clarification of rules for parties using the Bluff; and another resident filled out a request form for gardening attention in the common area. In all these cases, a Board or staff member was assigned to look into the matter, report to the resident with the findings, and take any action necessary to address the situation.

Communication Matters. Communication shapes how people understand each other, solve problems, and work together. Effective two-way communication can build relationships, shrink misunderstandings, and produce some positive outcomes—as it did with the stop sign, fob, and landscape ideas.

So, if you have something to say about a community situation, don't just grumble about it to the neighbors. Instead, take your comments to the right source (i.e., leave a message in the office, send an email, fill out a Homeowner Request Form, post a comment on the NSCA website, or speak at a Board Meeting). It also helps to communicate with politeness, clarity, and possibly a suggestion for how your idea might be implemented or the situation might be remedied.

Then watch what happens. Most likely, your idea will be heard and you will receive a response about it. Whether the response is pro or con, one way or the other, you have opened a discussion and contributed something of value by sharing your idea, expressing a need, and possibly offering a solution. Communication with a constructive intention can open doors to meaningful change and progress.

As your Communication Committee, we are always open to your ideas for the *Seashore News* or Niguel Shores website. You can reach us at seashorennews@hotmail.com or by leaving a message in the office.

—*Sandy Homicz*

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The 2025 Audit is wrapping up and should be completed by the time you're reading this article. The Finance Committee will provide an update at the November Board of Directors meeting. Thank you for your patience.

—*Jim Eckstaedt and Jeff Goldfarb*

LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE

The Landscape Committee will be reviewing a variety of small projects throughout community and will complete as many as possible before the end of the year. These

COMMITTEE REPORTS

projects include replacing dead plants, and redoing a portion of the planters at the Garibaldi and Manta gates.

We are pleased to have several homeowners express an interest in joining our committee. Having new members will enable us to keep better informed about landscaping needs throughout the community. We still would appreciate having more representation from these specific areas: Garden Homes from Atlantic to Niguel Shores Drive, Manta Court, and the greenbelts on and behind Halyard, Capstan, and Windward in the Sea Terrace Homes. If you are able to help, please see Matt in the office.

—Landscape Committee

MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

Drainage, Drainage, Drainage!

We want to restate the importance of checking the drainage around your property. As I mentioned in last month's article, it is imperative that all residents check their yard drainage systems as well as rain gutters and downspouts to ensure they are free of debris that could cause clogs and back up into yards, hillsides and homes. Checking them is actually quite easy. Simply run some water from a hose into each ground drain and check that it doesn't back up. If you have a back up problem, one of our residents recommends a service called **Zoom Drain** in Irvine at (949) 484-8200.

If there is no back up, it is worth finding out where the outflow is so you know if it is to the street or toward the community hillside for future reference.

If you find a clog past your property line on a community hillside, please contact our Maintenance Manager, Bob Everson, through the office immediately.

Thank You to Our Community Volunteers

We extend our sincere thanks to the community members who have generously volunteered alongside several of our Maintenance Committee members donating their

SEA TERRACE I

Any Sea Terrace I homeowner interested in being on next year's **Sea Terrace I Board**, please contact Mike Oliva at hybridcar4@gmail.com if you want to be on the ballot.

—Mike Oliva, Sea Terrace I President



Our residents at work keeping Niguel Shores beautiful.

time and talents to improve our neighborhood—**Oran Pentz, Gary Wall, Rocky Montelli, Art Staudenbaur, Al Glatt, and Len Beebe.** Our volunteers have refinished picnic benches, painted street signs and red curbs as well as refreshing the crosswalks and “STOP” markings on the pavement at every stop sign throughout the community.

By taking on these important projects, our volunteers are saving the community thousands of dollars. We deeply appreciate their dedication, community spirit, and willingness to make a meaningful difference. Thank you to everyone who has contributed.

As always we want to thank our excellent **Maintenance Team** staff members for all their hard work keeping Niguel Shores the beautiful neighborhood it is.

—Geoff Dunlevie

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EVENTS COMMITTEE

November at the Shores: Let the Festivities Begin!

The holiday season is upon us, and Niguel Shores is ready to celebrate! From our Thanksgiving morning Turkey Trek to the debut of a new holiday celebration and the return of our neighborhood decorating competition, there's plenty of festive fun ahead. Mark your calendars and join your neighbors as we kick off the most wonderful time of the year!



TURKEY TREK — Thanksgiving Morning, November 26

Calling all walkers, runners, strollers, and scooters! Start Thanksgiving Day with fresh ocean air, friendly faces, and a little exercise before the holiday feast.

Our **Niguel Shores Turkey Trek** begins at **8:00 a.m.** at the **Bluff**, with a scenic 5K route starting and ending at the Bluff. Follow the signs through the Selva gate, along PCH to SC Carts, across the street and back into the Shores via Selva and the Bluff stairs. Please bring your gate fob for easy access, although volunteers will be stationed along the route to help guide participants.

Arrive a little early and **bring a favorite breakfast treat or other food item to share** at the Bluff for our post-Trek gathering. The Association will provide beverages and serving supplies. We'll wrap up the festivities with a champagne toast!

Costumes, turkey hats and festive attire are strongly encouraged, but certainly not required. All ages and abilities are welcome. Free event. No advance registration is necessary. Rain or shine, the Turkey Trek is on!

