

Seashore News



May 2021

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Issue 569

FROM THE HELM

TGIM! Thank Goodness It's May! With everything moving in a positive direction in Dana Point and Orange County, I am happy to report more and more movement toward a normal Niguel Shores life.

At the April meeting, the NSCA Board approved some Community Clubhouse use, recreation events, and placing the patio furniture back out on to the Clubhouse deck. This next phase of opening will begin May 1. We are hopeful the state of California will stay on track towards the Governor's projected full reopening date of June 15. **Thank you** to the community for your patience and understanding during this past year which has been all but ordinary.

In reflecting on the past year and our current environment, I find it important to appreciate and be thankful for all that we have here in Niguel Shores. I am thankful for what this past year's Board and Management have done in this unique endeavor and unique time of 2020-2021.

In reflecting on the role of governance of our community I think the following is significant in considering what you as a homeowner know about the behind-the-scenes activities of NSCA and the roles of Community Association governance in making any decisions about the future of your neighborhood.

The following includes excerpts from *The Manager-Board Relationship: A Matter of Perspective, Common Ground (CAI Publication)* by Bette Wesseman and Jeffrey M. Evans, and *The Board's Perspective* by Irene L. Soskin.

An Ideal Board Member—Being a Board member isn't easy. The ideal Board member has a genuine interest in the community as a whole, is able to look at the big picture, and is able to differentiate between pet peeves and major problems and concerns. The ideal Board member is not interested in actually managing the community, does not make decisions based on his/her own likes and dislikes, and understands the chain of command. The ideal Board member has no hidden agendas! The ideal Board member comes to the Board with at least some experience, preferably through the committee system of serving on the Board. Finally, the ideal Board member is willing and able to give a reasonable amount of time to the work in order to be informed.

Working Together—The Manager can help the Board fulfill its elected duties by providing new Board members with a history of Board activities and decisions. The Board needs to know and understand the total operation of the association. The Board can then assist the manager by staying out of day-to-day operations. It will help the Manager if Board members encourage property owners/members with problems to call the Manager directly. Board members should not try to solve problems themselves, and above all, Board members should not make promises. The Board makes decisions as a whole and not individually. A good Board member will support the decisions of the Board even if they do not agree with that decision.

Happy Mother's Day and Happy Memorial Day Niguel Shores!

—Bob Russell

NSCA ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION

Niguel Shores Clubhouse

Tuesday, May 18

Registration and Polls open at 5:00 p.m.

Call to Order and Meeting starts at 6:00 p.m.

The Annual Meeting Notice and Election Ballots were mailed to all owners in April.

Ballots should be returned before the polls close **May 18**.

See instructions for returning your ballots on page 3.

vote

REMEMBER AND HONOR

Mother's Day

May 9

MEMORIAL DAY

May 31



BIG CHANGES TO PROPERTY TAXES

PROPOSITION 19 HOW WILL THIS AFFECT YOU?

TAX BASIS PORTABILITY HAS CHANGED

With the passage of Proposition 19, a homeowner who is over 55 years of age, severely disabled or whose home has been substantially damaged by wildfire or natural disaster may transfer the taxable value of their primary residence to:

- ★ A replacement primary residence
- ★ Up to three times
- ★ Regardless of the value of the replacement primary residence (with adjustments if "greater" in value)
- ★ Anywhere in the state
- ★ Within two years of the sale

These are huge differences from the current rules under Prop 60 and Prop 90



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GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

2021 Candidates Running for Niguel Shores Community Association Board

The candidates currently running for the NSCA Board of Directors are **Richard Ashworth, Donny Borsack, Steve Leonard** and **Marc McCarthy**. Remember that your vote counts and it is important to complete and return your ballot.

Returning Ballots—For your convenience there are several ways in which the ballots can be submitted this year:

- Place in the self-addressed stamped envelope provided with the election material and send by US Mail.
- Deliver to Accurate Voting Services, 18 Technology Drive, Suite 142, Irvine, CA 92618.
- Deliver to the Management Office and place in the BALLOT BOX in the lobby of the office.
- Deliver to the Management Office and place in the mailbox under the flagpole to the right of the stairs before you enter the Community Center.
- Present in person at the Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 18, prior to the polls closing.

Annual Meeting/Election—The NSCA Annual Meeting/Election is to be held on **Tuesday, May 18**. Registration will begin at **5:00 p.m.** in the **NSCA Community Center Clubhouse**, and the **Annual Meeting/Election** is scheduled to begin at **6:00 p.m.** where the election results will be tabulated and announced. Note: With COVID restrictions, please watch the Niguel Shores website for further information about the Clubhouse being open for the meeting.

What Do Committees do in Niguel Shores?—Committees are all appointed by the Board of Directors and serve at the pleasure of the Board to oversee certain areas within their scope of work. This is defined in the Niguel Shores Bylaws, which are the formally adopted governing regulations for the administration and management of the Association. The Bylaws state that there are only a few Required Committees that must be part of the Association. These Required Committees include **Nominating, Architecture and View Preservation Committees** and if there are no volunteers for these Committees the Board must take on the role of that Committee. There are several Other Committees that the Board may appoint as they deem necessary. The role of Other Committees is to Advise and Report directly back to the Board. The Committees are not allowed to spend Association funds, manage or direct staff on how to perform their job duties, manage, or hire vendors for the Association. This is the role of your Board of Directors as the Board is bonded and insured to perform such tasks.

These Other Committees that the Board may choose to appoint include **Traffic and Safety, Recreation, Maintenance, Communication, Finance, Landscape and Legal Committees** and have the following roles:

Traffic and Safety Committee shall advise the Board on matters pertaining to community access, the movement and parking of vehicles within the community and such other matters as designated by the Board.

Recreation Committee shall advise the Board on matters pertaining to the recreational program and activities of the Association.

