

■ **WESTMINSTER CITY COUNCIL**

Ordinance For 'Civility' OKd On 3-1 Vote

Amy Phan West was the only dissenting voice

By Jim Tortolano
Orange County Tribune

An ordinance establishing standards for decorum and civility from the mayor and city council was approved by the Westminster City Council on Wednesday night on a 3-1 vote.

It was the second and final vote on the ordinance

first introduced in October.

The only dissenting vote was cast by Councilmember Amy Phan West, who has been the subject of concerns about her conduct at meetings. Mark Nguyen, the newly-elected council member, joined Vice Mayor Carlos Manzo and Mayor Chi Charlie Nguyen in supporting the ordinance.

Councilmember NamQuan Nguyen was absent.

Wednesday's vote was the latest in a series of ef-

Continued on page 2

State of California, HB trade lawsuits

Surf City and the Golden State swapped lawsuits this week.

The State of California filed a lawsuit accusing Huntington Beach of violating state law by refusing to adopt a housing element.

The City of Huntington Beach filed a lawsuit against the state's "sanctuary" law which allegedly violates the state Constitution and tells city officials to violate federal immigration laws.

"Huntington Beach continues to fail its residents," said Gov. Gavin Newsom. "Every city and county needs to do their part to bring down the high housing and rent costs that are impacting families across the state."

Regarding its lawsuit, Huntington Beach Mayor Pat Burns said, "We are fighting the sanctuary state law because it obstructs our ability to fully enforce the law and keep our community safe."

■ **A ROSE-Y LION PARADE**



WESTMINSTER HIGH SCHOOL'S Vietnamese American Culture Club performed in the 2025 Rose Parade in Pasadena on New Year's Day. They presented various performances celebrating Vietnamese culture and community (HBUHSD photo)

'Local emergency' to be extended?

Continuance of a "local emergency" proclamation related to the problems associated with homelessness tops the agenda of Tuesday night's meeting of the Stanton City Council.

The council will be asked to consider extending – until further notice – the proclamation – passed on

■ **STANTON COUNCIL**

Nov. 26, 2024.

Also on the agenda is consideration of appointments by the mayor of city council members to various boards, commissions, committees etc.,

The council meets at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall, 7800 Katella Ave.

■ **GARDEN GROVE CITY COUNCIL**

Send in the drones for GGPD

The Garden Grove police may soon be getting their own "air force."

At Tuesday's meeting of the city council, there's an agenda item for a purchase order worth \$74,851.63 to Advexure LCC to purchase unmanned aerial systems – commonly known as drones – for the GGPD.

According to a staff report, "the ability to gain an aerial view over dangerous situations reduces the risk to officers, improves searching and documentation capabilities, and aids in the safe apprehension of criminals. The [drones] may be equipped with high-definition cameras, thermal imaging cameras, or a combination thereof to provide mission-critical information."

Also on the agenda will be:

- a public hearing on a lot-line adjustment crucial to the proposed development of a seven-story, 98-unit apartment building at 9891, 9897 and 9901 Garden Grove Blvd. It's noteworthy as the site of the iconic "Vodie's" sign;

- a community spotlight recognizing "goodwill ambassadors" from Anyang (South), Korea, as part of the 36th annual Garden Grove Sister City Exchange Program.

The council will meet in its chambers at 11331 Stanford Ave. at 6:30 p.m.

'Civility and decorum' law approved by city council

Continued from page 1

forts by a majority of the council to bring order to a long stretch of marathon and chaotic meetings.

Censures, sanctions and even a lawsuit have been attempted, with West – and sometimes NamQuan Nguyen – accused of disruptive conduct.

West began her comments by challenging the wording of the terms “intentional” and “disruptive,” calling them “vague.”

Manzo said “A lot of it is common courtesy and common sense.” Mark Nguyen, speaking of the disorder at previous council meetings, said “It’s embarrassing to say the

least” and said that the requirements of the ordinance were rules of conduct that “any elected official should comply with.” West also challenged the issue of “intentionally missing” council meetings – especially closed sessions – asking “how can you prove someone’s intentions?”

Mayor Nguyen grew angry at the point, saying “You have missed seven closed sessions in a row!”

The ordinance becomes effective in 30 days. The next meeting of the council will be on Wednesday, Jan. 22.

Motorcyclist is killed in GG

A motorcyclist died from injuries suffered from a collision with an automobile Tuesday night in Garden Grove.

According to Traffic Investigator John Yergler of the GGPD, the incident took place at around 10:08 p.m. in the 12000 block of Euclid Street near Katella Avenue.

Officers from the Anaheim Police Department were the first to arrive on the scene and began rendering first aid to the motorcyclist while awaiting the arrival of the Orange County Fire Authority personnel.

He was assessed and treated at the scene and then taken to a lo-

cal trauma center where he was later pronounced dead.

The driver of the automobile remained at the scene and cooperated with police.

The GGPD Neighborhood Traffic Unit arrived and took over the investigation. It’s unknown if alcohol or drugs were a factor in the collision.