TINSEL AT THE SHORES — Thursday, December 3

Something magical is coming to Niguel Shores! Save the date for our inaugural **Tinsel at the Shores**, Thursday, December 3, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Santa Claus himself will be making a special appearance and posing for photos! Enjoy festive desserts, warm holiday beverages, beautiful seasonal decorations, and a few extra-special activities for our youngest residents.

A highlight of the evening will be a performance by the award-winning **Titanium Choir**, Tesoro High School's



acclaimed a cappella ensemble, followed by our community Christmas tree lighting ceremony.

Help us fill Santa's sleigh with Gifts of Gratitude!

We're spreading holiday cheer beyond the Shores by collecting new, unwrapped toys for Marine families at Camp Pendleton. Santa's sleigh will be onsite and ready to receive your donations. Let's come together as a community to make the holidays a little brighter for these deserving military families!

This is one new Shores tradition you won't want to miss! Watch for additional details in the December issue and community e-mail announcements.

DECK THE SHORES — Let There Be Lights!



It's time to untangle those lights, dust off the decorations and get ready to **Deck the Shores!** Our annual holiday decorating contest officially kicks off the day after Thanksgiving, **Friday, November 27**. As a reminder, HOA rules prohibit turning on holiday lights or decorations before Thanksgiving.

This year's judging will take place **Wednesday, December 16**, between **5:00 and 7:00 p.m.**, with members of the Niguel Shores Events Committee selecting the winners.

We're introducing some fun new award categories this year, giving everyone a chance to shine!

- **Best Holiday Spirit Street:** Rally your neighbors and transform your street into a holiday wonderland!
- **Clark Griswold Award:** For the home that believes there's simply no such thing as too many lights!
- **Best Coastal Christmas:** A creative celebration of the holidays with a distinctly coastal flair.
- **Minimal Marvel Award:** Proof that a little holiday magic can go a long way. Simple, tasteful, and beautifully done!
- **Best Traditional Holiday Display:** Honoring the timeless beauty of classic decorations.
- **Judges' Choice Award:** A special recognition for a display that captures the judges' attention.

Winners will be announced in a community email blast. Each winning home in the individual award categories will receive a custom yard sign recognizing its festive achievement. Whether you're decorating an entire street or adding a simple touch of holiday cheer to your front yard, we encourage everyone to participate. Let's make Niguel Shores sparkle this season!

—Events Committee

GARDEN CLUB

We had another great turnout at our October meeting! **Colleen Culhane**, Development Director of **The Ecology Center**, presented an overview of the creation of the 28-acre Regenerative Organic Certified farm in San Juan Capistrano and its promotion of education, food distribution, hands on ecological and gourmet chef dining experiences. At the end of her presentation, our club gave a donation of \$500, our second year of supporting The Ecology Center.

The Garden Club's **Lobster Fest** was back this year on **Thursday, October 22**. The annual event included a delicious lobster dinner and silent auction, with proceeds going to non-profit organizations that support sustainable, environmental and agricultural efforts.

November is going to be busy! Our regular meeting is **November 9 at 11:00 a.m.** in the Clubhouse. **Joanna Giangardella** will break down hydroponics: the science of growing plants in a water-based mineral solution with no soil required. In addition to our general meeting, we are hosting a **Forget Me Not Workshop** on **November 16** in the clubhouse. Members and their guests will make holiday creations to give to community seniors via Meals on Wheels. It's a fun way to give back and get the holiday spirit going!

The Garden Club always welcomes new members ... no gardening expertise required! Our membership continues to grow and is now at **115** members! Dues are \$35 per year, including a light lunch at each meeting. To join, sign-up forms are in the Niguel Shores office—or come as a guest for \$5 to try us out.

—Judi Palladino

HISTORICAL CLUB

Legacy Path First Anniversary

Last year, on August 29, Niguel Shores cut the ribbon opening up the **Legacy Path**—a project that has since become a meaningful landmark in our community. Now, as the pathway celebrates its first year, we are excited to announce that from November 1, 2026 to January 31, 2027, the Historical Club will be taking a limited number of **new orders for personalized bricks** while existing supplies last. Pricing will still be \$150/per brick with a maximum of 3 bricks per household. Order forms are included in this issue of *Seashore News* and are also available in the office and online at niguelshores.org. Please consider placing your orders early, before the Holidays arrive.



Legacy Path dedication bricks

The Legacy Path took months of advance planning, fundraising, designing, and ordering before it was installed and opened to the community. The installation was intentionally designed to keep growing so that future residents could be a part of this living history.

We encourage you to visit the Legacy Path in our community park. Read the inscriptions and notice the three commemorative areas that recognize the milestones of Niguel Shores' history, the volunteers who made the project possible, and the beginning dates of each neighborhood. Many thanks go out to everyone who supported the creation of this valuable addition to our community.

Beyond the Legacy Path

Research into our history during the planning of the Legacy Path led to the idea of creating the **Niguel Shores Historical Club**, a group that has grown now to more than 60 members interested in preserving and publicizing the history of Niguel Shores. The Historical Club is overseeing the **Legacy Path** project as well as active preservation related to all our Niguel Shores history. For example, over the past year club members have been interviewing our earliest residents to record their stories of Niguel Shores through the years. Another club project is the showcase in the Clubhouse lobby, where artifacts from Niguel Shores past and ongoing history can be displayed. To learn more about the Historical Club, contact NSHistoricalClub@gmail.com.

—Niguel Shores Historical Club



The new Historical Club display case in the Clubhouse Lobby with Tom Shimkus and Bob Everson doing the installation.