Maintenance Committee shall advise the Board on matters pertaining to the maintenance, repair or improvement of the Common Areas and facilities.

Communication Committee shall inform the Members of all activities and functions of the Association, and shall, at the direction of the Board make public releases and announcements as are in the best interest of the Association.

Finance Committee shall advise and assist the Board in financial management and planning including but not limited to supervision of the annual audit of the Association's books and review of the Annual Budget. This Committee shall act in an advisory capacity to the Board and the CFO by presenting specific recommendations to them. The Committee may request the Board for assistance from staff on specific assignments but has no authority without Board approval.

Landscape Committee shall advise the Board on matters pertaining to the landscape maintenance, repair, or improvement of the Common areas.

Legal Committee shall advise the Board on legal matters and evaluate the performance of the Association's General Counsel.

From time to time the Board may choose to appoint other committees as they deem necessary. This is how the **Human Resource** and **Rules Committees** have been developed. Committee Charters are prepared, approved by the Board and provided to each Committee member explaining each committee's responsibility, duties and authority.

Holiday Closing—The office will be closed for Memorial Day on May 31. No construction will be allowed on that day.

Special Wishes—To all our wonderful Niguel Shores mothers, we send special wishes for your happiness on Mother's Day from the Niguel Shores Staff!

—Marla Miller



COMMITTEE REPORTS

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Summer is almost here and our Recreation Committee is getting ready to bring on the fun!

May Events:

Spring Market—Saturday, May 22, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Come and enjoy all the crafts and ideas from the community for sale at the market. This event will be located at the Niguel Shores Community Center Park.

Memorial Day BBQ—Sunday, May 30,

5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Bring your own food to barbeque on the grill, and enjoy fun dance tunes down at the Beach Bluff.



Upcoming Events:

In-N-Out Night – Saturday, July 10, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Get ready to start the summer with In-N-Out Night down at the Beach Bluff. Don't forget to bring your appetite! Tickets on sale in the NSCA office starting May 24 at \$10 each for a burger, chips and a drink.

—*The Recreation Committee*

MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

On our way to normal again!

Spring is here with a new beginning in more ways than one. DID YOU KNOW? Of those Americans 65 and older, 78% have received at least one COVID dose, and

61% are fully vaccinated. Over 120 million vaccines have been administered. 8.2 million shots as of this writing! We are well on our way, with those of us in the 50 and over group getting at least our first, and many fully vaccinated. We are now vaccinating those 16 and up and at this rate should be well on our way to some normalcy.

Getting ready!

With that in mind, the Maintenance staff is working to ready all our great amenities for a return to the fun of our usual spring and summer months. From new benches, trash cans and bark on the tot-lot in the community park to maintenance and repairs on the pool and spa, and even repair to the kitchen in the clubhouse. We should have it all ready when the time comes for reopening.

At our beloved Bluff, watch for some new benches and trash cans coming soon as well as the prepping of our almost new BBQ that took an unrequested year off, I am sure we are all ready for a fun get together soon. Behind the scenes, the usual drab HVAC, refrigerator, gate battery back-up, and other mechanical work is going on—but I can't help thinking about all the fun stuff awaiting us soon.

Here's to greeting each other soon with a hug and a handshake and who knows maybe seeing each other's smiles! We will all enjoy and appreciate our Niguel Shores "extremely well-maintained community" a little more as we spring back.

—*Geoff Dunlevie*

Honoring Our 2021 Graduates

Does your household have a high school or college student graduating this year?



The *Seashore News* has an annual tradition of honoring our Niguel Shores graduates with a special announcement in the June issue.

By May 15, please send their names, a photo, future plans, or any other activities you may wish to share to:

seashorenews@hotmail.com

We look forward to recognizing our 2021 high school and college graduates in the June issue.

—*Patti Staudenbaur*

COMMITTEE REPORTS

TRAFFIC AND SAFETY

Update your Guest List

At the request of our gate attendants, we are reminding everyone to update our guest lists whenever we expect guests, service people, or deliveries to our homes. For many months we were doing especially well updating our information on the Dwelling Live system and minimizing delays at the gate. With many new residents, increased visitors, and a rise in deliveries, our lists at the gate may be incomplete. Traffic at the gate is hectic at times, and to expedite the efficient flow of traffic, the folks not on your guest list may have to be turned away until you, the purported host, contacts the gate.

Please keep your guest list updated. If a visitor is dropping by at the last minute, or you expect a delivery from a less familiar service, contact Dwelling Live on your computer at <https://community.dwellinglive.com/> or telephone (949) 487-4185 to notify the gate. This will minimize delays and inconvenience for all.

Golf Carts or Neighborhood Electric Vehicles

There is a difference between golf carts and NEVs. However, to avoid any confusion as far our community rules are concerned, they are similar and have to be registered with our office. Also, to operate either one in our community, the driver must have a valid driver's license. The safety rules in the California Vehicle Code apply to these vehicles while driven on our streets.

Recently, we have received complaints regarding unlicensed drivers and the unsafe operation of these vehicles. The deputy sheriffs as well as our patrol units have been alerted. The penalty for violations can be harsh and can jeopardize the unlicensed operator's ability to obtain a valid driver's license. The vehicle code authorizes law enforcement personnel to impound and store vehicles driven by unlicensed drivers.

Electric Bicycles or "Walk your Bike"

Electric bikes are silent and can be deadly. More and more people of all ages are operating them on our streets and sidewalks. The electric motors on these bikes allow the operator to quietly travel without exerting a whole lot of effort, and at speeds never dreamed of on a pedal-power bicycle of old. Pedestrians on the sidewalk may not be aware of an electric bike until these bikes whiz past them, and an accident could happen.

The laws controlling the use of these devices are still in the process of being developed. However, the laws do currently mandate the use of a helmet and, depending

NIGUELSHORES.ORG

Our **Niguel Shores Website** www.niguelshores.org is your best resource for up-to-date information on our community.

- NSCA Annual Meeting and Election, May 18
- NSCA Community Updates
- NSCA Board Actions and Meeting Information
- Homeowner Request Forms
- Guest/Gate Login
- Photo Galleries
- Dana Point City Updates
- Dana Point Library Information
- Seashore News Issues (1973-present)
- Post a Web Comment
- Niguel Shores History



CHECK US OUT!

on conditions, some speed laws also apply. These bikes should never be ridden on a sidewalk.

I am sure every student has heard, at one time or another, a school official shout on a crowded campus, "Walk your bike." We too would like to deliver that message to everyone riding bicycles in or out of our community. "Walk your bike" through the pedestrian gates. The open gates and arms controlling our community exits and entrances are inviting to a bicyclist in a hurry. However, they are designed for the movement of cars and trucks. They cannot detect and react to a bicyclist.

We have had a couple of close calls where an arm came down and nearly knocked a bicyclist off the bike. In another incident the gates closed, narrowly missing another shook-up cyclist.

Marked and Unmarked Crosswalks

We are presently looking at the crosswalks on Niguel Shores Drive at Periwinkle, Mariner, and Atlantic. Hopefully, a modification or two will slow vehicle traffic and improve pedestrian safety in these places. Remember, if in doubt, pedestrians have the right of way.

Be safe and God Bless.

—Tim Murphy

MAY IS NATIONAL BIKE SAFETY MONTH

CLUBS

WOMEN'S CLUB

Happy Springtime!

In Niguel Shores, springtime is glorious! Go out and observe the fresh burst of spring colors around the community with sunny blue skies and billowing white clouds, beautiful pink blooms of the Indian Hawthorne, white and magenta daisies, orange and fuchsia blooming succulents, and the prolific Iceberg roses. Cannot forget to mention those brisk morning walks on the beach for healthy minds and bodies!

Women's Club Elections

Our Nominating Committee has submitted a slate of officers to be voted on at our May meeting. The following ladies are nominated for the 2020-2021 Board Officers:

PRESIDENT: Sharon Stewart

VICE PRESIDENT: Laurel Yocca

TREASURER: Cathy Tyson

SECRETARY: Terry Link

Committee Positions

Positions on our many committees are open for the 2021-2022 club year. Co-Presidents **Terry Link** at tjlink630@gmail.com and/or **Sharon Stewart** at sharon@sharonstewartRN.com are searching for eager members who might be interested in co-chairing or helping on committees such as hospitality, communication, care and concern, membership, welcome and special events. Please let Terry or Sharon know if you are interested. You would be joining us at Board meetings once a month and planning for club activities.

Remember, being an active member in NSWC is beneficial for the club as well as yourselves to promote our motto of "friendship, fun, and service in the community."

Meeting May 13 – Professional Organizer

Our speaker on **May 13** will be **Sandy Park**, the OC representative for Marie Kondo's *The Life Changing Method of Tidying Up*. Come join us to learn about the KonMari method to create order and joy in your personal home. Sandy Park's **Tidy with Spark** is a So Cal based home organization and decluttering service. She will present ideas for the lifestyle and philosophy she uses to organize her everyday life. Sandy offers a free ten-page spring cleaning guidebook to email subscribers. A link to the guide will be provided at the meeting. We will also raffle a one-hour virtual session with Sandy for help in tackling your organizing job.

Outside Activity

Our Outside Activity on **May 20** will be a lunch at **The Ranch** in **Laguna Beach**. See details in the announcement on this page.

Join Us

We would love you to join us for one of our monthly meetings. Please contact **Jennifer Paige** jenopaige@gmail.com or **Judi Palladino** twopalls@yahoo.com for more information about membership with Niguel Shores Women's Club.

—Terry Link

Women's Club Outside Activity

SPECIAL EVENT: Join us on **Thursday, May 20** for a **Luncheon** to honor **Terry Link** for her three outstanding years as **President** of the **Niguel Shores Women's Club**.

LOCATION: Meet at the Niguel Shores Clubhouse on May 20 at 11:00 a.m. to form carpools. From there, we will go to **Harvest Restaurant**, located off Pacific Coast Highway at **The Ranch at Laguna Beach, 31106 Coast Hwy, Laguna Beach, CA 92651**.

RSVP: We will reserve our tables ahead of time, so please call our **Outside Activity Chair, Carla Perin** at (949) 689-8831 by **May 17** to let her know you are attending. Thanks!



IN MEMORIAM

Roberta Kahn

October 1925 - April 2021

Resident of Binnacle Drive
Member of Women's Club
Remembered fondly by all

CLUBS

MEN'S CLUB

We're Back!

Everyone will be glad to hear that our Men's Club will return to meetings in the clubhouse beginning on **June 1**. Mark your calendars.

We will open that meeting by honoring club members who passed during the time we were closed down, including **Bob Gutknecht, Kent Wellbrock, and Michael Link**. All three were good club members and outstanding men. All members or guests who knew Bob, Kent or Michael are welcome to share personal, human interest, or humorous stories about them. We'll pass the mic around the room and *celebrate* the lives of these good men.

Next, our president, **John Yocca**, will lead us with some prospective changes to membership meetings. Since 1974, Men's Club has offered meetings with great breakfasts and interesting programs that have always been good. We want 2021 meetings to be even better. The Men's Club Board will therefore meet in May to further discuss what these meeting changes and improvements might be. After experiencing some of the new ideas, members will decide which ones should stick.