CLUBS

MEN'S CLUB

October Recap

Last month our first Tuesday breakfast meeting featured **Joana Ball** of **LUXGO Travel** who spoke on "The Power of Travel." Joana discussed how travel has proven to improve your well-being and personal growth while creating lifelong memories for you and your loved ones. She also shared some remarkable ways to experience the world, such as rail journeys like the Venice Simplon Orient-Express; exploring hotels with a story like the Fairmont Château Lake Louise in Canada; experiencing comfort in the wild at the Peace Lodge in Costa Rica.

Joana is a world travel expert originally from Hamburg, Germany. LUXGO is a boutique agency in Dana Point providing custom domestic and international vacations as well as family and group travel curated to your personal tastes.

Then, at our second breakfast meeting, we heard from **Assemblywoman Laurie Davies**, who provided an update on the latest bills and proposals in Sacramento. Originally from Wisconsin and a former mayor of Laguna Niguel, Assemblywoman Davies spoke on key topics impacting our region, highlighting her legislative focus on public safety, vocational and trade school education, obtaining funding to correct coastal erosion problems, defending Proposition 13, and streamlining state certification processes online. Following that, we also heard a short presentation from Capistrano Unified School District candidate **Marco Carralero**.

Oktoberfest—Great Food, Drinks, Music, and Dance

In between our regular meetings, we hosted our **Annual Oktoberfest Celebration** on October 10 in the Clubhouse. Everyone had a great time enjoying grilled German bratwurst, potato salad, sauerkraut, pretzels, German beer, wine, dancing, and fantastic music provided by Linda Herman and her accordion. (See the photos on Page 12.)

Mark Your Calendars for November

Coming up on **November 3**, our breakfast speaker will be **Chere Vought**, Founder and Senior Living Advisor at **A Plan For Senior Care**. Chere is a Certified Senior Advisor (CSA) and licensed RCFE Administrator with over 20 years experience in senior placement. She will share valuable insights on navigating senior care and housing options, including personalized care plans, assisted living, memory care, and connecting families with key legal, financial, and medical resources.



Laurie Davies with Men's Club officers.

We are making plans for our **November 17** meeting, so watch for an announcement coming soon. We invite all interested gentlemen to visit our 8 a.m. Tuesday morning meetings, enjoy a fine breakfast, and hear a variety of interesting speakers.

—Geoff Dunlevie

WOMEN'S CLUB

It was all treats and no tricks at the October Niguel Shores Woman's Club meeting. With full attendance, members enjoyed a catered eggplant parmesan and veggie lunch complete with delicious sugar-topped wedding cookies.

President **Joy Justus** started the meeting with the following announcements for upcoming member events:

- November 12 is the next meeting with a guest speaker from **Laguna Playhouse**. Rumor has it they will be bringing wonderful theater-related raffle prizes, so be sure to attend.
- November 18 will be a members-only **Bingo Night** from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Drop in and try your hand with Lady Luck.
- Save the date of December 10 for the annual **Women's Club Holiday Party**. See the announcement on page 10 for details.

The meeting featured our guest speaker, **Scott Dunlop**, the creator of **Real Housewives of Orange County**. He gave an exciting talk about his adventures in the world of reality television and how he started the Real Housewives craze that swept the nation. Scott was a lively and engaging speaker. He is working on a memoir related to his experience in the entertainment industry, so be sure to watch for his book in the future.

—Stephany Panlilio

CLUBS



ACCOLADES

Nathan Neuvirt completed the **11th Annual Ben Did Go**, a prone board paddle charity event from Catalina to Newport Beach. The paddle leaves Avalon at sunrise and takes the paddlers approximately eight hours to complete. The endurance event is held in honor of **Ben Carlson**, the Newport Beach lifeguard that passed away in the line of duty. Participants all must qualify for the event and help raise funds for the cause. Nathan, the son of Robin and Paul Neuvirt, was one of the lifeguards featured in the August *Seashore News* and is currently a student at UCSB.



SAVE THE DATE

Niguel Shores Women's Club

HOLIDAY PARTY

Women's Club and Men's Club members, along with a guest, are invited.

Join us for an evening of fun, friendship, and festive laughter!

- ▶ DELICIOUS APPETIZERS AND DESSERTS
- ▶ WONDERFUL WINE AND HOLIDAY SPIRITS
- ▶ PHOTO BOOTH
- ▶ PRIZES FOR THE WILDEST HOLIDAY SWEATERS

Wear your favorite ugly, cozy, vintage, lighted, glam, sentimental, or love bug sweaters!



When: Thursday, December 10

Time: 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Where: Niguel Shores Clubhouse

Cost: \$20 per person

Sale starts Tuesday, December 1, at the Niguel Shores office.

Space is limited—please purchase tickets in advance!

Notes: Women's Club and Men's Club members should bring an appetizer or dessert.

All beverages will be provided at the party.

B.I.N.G.O.

WHO: Niguel Shores Women's Club Members

WHEN: November 18 at 5:30 p.m.

WHERE: NS Clubhouse

WHAT: BINGO!!!

\$5 per card paid at the door.

Please bring your beverage of choice.

Light snacks will be provided.

PRIZES for WINNERS!

RSVP on your Evite.
Call Gigi (508) 259-4014 with questions.



A SOLAR SALUTE TO OUR VETERANS ON NOVEMBER 11 EACH YEAR!