As many of us have not seen one another for about a year, all members are invited to come early on **June 1**, before our scheduled 8:00 a.m. "in the clubhouse" meeting, to an **optional social time at 7:30 a.m.** for renewing friendships and meeting newcomers. **Breakfast** will be served with the usual promptness at **8:00 a.m.** with **meeting activities from 8:15 till 9:00 a.m.**

All men in Niguel Shores are invited to visit and see if the Men's Club is for you. Certainly come if you knew Bob, Kent or Mike! Your cooked-from-scratch hot breakfast will be on the club. No charge.

—C.W. Gruenig



Karl Kuhn, Al Glatt, Chris Daley—Speakers on Bluebirds.

GARDEN CLUB

April Recap

While you are reading this, you might take a look out to your garden to see if a **Western Bluebird** is there. If you were at the April 19 club meeting, **Chris Daley, Al Glatt, and I** gave advice on how to attract these beauties to our yards. No bluebird yet? Well, keep hoping.

In April, club members also took a trip to the **Newport Beach Civic Center Park**. If you went on the tour, you saw succulent landscaping, succulent container gardens, colorful rock gardens, and more. I hope you got to enjoy that trio of garden designs. These April duo events marked one of the few times we staged two events so close together.

Garden Tour in May

On **May 17**, we will be visiting four of our club member's home gardens. Watch your email for details and times. The featured gardens include:

- A home in the Villas that celebrates holidays with yard art, along with an eclectic garden of plants, pottery and a playful puppy.
- A peripheral garden that surrounds three quarters of the property with colorful flowers and a small vegetable and herb raised bed.
- A farmhouse cottage-style garden lovingly created with an eye for design and color.
- An English-style garden with beautiful roses, topiaries, and the owner's special "lovelies."

—Karl Kuhn



Gunjan Anan won the raffle for the Bluebird house made by Al Glatt.



BRIDGE

All of us want to return to our regular schedule and play Bridge. We have missed our members and the good times we've had.



When our new meetings resume, we will be at tables spread at least 10 feet from each other and all participants will be wearing masks.

In the past we have been joined by many wonderful bridge players from the surrounding area of San Clemente and San Juan Capistrano, but for the time being we will have only members from Niguel Shores.

We invited **Lorraine Cisneros** to play bridge on Monday, April 12 and everyone had a good time. We welcome Lorraine to our group of new Bridge players.

Betty and Bob French will be alerting our members as more information is made available about the clubhouse reopening. Meanwhile, keep having games in your homes and use masks and common sense. For club information, contact Betty or Bob at (949) 312-2556.

—Mike Oliva

PAGE TURNERS

This month **Page Turners** will be reading the only non-fiction entry in this year's selection of books – *Educated* by Tara Westover. I “devoured” this book when it first came out in 2018, and am so looking forward to the discussion in our book club. “Tara Westover was seventeen the first time she set foot in a classroom.” Perhaps it would not hurt to have this information conveyed to today's classroom populations in general – my opinion!



Random House calls this book, “An unforgettable memoir about a young girl who, kept out of school, leaves her survivalist family and goes on to earn a PhD from Cambridge University . . . With the acute insight that distinguishes all great writers, Westover has crafted a universal coming-of-age story that gets to the heart of what an education is and what it offers: the perspective to see one's life through new eyes, and the will to change it.”

Page Turners book club consists of three groups who all read the same books at the same time. Two groups meet on the fourth Thursday afternoon of the month, and for information on the Thursday groups contact **Steve and Ann Morris** at samwrsi@cox.net. The other group meets on the fourth Monday afternoon of the month, and for information on that group contact me, **Frances**, at fozimec@cox.net.

—Frances Ozimec

DANA POINT THIS MONTH

Memorial Day in Dana Point—VFW Post

9934 will present their traditional **Memorial Day Service** on **Monday, May 31, at 10:00 a.m.** in **Pines Park**, 3491 Camino Capistrano. The program features the OC Sheriff's Color Guard, Trumpeter David Longoria, Post Rifle Team, and the “Boots And Rifle” Ceremony. For additional information, contact Post 9934 at (949) 248-7696

Dana Point Trolley Resumes Friday, May 28

Free trolleys will run weekends thru June 20, and the summer schedule will begin **June 25**. Full info at <https://southcoaches.com/2021/04/06/dana-point-trolley-set-to-resume-friday-may-28-2021/>

Lantern District Plans Moving Ahead

In March, with great fanfare, the **Street of the Amber Lantern** opened to pedestrians and through traffic after being closed nearly four years due to construction at **Prado West**, a residential and commercial project in development by **Raintree Partners**.



Prado West Lobby

In addition, the *Seashore News* has learned that Raintree Partners looks forward to more openings in the summer, and is talking with the City about creating an outdoor tavern and refreshment area with public art and seating on a recently purchased vacant lot next to Prado West.

Raintree Partners also purchased the former Aurora's Market on Pacific Coast Highway, which is soon to reopen as **Giana Bakery + Provisions** under the direction of Maison's **Danielle Kuhn**. Gianna's will have an Italian theme, fresh breads and pastries, a deli, dining room, and wine bar. Next to Gianna's, Danielle and Raintree are planning **Gigi's Garden**, an outdoor spot for events, culinary and gardening classes, and dining. Information is available at Raintree Partners Corporate at La Plaza Pacifica, 34052 La Plaza #201 in Dana Point at (949) 365-5650.

Along with the new amenities coming to Dana Point, a grass-roots group of local citizens has formed to encourage the installation of underground utilities for safety and aesthetic reasons. The **Poles and Lines Coalition (PAL)** has held meetings since the first of the year featuring discussion from Public Works Director and City Engineer **Matt Sincori**, District 4 Councilman **Mike Frost**, and officials from utility companies. For more information, contact palmembershipdanapoint@gmail.com or (949) 549-1171.

—Sandy Homicz

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ SPOTLIGHT: MEMORIAL DAY ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

On Monday, May 31, our nation will honor those who serve bravely for our country: the men and women—and animals—in the Armed Forces.

Famed Monuments Honoring Americans in Military Service

Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery; African American Civil War Memorial, National WWII Memorial, Korean Veterans Memorial, Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Navy-Merchant Marine Memorial, Navy Memorial, National Guard Memorial, and Disabled American Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C.; Marine Corps Memorial, Air Force Memorial, Nurses Memorial, Seabee Memorial, and Women in Military Service for America Memorial in Arlington, VA; Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial in France.

Tribute to Women in Military Service

Recently installed at the entrance to Arlington National Cemetery, **The Pledge** by famed sculptor Susan Bahary is the first monument in the nation’s capital to honor all women of the U.S. Military. The life-sized bronze sculpture depicts a female soldier in full combat uniform bonding with her military service dog.



The Pledge

Animals Also Serve

Just as we remember our men and women in the military on Memorial Day, we can’t forget the service animals that have shown their loyalty to our troops.



Chief



Black Jack

Military Horses

From the cavalry horses of early days to the riderless horse in funeral ceremonies, horses have a unique role in the military. Smithsonian’s education website at si.edu/spotlight/famous-horses mentions famous warhorses such as George Washington’s **Nelson**, Sheridan’s **Winchester**, Grant’s **Cincinnati**, Stonewall Jackson’s **Little Sorrel**, Robert E. Lee’s **Traveller**, and Custer’s **Comanche**. Teddy Roosevelt rode **Little Texas** in the Spanish American War, and Pershing rode **Kidron** in WWI. Earning



Sergeant Reckless

a sergeant’s rank in the U.S. Army, **Sergeant Reckless** served the Marines in Korea. **Chief**, the last cavalry horse, retired from the Army in 1958. **Jarman** guarded the California shoreline for the Coast Guard until 1974. **Black Jack** served



WWI horse tribute

as the riderless horse in more than 1,000 Armed Forces full honor funerals. He is one of only a few horses in U.S. history to be buried with full military honors, and was the funeral horse for three Presidents, including John F. Kennedy.

In this photo from World War I, soldiers pay respect to their horses lost in battle.

Military Dogs

The National Service Animals Monument Organization says, “More than 30,000 dogs have served in the U.S. military since the K-9 Corps was established by the Army in 1942. The U.S. military still has around 2,500 active Military Working Dogs (MWDs) today . . . The animals are often tasked with sniffing out explosives . . . and have a 98 percent accuracy.”



National Working Dog Team Monument

A law passed in 2000 allows military dog handlers and their families to adopt these faithful canines when the animals retire. Today, around 90 percent of MWDs are adopted by their former handlers.

The first national monument for U.S. Military Working Dog Teams was dedicated in 2013 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas.

Stubby, a WWI hero, was a stowaway who became a troop mascot and our country’s first military service dog. Stubby distinguished himself while serving with Corporal Robert Conroy, who taught him to salute. Stubby’s canine senses warned of incoming gas attacks and artillery shells, and he also alerted French townspeople of an invasion, saving countless lives. Wounded during battle, Stubby earned three service stripes for his active duty, met three American Presidents, and is regarded as a figure of courage, loyalty, and sacrifice.



Stubby WWI

continued on page 13

MOTHERS DAY



Clearly, mothers are central in our lives, not only this month on Mother's Day but always—whether we are thinking of the mother who gave birth to us, or a stepmom, adoptive mom, sister, grandma, aunt, or even a friend.

The lovely tradition of honoring Mom goes far back. The ancient **Greeks** and **Romans** paid homage in springtime to the mothers of their gods. Sixteenth century England praised Mom on **Mothering Sunday**—a day for visiting her with a “mothering cake,” attending church, and having the whole family prepare her a special dinner.

Our current celebration of **Mother's Day** is a century-old concept coming from the wish of **Miss Anna Jarvis** to honor her own mother, Mother Jarvis, who died in 1905. Mother Jarvis was an Appalachian homemaker and activist at the time of the Civil War. She organized **Mother's Day Work Clubs** to fight unsanitary living conditions and high rates of infant mortality among the poor. Mother Jarvis also coordinated a West Virginia **Mothers' Friendship Day** to bring Civil War veterans from the North and South together in peace, just as **Julia Ward Howe** did with **Mothers' Peace Day**.

In 1910 the governor of West Virginia proclaimed an official

Mother's Day in his state, and Anna Jarvis began promoting an international Mother's Day to acknowledge everything a mother does for her family.

In 1914, **President Woodrow Wilson** made **Mother's Day** a national holiday—a reverential day for families to show Mom their respect and love. This is the day we celebrate now on the second Sunday in May.

As it turned out, Anna Jarvis was disappointed because her idea for a quiet respectful tribute to mothers resulted in growing commercialism and exploitation. She began campaigning against profiteering, created product boycotts, and threatened lawsuits against those manipulating the day for their own gain. Anna did not envision anyone making a profit from her idea, but simply wished to remind us that motherhood should be honored. Sadly, she died a recluse with no children of her own. However, we can thank her for initiating the vision of a special day of respect devoted to Mom.

This year we honor our mothers on **Sunday, May 9** in whatever ways we most prefer. For me, that means heartfelt memories, prayers, and thanks to Mom and a long list of other women who've offered love, comfort, and support throughout life.

—Sandy Homicz



Thanks to Meg Wilson for the beautiful floral photos on these pages.

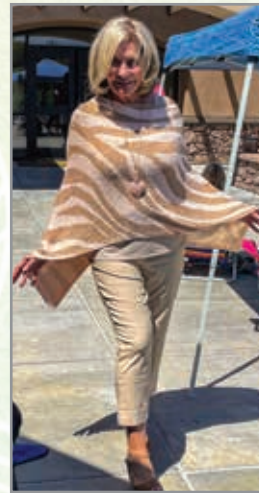
NIGUEL SHORES WOMEN'S CLUB ANNUAL FASHION SHOW

The Women's Club Annual Fashion Show in April brought together many members and guests on the Clubhouse Patio for a dazzling presentation of spring fashions from **Chicos** in **San Juan Capistrano**. We met outside in the sunshine for this event, which included a \$50 Chico's gift certificate raffle won by **Lorraine Cisneros** and a gift bag won by **Betty French**.