The **Veterans Memorial** in **Anthem, Arizona** is a striking monument honoring our United States military veterans for their sacrifice, unity, and service in the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard. Every year on **Veterans Day, November 11**, at exactly **11:11 a.m.** the sun aligns perfectly to shine through five marble pillars—each representing a branch of the U.S. military—and lighting up the Great Seal of the United States. This annual solar alignment is one of the most photographed Veterans Day moments in the United States.



Wellness — Medicine

Can you feel it? Autumn has arrived. With the clear blue southern California skies as a backdrop, the traditional fall nip is in the air, the leaves of certain trees are turning glorious hues of deep red to vibrant yellow, and neighborhood front porches are decorated with colorful pumpkins. Ok, so I lied about the nip in the air. As I write this in mid-October there is no nip, just hot dry winds. But, when you read this at the beginning of November, I hope that we've all been "nipped" by beautiful autumn breezes.

But beware. In the midst of nature's beauty and the upcoming holiday festivities, cold and flu season is lurking nearby and the likelihood of getting sick looms large.

If you do become ill, medicine is often helpful or required. A licensed medical professional can write a prescription, or you can purchase an over-the-counter (OTC) medication from your local drugstore. If it's a prescription, ask your doctor all your questions about side effects, drug interactions, supplements you're taking, etc. There



are no dumb questions. With OTC medications, read the drug facts label on the box or bottle. There you can find valuable information about dosage, ingredients, and side effects, and decide if it's right for you. Also ask your pharmacist about your concerns.

If you develop a bacterial infection, like bronchitis or strep throat, you may be prescribed antibiotics. As you begin to feel better, be sure to take every pill as directed. Also, antibiotics do *not* treat viral infections. Unfortunately, antibiotics have been over-prescribed resulting in antimicrobial resistance. When this happens, some bacteria become resistant to the antibiotics at hand, and you may fail to recover properly. In some cases, this can be life threatening so consult your doctor immediately if symptoms worsen.

This season take good care of yourself. Practice good hand washing, eat healthy, stay hydrated, get restorative sleep, and get vaccinated to minimize symptoms. Most of all, enjoy the nip in the air, the colorful leaves, and the pumpkins on the porch. It's a beautiful time of year!

To Your Health! Sharon Stewart RN, Wellness Coach, Sharon@SharonStewartRN.com

AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Men's Club Oktoberfest



Women's Club Meeting



October meeting prize winners, and Scott Dunlap, creator of Real Housewives of OC, with Women's Club officers.



Women's Club DP Yacht Club Social



AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Garden Club Lobsterfest

The Garden Club hosted a fabulous Lobsterfest evening last month with food, drink, and prizes for a clubhouse full of happy diners.



Historical Happy Hour

Historical Club members and guests packed the Clubhouse in October to enjoy drinks, appetizers, socializing, and a fact-filled presentation from historian Bob Minty, performing as Richard Henry Dana. Minty detailed Dana's personal life, sea voyages, law career, successes and failures—and shared his own first edition copy of *Two Years Before the Mast*. Check niguelshores.org for more photos of the event.



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					Sunday
					1
2 9:00 Architecture Committee 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor)	3 8:00 Men's Club 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor) 9:00 Events Committee ELECTION DAY	4 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor) 10:30 Bridge 6:00 NSCA Board Budget Town Hall	5 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor) 10:00 Women's Club Board Meeting	6 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor) 10:30 Communication Committee	7
					8
9 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor) 11:00 Garden Club AC DEADLINE – 12:00	10 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor) 9:00 Landscape Committee	11 Office Closed No Construction VETERAN'S DAY	12 9:00 Maintenance Committee 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor) 12:00 Women's Club Luncheon TENNIS & PICKLEBALL COURTS CLOSED 2 to 3 p.m. for Cleaning	13 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor)	14
					15
16 9:00 Architecture Committee 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor) 11:00 Garden Club Workshop 12:00 View Preservation Committee	17 8:00 Men's Club 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor)	18 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor) 10:30 Bridge	19 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor) 6:00 NSCA General Session Board Meeting	20 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor)	21
					22
23 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor) 1:00 Page Turners	24 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor)	25 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor) 10:30 Bridge STREET SWEEPING	26 8:00 Turkey Trek Office Closed No Construction THANKSGIVING DAY	27 Office Closed	28
					29
30 9:00 H ₂ O Aerobics (No Instructor) AC DEADLINE – 12:00	MARK YOUR CALENDAR: November 3: Election Day November 11: Veterans Day November 16: Garden Club Forget Me Not Workshop November 26: Thanksgiving Day; Turkey Trek November 27: Begin Decorating with Holiday Lights December 3: Tinsel at the Shores December 4: Hanukkah Begins December 10: Women's Club Holiday Party December 16: Judging Holiday Lights December 25: Christmas Day December 26: Kwanzaa Begins; Boxing Day December 31: New Year's Eve				



ACTIVITIES

BRIDGE

Our Weather—November brings shorter and cooler days to the Shores and, in some cases, falling leaves. Our location in the Northern Hemisphere gives us a milder winter than most of the country.

Our Deadlines—Our articles have to be submitted by the 15th of the month, allowing the *Seashore News* editors time to round up all the articles from the various Clubs and Committees and then check for punctuation and spelling. Thank you *Seashore News* managers!