Our members **Barbara Davis, Suki Hahn, Jennifer Paige, and Cynthia Talley** displayed Chico's spring collection and relaxed weekend apparel.

Thank you to **Betty French**, chair of the 2021 Fashion Show for organizing this enjoyable outdoor event!

—Terry Link



MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

The Pellini Family

It is our pleasure to introduce your neighbors on Niguel Shores Drive, **Drs. Michael and Melina Pellini** and their three sons, **Trent (22), Nathan (19), and Adam (17)**. They have lived in the Shores since the July Fourth weekend of 2015 with their large and lively Dalmatian rescue dog, **Tucson**.

Mike's 90-year-old mom, **Yona**, moved in with them during COVID and can often be seen walking in the neighborhood, but will be returning to her home in the Philadelphia area soon. When asked what keeps her so youthful, they shared that she still does bookkeeping four hours a day for a family business. Way to go, Yona!

Mike and Melina are both from the Philadelphia area. Mike is a graduate of Boston College (BA), Drexel University (MBA), and Thomas Jefferson University Medical College (MD). Melina is a graduate of the University of Delaware (BA) and Thomas Jefferson University (PhD). They met while in graduate school in 1993 and married in 1996. If you've done the math on that then, yes, they will be celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary on June 1!

During the early years when they were busy raising their three young sons in the Philadelphia area, Mike was a practicing Primary Care Physician and Melina was teaching at Thomas Jefferson University. Mike then became involved in a start-up biotech company focusing on cancer and genetics.

In the summer of 2007, the whole family came to California for what they thought was a six-week vacation while Mike attended to business here. They made the decision to stay on the west coast while Mike continued working for Clariant, an Aliso Viejo based molecular diagnostic company, and they rented in Monarch Beach Terrace for what they presumed would be a year. As it turned out, they ended up buying in Monarch Beach Terrace and lived there for seven years.

When the opportunity arose, they chose to move to their present home here in the Shores. In the meantime, Mike commuted weekly to Boston from 2011 to 2017 as part of his role with Foundation Medicine, while Melina and the boys remained in California. There were an estimated 45 round trips to Boston and back each year so Mike could be home on the weekends. Imagine the air miles!

Mike has been in Biotech for twenty-five years, focusing on personalized medicine, cancer care, and genomics. He is now a managing partner at Section 32, a Venture Capital Fund investing in healthcare and technology. The practice of medicine is quite different from the technology of medicine so he spends a lot of time working to make sure patients get access to the most current medicines and innovations. He also serves on the Board of the Mission Hospital Foundation and the Leonard Cancer Institute in Mission Viejo, as well as his medical school and several oncology-

related nonprofits. Melina is the PTSA President at Dana Hills High School and is also involved in a number of other organizations in the area, including The Emilio Nares Foundation, Ocean Institute and Party Pepper Uppers. Kudos to the Pellinis for sharing their time and talent in such impactful ways!

All three of the Pellini boys attended local elementary schools and then went on to Dana Hills High School. While at Dana, Trent excelled at swimming and actually was on the first Dana Hills Swim Team to win a CIF Championship in 2017. Trent is currently a senior at Purdue University in Indiana, where he is studying Industrial Management and Computer Science. He is captain of the Purdue Swim Team and competed in the NCAA Championships this spring and will head to Omaha, Nebraska for the Olympic Trials for breast stroke.

Mike and Melina's middle son, Nathan, was also on that Dana Hills CIF Championship team. He was a varsity diver as well as being extremely involved in school leadership programs, and was awarded the Dolphin of the Year for his commitment to DHHS. Nate graduated from Dana in 2019 and went on to attend Cal Berkeley where he is studying Biomedical Engineering and is active in the Associated Students of the University of California (ACSU). This semester he is doing an internship in San Diego with a biotech firm and will return to campus in the fall.

Adam, the couple's youngest son, is a junior this year at Dana Hills. Like so many other students, Adam's high school experience has been interrupted due to COVID. He



The Pellini Family—Trent, Adam, Nate, Melina and Mike



Adam



Trent



Nate

MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

decided to do At-Home/Remote Learning rather than the hybrid schedule that was offered at Dana. This decision was based on the fact, mentioned earlier, that Mike's 90-year-old mom is currently living with the family, and they wanted to minimize the risks to her. Adam plays basketball on a local club team and the high school varsity team. Both teams have recently begun playing indoors again, and Mike and Melina are thrilled for the chance to cheer as spectators. Adam has expressed an interest in attending college back East after graduation, but again due to COVID restrictions, plans for campus visits are on hold for the time being.

The boys are not the only athletically active members of the family. Mike is an avid surfer and loves being in the water on a surf or paddleboard or just swimming any chance he gets. Together, they all enjoy skiing, snowboarding, running, hiking, fly fishing and most recently, golf. When time allows, the family likes traveling to surf and ski destinations, visiting family back east, and spending time at a second home near Jackson Hole, Wyoming. To say they are an active family is, obviously, an understatement.

MEMORIAL DAY continued from page 9

WWII hero **Smoky**, a Yorkshire Terrier rescued from a foxhole in New Guinea, is considered the military's first therapy dog. She accompanied soldiers on 12 missions and survived 150 air raids with her companion Corporal William Wynne, who trained her in tricks to entertain the troops. She received many medals, including the Purple Cross from Australia recognizing animals who risk their lives to save a person from injury or death.



Smoky

During the Vietnam conflict, **Vietnam Scout Dogs** accompanied their handlers leading infantry patrols and lifting off in helicopters for combat missions. Their keen sight, smell, hearing, natural intelligence and loyalty enabled them to detect snipers, booby traps, ambushes, underground tunnel complexes, and hidden weapons or supplies.

Many Vietnam war dogs acted as sentries guarding air fields, ammunition areas, supply depots, motor pools, and base camp facilities. Some were trained as trackers working deep within enemy territory. They performed dangerous reconnaissance missions gathering intelligence and searching for downed pilots or troops missing in the jungle.

Military Donkeys and Mules

Donkeys and mules have also fulfilled important wartime

In keeping with the spirit of friendship and sharing within our community, Mike and Melina graciously opened their remodeled, ocean-view home for the Women's Club Home Tour in 2018, and being huge longtime Tom Petty fans, they have hosted two Tom Petty themed parties here as well—with hopes to have another after COVID ends. So if you happen to be on Niguel Shores Drive and hear the sound of *Free Fallin'* you are not imagining things. That's Mike and Melina in their back yard, rocking out with family and friends to Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers.

The Pellinis truly enjoy their life here in the Shores and appreciate everything the community has to offer, from the pool and amenities, to sunsets and parties at the bluff and, of course, the annual Fourth of July festivities. They shared, "We love the people and the vibe here at Niguel Shores. The bluff is a wonderful place to meet and spend time with family, neighbors and friends." Mike and Melina both agreed that Niguel Shores is a wonderful place to raise kids, and they have "the best neighbors anyone could ask for."

—Michelle Ralph and Patti Staudenbaur

roles carrying ammunition, food, equipment, and transporting the wounded. Troops relied on these tough animals to travel on terrain that vehicles could not maneuver during the Civil War, WWI, WWII, the Korean War, and in Afghanistan and Iraq.



National Service Animals Memorial Planned

Homing Pigeons

Thousands of homing pigeons served as messengers in WWI and WWII, saving untold soldier's lives. The birds flew off with tiny message capsules attached to their legs and they returned with replies.

Sea Lions, Dolphins, and Whales

Since 1959, the U.S. Navy Marine Mammal Program in San Diego has trained marine mammals as teammates for our Sailors and Marines to help provide harbor security, hunt for mines, and locate objects lost in deep water.

Note: The information about military animals in this article came from the website nationalserviceanimalsmonument.org which hopes to promote the creation of a National Service Animals Monument.

—Sandy Homicz

Wellness... Alzheimer's

Ann and I have been friends for decades. We met at church back in the late 1980s when our kids were in Sunday School together. We taught together at church, helped with holiday pageants, fed the homeless, and enjoyed hosting couple's dinners with our church buddies. She is funny, kind, self-deprecating, and just an all-around pleasure to be with. We laughed a LOT!

So, several years ago when she told me that she was worried about her memory and what she thought was the beginning of the loss of her peripheral vision, I took a deep breath. Alzheimer's Disease runs in her father's side of her family and she was worried. I suggested that she see her primary physician, but she only had an OB/GYN, which isn't unusual for a lot of women.

Fortunately, we have a mutual friend whose family had dealt with the effects of Alzheimer's. She took the reins and went with Ann to an appointment that changed Ann's life. Ann was diagnosed with early onset Alzheimer's at age 56. It was devastating.

Alzheimer's disease, the cause of one of several types of dementia, is an irreversible and progressive brain disorder that slowly erodes memory and thinking skills with symptoms often showing up in our 60s. Currently, Alzheimer's is ranked as the sixth leading cause of death in the US, but by some estimates may actually be third just behind cancer and heart disease. It's distinguished from other types of dementia by abnormal clumps called amyloid plaques, and tangled fibers also known as neurofibrillary or tau in the brain, with malfunctioning nerve cells also playing



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

a key role. What we may notice first as a result of these changes in the brain is forgetfulness.

Truth be told, as we age, we can become forgetful, but is it normal aging or the onset of something more serious? Losing things from time to time is normal age-related behavior. Being unable to retrace your steps to find something is not. Forgetting which word to use in a conversation is common, but difficulty having a conversation is not. The cause of Alzheimer's is unknown, and diagnosing and treating Alzheimer's is challenging, involving specific tests, therapies, and medications that emphasize managing behavioral challenges and delaying memory loss. Unfortunately, despite all the research, there's still no cure.

So, what can we do? Well, if we suspect a friend or loved one might be suffering with Alzheimer's we can get them to the doctor. If we know that someone caring for an Alzheimer's patient is exhausted, we could fill in for them so they can rest and refresh. And we can stay informed about the disease and support legitimate organizations that are leading the way when it comes to Alzheimer's research and treatment. Here are two good websites: www.nia.nih.gov/health/alzheimers-disease-fact-sheet and www.alz.org/

And as for my friend Ann, well, she's now eight years into the disease and in assisted living receiving Alzheimer's care. For those afflicted, there are studies underway using medication, memory training, and monitoring by medical professionals to help slow the advancement of the disease. My hope is that we can all become more aware of the ongoing need for continued research so that one day our world is free of Alzheimer's disease.

—Sharon Stewart RN

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ACTION SUMMARY POSTED ON BULLETIN BOARD AND WEBSITE

The last approved General Session Minutes are posted on the Bulletin Board across from the NSCA Office entrance. In addition, the General Session and Executive Session agendas for the next Board Meeting will also be posted on the Friday prior to the next meeting.

REMINDERS: THE NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THE 2ND WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 2021, BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M.

The General Session Meeting is held via zoom online conferencing. The link to this meeting can be requested by contacting the management office. Requests must be received prior to the meeting date.