Our Winners

- **9/23:** The women were in rare form this week with Sandy Nelson securing 1st place, Ellen Roy close at her heels for 2nd, and Mary Biegel holding on for 3rd. The Women Rule!
- **9/30:** After a long dry spell Muriel Kraszewski climbed to 1st, Byron Nelson held on to 2nd, and Jim Pinola came in 3rd.
- **10/7:** Jim Pinola vaulted from 3rd place last week to 1st this week, Byron Nelson held on to 2nd for the 2nd week in a row, and Judy Pellerin jumped two other players by 50 points for 3rd.
- **10/14:** Bob French won 1st place by a wide margin, followed by Mary Biegel for 2nd, and Karen Murphy who was close behind for 3rd.

Our Club—We are looking to expand and seeking more Bridge players who can play on Wednesdays starting at 10:30 a.m. Remember that Bridge exercises our brain cells and keeps our children second-guessing us. To join in the play, please Call **Bob or Betty French** at (949) 312-2556 or **Mike Oliva** at (949) 444-8122. We are usually done by 2:00 p.m. and if you have read older issues of the *Seashore News*, you know we have great goodies to eat!

—Mike Oliva

PAGE TURNERS

The book club members will be reading *Culpability* by Bruce Hotstinger this month. The novel is thought-provoking adult fiction, and I have to say that reading this book several months ago has given me so many questions to ponder like no other book I have recently read.

“The story centers on the Cassidy-Shaw family of Bethesda, Maryland. While traveling in a semi-autonomous SensTrek minivan to a sports tournament, 17-year-old Charlie is behind the wheel when the vehicle veers into oncoming traffic, killing two people in the other car ... As hidden secrets, device distractions, and marital tensions come to



light, the narrative explores how blame is distributed when a crash involves both human error and artificial intelligence.”

As AI becomes more and more a part of our lives, the question of culpability will come up more often—although I keep thinking the more things change the more they stay the same. I asked “Grok” the following question: “The dog ate my homework. Who is responsible?” It took almost three minutes to get a response and it referred me to Wikipedia! Dealing with material so new that AI isn’t even ready with answers yet, this book will provide lots of material to discuss. I am looking forward to our next meeting.

As mentioned before, the book club consists of approximately 35 members divided into three discussion groups who are all reading the same book. One group meets the fourth Monday afternoon of the month and the other two groups meet the fourth Thursday afternoon of the month. If you would like more information please feel free to contact one of the coordinators—for the Thursday groups, **Steve and Ann Morris** at samwrsi@cox.net or **Lisa Buchner** at lisabuchner47@gmail.com. For the Monday group, myself at fozimec@cox.net. We always welcome new members.

—Frances Ozimec

LIBRARY

The Friends of the Dana Point Library Bookstore will hold a **Holiday Sale** in the **DP Library Community Room** on **Saturday, November 14 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** featuring books of all genres, puzzles, and special holiday-themed items that are great for gifts or your personal enjoyment. Stop by and take home a few treasures!

—Lisa Buchner

IN MEMORIAM

Nancy Christopherson

January 4, 1947-September 30, 2026

Longtime Niguel Shores resident whose love, laughter, and gracious spirit live on in the hearts of her husband Bruce, her children, grandchildren, and all who knew her.



Memorial Service at
Saint Margaret's on November 7 at 2 p.m.

DANA POINT HARBOR – TRIBUTES AND GOODBYES

The Harbor—Then and Now

In the late 1960s, construction began on Dana Point Harbor with the building of the rock breakwater jetties. By the early 1970s, marina facilities were constructed after interior water was pumped out and sea life relocated. On July 31, 1971, the Harbor was officially dedicated and opened to the public.

In 2022, with the existing structures definitely showing their age, construction began on a new marina featuring brand-new docks, slips, and a fuel dock tank to be completed in phases. Today, the **Marina at Dana Point** has finished a great deal of the 15-phase revitalization with Phase 13 now underway.

In 2025, **Dana Point Harbor Partners** completed a three-tiered parking structure, underground utility infrastructure and brand-new harbor entrance at the corner of Golden Lantern and Dana Point Harbor Drive. Now they are working on the **Commercial Core** which will include over 100,000 square feet of new development along the waterfront.

Although the two hotels proposed by **R.D. Olson Development** received approval from the Coastal Commission, Dana Point City, and Orange County as part of the **Dana Point Harbor Revitalization**, the construction of the hotels is on hold after the OC Board of Supervisors failed to approve the restructured 66-year ground leases needed to move forward. The 55-year-old **Dana Point Marina Inn** remains open for business and is taking reservations through December 2026.

Dana Wharf Sportfishing & Whale Watching and **Catalina Express** will remain open but relocate to temporary trailers for continued business operations.

Old favorites **Harpoon Henry's**, **Harbor Grill**, **The Brig**, and neighboring retail shops closed earlier this year, while the wing housing **Wind & Sea**, **Turk's**, and **Proud Mary's** marked their final days in the last two months.

Amid all this change at the Harbor, what remains permanent are five decades of fond memories coming from boaters, business operators, locals and tourists—stories that could fill a very large book. Here are some recollections from two longtime restaurant operators, **Steve Zdarkas** of **Proud Mary's** and **Jay Styles** of **Wind & Sea**, plus mobile caterer **Daniel Neugebauer**.