The **Annual Membership Meeting** will be held in the **Clubhouse** on the **3rd Tuesday, May 18, 2021.**

SPORTS

TENNIS

Fun fact for May—Tennis balls were always white, not yellow, until yellow was introduced at Wimbledon in 1986. Officials believed that a yellow ball would be easier for spectators to see and follow on TV.



Tennis List—The Niguel Shores bi-annual Tennis List, Spring 2021, was updated and e-mailed to all residents on the shared player list in April. Please use the list to contact other players and arrange matches at your level. We have 10 new additions to the list and many of these are new residents in Niguel Shores, so consider inviting them to play or accept an invitation from them. Be sure to make new players feel welcome when you see them on the courts. Hopefully, we can again schedule a round robin or social hour when COVID has settled down a bit.

For further information e-mail 4oceanbreeze@gmail.com.
—Jennifer Rose

PICKLEBALL

Celebrating Two Years

Two years ago, when resident **JoAnneWebb** approached the Niguel Shores Board to discuss the possibility of adding Pickleball Courts here in Niguel Shores, I don't think any of us thought the sport would be as popular as it is today!



It's always time for a Pickleball party!

Currently we have approximately 200 homeowners of all ages playing the game. We invite you to grab a paddle and join your neighbors.

If you are a beginner, and just thinking about getting started, the handball courts located behind the Clubhouse area are a great way to practice. Google the rules and watch some YouTube videos and you'll be ready to go. Always feel free to ask a fellow player for pointers on the rules

A Growing Sport—Pickleball has had a 650% increase in numbers over the last six years, according to USA Pickleball Association. It grew in 2020 alone to 4.2 million players in

the United States according to the Sports and Fitness Industry Association's (SFIA) 2020 Pickleball Participant Report.

Sign Up for Notices and Events—Stay tuned for more to come on Wednesday night Happy Hours! To join the pickleball distribution list for upcoming events and notices, please email niguelshores.pb@gmail.com (residents only). Check out the Pickleball Schedule posted on this page. See you on the courts!

—Debi Berk

Pickleball Hours Spring/Summer 2021

Monday through Saturday: 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Sundays: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Drop In / Rotate / Social Play

Monday/Wednesday/Friday/Saturday: 9 to 11 a.m.

Tuesday/Thursday: 9 to 11 a.m. (courts 1 & 2)

Monday/Wednesday/Friday: 4 to 7 p.m. (courts 1 & 2)

Sunday: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

ACCOLADES



Niguel Shores Pickleball Players Make Us Proud

St. George, Utah hosted the **Southern Utah Pickleball Shootout** at Little Valley Pickleball Complex, March 23 through March 27. Niguel Shores residents and local realtors **Chris & Kathy Zoch**, along with fellow Pickleball player **Brian Bidwell**, decided to take their game to the next level and try competing in this tournament with 570 registered players.



The Zochs entered the **Mixed-Doubles** bracket and “had a blast” competing against players from all over the western United States. **Brian** and **Chris** entered the **Men's 50-59 Division** and took home the **Gold!** Many of the competitors have been participating in this tournament for several years, but this was a first for all three Niguel Shores competitors—and they look forward to doing it again.

Chris shared, “We are so grateful that Pickleball has been introduced to Niguel Shores or we would not have had the opportunity to learn and experience the fun and social aspects that the game brings, whether playing friendly matches here in our community or in competitive tournaments. See you on the courts!”

Congratulations to all three players. We are very proud to have you representing Niguel Shores!

—Patti Staudenbaur

PET PARADE HEART DISEASE IN DOGS



Heart disease is fairly common in dogs. 10% of dogs presenting to veterinary hospitals have heart disease, and 75% of these dogs have something called **mitral valve disease**.

Signs of mitral valve disease are a lack of energy, panting at rest, coughing. Your pet's resting (or sleeping) breathing rate should be 30 breaths per minute or fewer.

Mitral valve disease leads to degeneration of the mitral valve. The degeneration is usually slow, but there are certain breeds predisposed to rapid progression and worse prognosis (e.g., King Charles Cavalier Spaniel).


The problem is diagnosed by a thorough physical exam. At that time, your veterinarian will listen for the presence of a heart murmur. Chest x-rays are necessary to rule out other causes of coughing in dogs. The size of the heart is measured, and the veterinarian looks for fluid in the lungs (pulmonary edema). Blood pressure can be tested to rule out concurrent hypertension. Echocardiography (an ultrasound of the heart) is helpful to see the sizes of the chambers of the heart and to visualize the motion and shape of the heart valves. Echocardiography helps rule out other types of heart disease and confirms the presence of the abnormal mitral valve. Blood tests are done to check blood count and kidney function.

There are several stages of Mitral Valve Disease. Depending on the stage, there could be no treatment or your pet might

require several heart medications. In dogs without symptoms and with no observable abnormalities on the chest x-rays, no treatment is needed. The client can monitor the pet for signs of coughing and increased resting breathing rate. In dogs without symptoms that have some early signs of heart enlargement on x-ray, the veterinarian may prescribe a low-salt diet and a drug called pimobendan (Vetmedin). In dogs who are coughing and whose x-rays show fluid in their lungs (these dogs are technically in "congestive heart failure"), the veterinarian may prescribe a medication like furosemide (Lasix) to pull the fluid off the lungs. In addition to the furosemide, a dog might need oxygen therapy to help them breathe. Another medication that is used on the symptomatic dog is a blood pressure medication, like enalapril or benazepril, to help reduce the work the heart needs to pump blood throughout the body.

Dogs often can live with mitral valve disease and never go into congestive heart failure. Once they are in failure, the prognosis varies depending on the amount of damage to the heart. These dogs need life-long medications (as noted above). Blood tests need to be done regularly to monitor kidney function whenever the dog is on heart medications. X-rays also must be taken regularly to monitor for response to the medication and to look for worsening of the condition.


—Susan Davis, DVM



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