STEVE'S STORY

If you've enjoyed a drink or meal at **Proud Mary's** anytime over the past 21 years, you've probably been greeted by the congenial owner, **Steve Zdarkas**. Steve originally

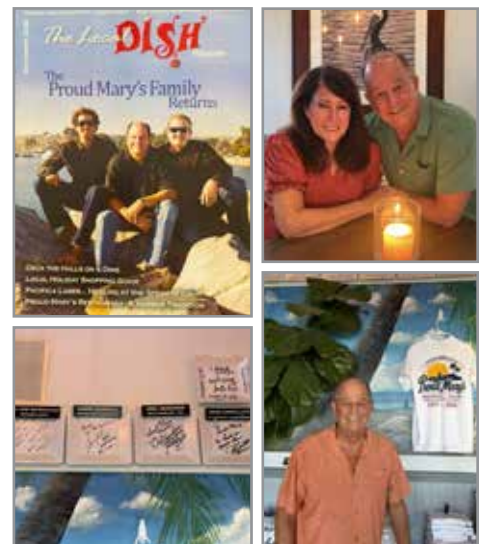
trained as a radiological engineer and came to California from New York to work on the **San Onofre Nuclear Power Plant**. Additionally, in true entrepreneur spirit, he also ran a furniture business and owned **Ball Park Pizza** restaurants in several locations.

In 2005, the opportunity to purchase **Proud Mary's** came to him by a lucky coincidence. He'd gone to the restaurant for a Coney Island Hot Dog, loved the place, and mentioned to the owner **Mary Merrill** to let him know if she ever wanted to sell the business. Sure enough, that very evening Mary called—and since then, Steve has been a welcoming presence as the owner of **Proud Mary's**, but also as a caring friend to his employees and everyone coming through the door.

Steve eventually sold off his other enterprises, but kept **Proud Mary's** as a family business in partnership with his son **Nick** and son-in-law **Ben**, because as he said, "This is where the

fun is!" Patrons would definitely agree. **Proud Mary's** has been a go-to favorite for locals as well as celebrities, and has hosted hundreds of weddings, engagement parties, corporate events, and life celebrations over the years. The restaurant's entry wall is lined with dining plates autographed by regular customers and also dozens of famous visitors like World Series MVP Orel Hershisier, Kansas City Chiefs coach Andy Reid, 49ers Jim Harbaugh, Wild Bill Wichrowski of *Deadliest Catch*, and even the *Real Housewives* of OC.

Steve summed up what he values most about his two decades at **Proud Mary's**: "Connecting with the customers!" He likes getting to know them and often helping them in times of need. One patron told him, "Steve, this is your ministry," and another, who works with the homeless through the city of Dana Point, gave him a copy of *Theo of Golden* saying Steve's warmth and generosity was like Theo's, coming from the heart and promoting goodwill.



Proud Mary's is a family business for Steve, Donna, Nick and Ben. Celebrity-autographed dining plates line the wall. Steve on closing day in October.

Steve tells many stories of the restaurant's great times, but he can recall a few downers as well. He spent two years rebuilding Proud Mary's after a laundry machine caught fire in 2007, and he had to close twice during COVID—but he supported his employees during those days and the customers came back like family as soon as the doors opened again.

Most of Proud Mary's 18 employees have been with the restaurant for years. One waitress told us she can't think of working anywhere else. Steve and his employees have known for quite a while that Harbor Partners would be revitalizing the entire area, and he feels the developers have been fair in their treatment of tenants. However, with the impending demolition of the restaurant building, Steve is looking for other opportunities—perhaps a 2nd Gen restaurant—where the employees might even become part owners. Along with his wife **Donna**, who oversees the bookkeeping and special events, Steve is not quite ready for retirement. He's still thinking of new enterprises and new possibilities for connecting with people. Even though the restaurant building is gone, Steve wants to assure that the longstanding good name and lively spirit of Proud Mary's will go on.

—Sandy Homicz

JAY'S STORY

Most of us know that **Wind & Sea**, the beloved landmark restaurant in DP Harbor, closed in September after a 54-year run. However, what many may not know is that one of our Niguel Shores residents, **Jay Styles**, played an integral role in its longtime success.

Wind & Sea opened for business on August 22, 1972 as one of the first businesses in the new Dana Point Harbor. According to Jay, the restaurant was popular right from the start and the company, **Wind & Sea, Inc.**, went on to open seven more restaurants with locations in both California and Hawaii.

To say that Jay worked his way up the ladder with this company is an understatement. Jay started working as a dishwasher at the **San Diego Wind & Sea** in 1977 when he was still in high school. He was soon promoted to a food prep spot, then cook, server, bartender and eventually manager. In 1981, Jay was asked to be part of the team that opened the company's fifth restaurant, the **Redondo Beach Wind & Sea**. Eventually, he transferred to **Harpoon Henry's** in Dana Point, which was also part of Wind & Sea, Inc. Jay then was appointed General Manager of **Dana Point Wind & Sea** and became a partner in the company. Overall, Jay was with the company for 49 years—41 of them at the Harbor location. He likes to joke that he just missed out on his gold watch.

Jay has many great memories from his time at the Wind & Sea, where he met and hosted his fair share of famous

people, including **President Gerald Ford**, **Attorney General John Mitchell** and **Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor**. However, his favorite memories are of the amazing people who have worked with him over the years. During his tenure, there have been over 6,000 employees. He has hired many legacies, the kids of former employees, and amazingly by 2026, Jay was hiring the grandchildren of the bussers he managed 40 years earlier.

Jay was extremely grateful that so many of his "Alumni" stopped in to say goodbye as the restaurant moved towards its final days. He also takes pride in the fact that many of the Wind & Sea Alumni have gone on to be very successful, still living in the area and are "solid members" of our community. By the way, Jay's own kids, **James** and **Danielle** are also part of that Wind & Sea Alumni group.

In addition to being grateful for his employees, Jay also says that the Wind & Sea customers have been amazing from start to finish. He says they could not have done it without the "long-term, loyal and generous" customers—who, by the way, drank a total of 3.3 million Mai Tais. Over the past several months he heard from people who have been customers since 1972, sharing stories about their first date, their engagement, wedding reception and birthdays. Jay shared that the "love and support we received over the closing days was overwhelming," culminating in a closing day celebration that had twice as many customers as they ever had.

So, what's next for Jay after 49 years with the company? Jay and his wife **Karen** have lived in Niguel Shores for about ten years after spending 23 years in Laguna Niguel. They love the Shores and look forward to spending more time both here and in Utah, where they own a cabin. Jay is fully retired and ready to embrace his role as full-time grandpa to his three and soon-to-be-four grandchildren.

Based on the long lines of people waiting to get into the Wind & Sea on that September closing day, the community of Dana Point is most certainly going to miss the Wind & Sea, especially those amazing Mai Tais.



Wind & Sea's landmark building in the Harbor. The Styles family at Wind & Sea. Jay and Bob wave a final farewell on closing day in September.

—Patti Staudenbaur
continued on page 18

SPOTLIGHT

DANIEL'S STORY

Let us introduce you to another popular food vendor at the Harbor, **Culture Pizza**, a mobile kitchen producing a wonderful “company’s-coming pizza.” (Truly it is that good.)

Until recently, owner **Daniel Neugebauer** made the Harbor his weekend venue, serving his pizzas from a pop-up booth with lines of folks awaiting his unique pies. Daniel using his own organic sourdough pizza crust naturally leavened by a wild sourdough starter that is slow-fermented for flavor, structure, and easy digestion. Organic flour is the base of the unique sourdough crust on his pizzas, capped with California vegetables including garden tomatoes, red onions and locally grown herbs. He prides himself on creating a wide variety of artisan pizza styles with memorable



names, noting that his current best seller is the Drunken Sailor with mozzarella, provolone, vodka sauce, cup n char pepperoni, basil, burrata, and hot honey.

Usually, **Culture Pizza** could be found at the Dana Point Harbor on Friday, Saturday and Sunday next to the Brewery, up from the Wind & Sea. Sadly, as of this writing, Daniel and that part of the Harbor are being vacated to allow for deconstruction of the area. His pop-up location moves around now, often at farmers markets, fundraisers, and community events in South County. Look for him on his Instagram account [@culturepizzaco](https://www.instagram.com/culturepizzaco) or his website culturepizza.co/ to find out where he is locally, and watch for his return when he hopes to achieve his dream of sourdough pizzas with a permanent place at the Harbor.

—Susan Courtney

SPORTS

Football Season in the Shores—Around Niguel Shores, football season isn’t just about what happens on the field—it’s also about what happens among neighbors. Many Shores residents have been gathering with friends to compete in **Fantasy Football** and **College Pick’em** leagues.

In Fantasy Football, participants draft NFL players and compete based on their weekly performances. In College Pick’em, players predict the winners of 10 selected college games each week. Saturdays belong to college football, Sundays to the NFL—and our neighbors have a stake in both.

Some leagues have been around for years, while others are just getting started. Whether it’s for bragging rights, a trophy or simply an excuse to talk more football, these leagues bring neighbors together for some friendly competition.

Here’s a look at a few groups bringing neighbors together for friendly competition and football fun.

Shorz Boyz—The **Shorz Boyz Fantasy Football League** is led by co-commissioners **Bob Mitsch** and **Billy Seidita**. Bob and Billy met on our pickleball courts a few years ago when Billy arrived from New York City ready to roll. They had no trouble finding interested participants



here—and so the **Shorz Boyz** came to be. According to Bob, the idea was born because of the camaraderie that had developed on the pickleball courts.

Bob and Billy agree that what makes the Shorz Boyz special is that the members are neighbors who see each other on the courts and get together socially as well. This engagement offers lots of opportunity for fun, including really good “trash talk,” which apparently is an essential element to a successful Fantasy Football league. As Bob points out, the Shorz Boyz has several “very seasoned trash talkers” that add to the humor and dynamics of their league. The group is so serious about its Niguel Shores roots that they sponsored their own brick in the **Niguel Shores Legacy Path**.

Rick Palmer and **Heinz Hofmann** joined Shorz Boyz two years ago—and won the championship in their first season! The league starts in late August with a kickoff draft at a member’s home, then continues



with multiple gatherings throughout the season until the grand finale celebration where the perpetual trophy is presented to the winners and the now famous pink jersey is awarded to the last place league finishers.

This particular league also enjoys Billy's weekly *Gazette*. Bob warns that the *Gazette* is not for the tender hearted, but assures that it is all about good fun! Championships come and go, rosters change and rivalries grow, but for the Shorz Boyz, the real victory is bringing neighbors together, one football season at a time.

Niguel Shores Fantasy Football—Led by commissioner **Todd Palmer**, **Niguel Shores Fantasy Football** is now in its third year. The 12-player league counts **Wayne McDonnell** and **Mike Gino** among its past champions. Todd, meanwhile, finished dead last in 2025—earning him a full day at The Point, from opening to closing, where each beverage he drank or bought for someone knocked half an hour off his sentence. Luckily, plenty of Shores friends stopped by to lend a hand, and Todd made it home by dinner. That's neighborly support at its finest!

"Fantasy football gives you a reason to watch games beyond your favorite team," Todd says. "You're cheering for the players on your fantasy team and against your opponent's players, so every game becomes interesting."

Shores and Scores—Fantasy leagues are not just for the guys. **Shores and Scores**, organized by **Karey Palmer**, brings together 22 Niguel Shores ladies for **College Pick'em**. Last year's top honors went to **Gigi McDonnell**, but the weekly banter keeps everyone involved. A few husbands have even thanked Karey for their wives' newfound interest in Saturday football!

"College football season in Niguel Shores is my favorite time of the year!" says **Leslie Moore**. "I look forward to starting my Saturday mornings with ESPN College GameDay, then following my picks all day long. It's a blast competing with friends and enjoying a little friendly rivalry. Hook 'em!" **Debi Berk** also loves college football "where a game can go any way! For me, it's the camaraderie and staying connected every weekend." **Erin Smaldino** agrees, saying, "Playing College Pick'em is so much fun. It keeps me interested in all the games, not just my favorite teams. I look forward to watching the games each weekend, especially the big rivalry matchups." **Randa Memo** enjoys participating, too—though she's glad she doesn't make her living picking winners!

These are just three of the many leagues keeping Shores neighbors connected and giving them something to discuss well beyond the final score.

—Karey Palmer and Patti Staudenbaur

PICKLEBALL

Pickleball in the Shores is more than a sport—it is one of the many ways to make connections in our wonderful community. With that in mind, we're delighted to connect you with fellow Niguel Shores residents and pickleball enthusiasts, **Ryan and Dana Malone**.



Dana first made her way to Niguel Shores from New York City in 2020. With an aunt already living in the Shores, Dana had visited over the years and come to love the friendly sense of community, beautiful coastal setting, and active lifestyle that make this such a special place to call home.

Ryan's path to Southern California began a little earlier. After living and working in San Francisco, he moved to Orange County in 2018. Following several years together in San Clemente, Ryan and Dana were thrilled when the opportunity arose to make Niguel Shores their home and raise their two-year-old son, **Mav**, in a community that already meant so much to Dana.

As it turns out, they brought some serious athletic talent with them! Both Ryan and Dana share a love of sports, competition, and staying active, so it's no surprise that pickleball quickly became a shared passion. Ryan grew up playing soccer and discovered pickleball in 2021, while Dana, a former college tennis player, picked up a paddle shortly after moving to Orange County. Before long, they were playing competitively, earning sponsorship from ProXR Pickleball and competing in several professional tournaments.

These days, life with a busy two-year-old has shifted their pickleball priorities a bit! Ryan and Dana now enjoy the game more recreationally and especially appreciate the chance to get out on our courts, meet fellow residents, and be part of the growing Niguel Shores pickleball community. For the Malones, pickleball offers the perfect combination of competition, exercise, fun, and friendship—and having it all just steps from home makes it even better.

They're also sharing their sports experience with our community by collaborating with the Niguel Shores Pickleball Committee on some fun new opportunities for players of all ages and skill levels. Plans include clinics for beginners and kids, along with LiveBall and other social and recreational pickleball events.

So, be on the lookout for what's coming—and if you happen to see Ryan and Dana on the courts, be sure to welcome them to our pickleball family. See you on the courts!

—Susan Whittlesley

DANA POINT THIS MONTH



FARMERS MARKET AND CRAFT VENDORS

Every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
La Plaza Park on PCH

BULKY ITEM DROP-OFF DAY

Saturday, November 21

7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

South Shores Church on Crown Valley

FREE disposal for items that cannot be picked up on regular collection days. Goodwill and onsite document shredding will also be available. For more information, contact Public Works at publicworks@danapoint.org.



SENIOR THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON

Saturday, November 21

Dana Point Community Center on Del Obispo

Annual FREE luncheon for seniors sponsored by the Monarch Beach Sunrise Rotary and the City of Dana Point. Pre-registration is required. Call the City of Dana Point Recreation Division at (949) 248-3530.

49TH ANNUAL TURKEY TROT

Thursday, November 26

7 to 11 a.m. in the Harbor

Contact Dana Point Chamber of Commerce

(949) 496-1555

turkey@danapointchamber.com

turkeytrot.com/



FALL BACK

California clocks are scheduled to **fall back 1 hour at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 1.**

At that moment, the clock goes from **2:00 a.m. back to 1:00 a.m.**, ending Daylight Saving Time and returning to Pacific Standard Time. There has been federal legislation proposed to make Daylight Saving Time permanent, but it has not become law, so the usual clock change is still expected this year. —timeanddate.com

Seashore News

Past issues of the *Seashore News* from 1973 to present are available online at niguelshores.org.

We would like to hear from you!

Send your comments and suggestions to

seashorennews@hotmail.com



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Properties In Escrow	4
Properties Sold	17
Avg. Sold Price	\$4,021,412
Avg. Price Per Sq Ft (sold)	\$1,921.37
Avg. Days on Market	25

Data per CRMLS as of 9/14/2026



STEVE CELOTTO

NIGUEL SHORES RESIDENT
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55+ gated community in Talega. Representing Buyer
3 bd, 2 ba | 2,629 sqft



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Spacious home offers a blend of comfort and convenience.
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2 bd, 3 ba | 1,429 sqft



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Detached with a yard that backs up to the trail.
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