According to Yergler, the cause is under investigation and anyone who may have witnessed the incident or has video footage of it can call (714) 741-5772 or by e-mail at johnny@ggpd.com.

The Tribune

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News & Views

Greenland will be green some day .. eventually

A lot of people are a bit confused about President-elect Donald Trump's ruminations about taking back the Panama Canal, annexing Canada and buying or otherwise acquiring Greenland, which is not at all green.

There is actually a lot of history behind American ambitions north, south and ... frosty.

The U.S twice tried to conquer what what is now Canada.

During the American Revolution, American forces –

thinking the folks in the land of maple leaves, moose and beer were as disaffected as they were – marched into the higher latitudes.

They did pretty well ... General Benedict Arnold – before he entered the portal and switch to the other side – actually captured Montreal (soon to have an NBA team, it's rumored) before the winter sent our guys back south .

We tried again in the War of 1812, but the New York militia, who were a big part of the American army, refused to leave the state, concerned they might miss a Buffalo Bills game.

The Panama Canal was a personal project of President Theodore Roosevelt. He wanted the canal as a way of allowing American warships to more directly move from Atlantic to Pacific (and vice versa).

When the Colombian government said no, we found some rebellious folks from Panama (part of Colombia then) to declare independence, backing them with several U.S. Navy battleships.

Greenland is whole other



Retorts
Jim Tortolano

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REVOLUTIONARY EDUCATION



ARE YOU smarter than a fifth-grader ... in American history? Maybe not, if you discuss it with a pupil at Ethan Allen Elementary School in Fountain Valley. At Allen, there was recently held an assembly called "Walk Through the Revolution," giving students immersive education about the history of America's founding as a nation. They took on the roles of key figures from that period and there were dramatic activities, flags, maps, re-enactments, music and more. Allen is part of the Garden Grove Unified School District (GGUSD photo).

New Huntington Beach fire chief

Eric McCoy has been selected as the fire chief for the City of Huntington Beach.

In his role, he will be responsible for overseeing th operation, services, and activities of the Huntington Beach Fire Department, including administration, emergency operations community risk reduction, and marine safety.

Born and raised in Huntington Beach, Eric was hired by the City of Huntington Beach in 1997 as an ocean lifeguard and ambulance operator. He worked briefly for the Fountain Valley Fire

Department, before returning to Huntington Beach Fire in 2006 as a firefighter and paramedic.

During his tenure with the HBFD, Eric has held numerous ancillary roles, including public information officer, marine safety division chief, and most recently deputy chief of operations.

In that role, he implemented numerous programs and technologies that aided in increasing operational efficiencies at doubling fire department revenue.

Eric obtained his bachelor of science degree from California State University, Long Beach,



ERIC MCCOY is the new fire chief for Huntington Beach (HBFD photo).

and his masters in organizational leadership from Columbia Southern University.

He is currently enrolled in the Executive Fire Officer Program at the National Fire Academy and is anticipated to graduate in April 2025

Eric resides in Huntington Beach with his wife and three kids. In his downtime, he enjoys spending time with his family, traveling, and serving at his local church.

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NewsUpdate

Some Progress Against Wild Fires

11 deaths, 12,000 structures gone; winds die down

While the wildfires that have scorched the Los Angeles area are still raging, firefighters are making some progress against the Pacific Palisades and Eaton fires.

The Los Angeles Times is reporting that over 12,000 structures have been damaged or destroyed. Mandatory evacuation orders remain in place for over 150,000 people.

There have been 11 deaths confirmed, and it's feared that more fatalities will be discovered once the fires are extinguished and burnt areas searched for possible victims.



THE DEATH TOLL IS now at 11 and 12,000 structures have been destroyed..

As of Friday afternoon, the Palisades fire was considered 8 percent contained and the Eaton fire was 3 percent contained. The abatement of heavy winds has been a help in fighting the blazes, according to fire officials.

For the second day, Orange County residents received an erroneous "evacuation" warning from the Los Angeles Fire Department.

Gov. Gavin Newsom has invited President-elect Donald Trump

to visit California to view the damage and offer appreciation to the first responders. Newsom also ordered an investigation into water supply problems that left some fire hydrants dry.

Giuliani held in contempt again for telling lies about Georgia election workers

Former New York City mayor Rudy Giuliani and attorney to Donald Trump was found in contempt on Friday in a federal court, accusing of spreading lies about former election workers in Georgia.

According to the Associated Press, U.S. District Court Judge Beryl Howell found that Giuliano had violated a court order barring him from defaming

Wandrea Moss and her mother, Ruby Freeman.

They had won a \$148 million judgment against Giuliani for falsely accusing them of election fraud in the 2020 election.

Outside the courtroom Giuliani criticized the judge as well. "I don't care what she did," he said. "She didn't consider a damn thing I said. She wrote it before hand."

Great Thoughts

"I cannot and will not cut my conscience to fit this year's fashions."

– Lillian Hellman, writer.

Trump sentenced, but no jail, no fines and no probation, no parole

The sentencing of President-elect Donald Trump on Friday – convicted of 34 felony charges for falsifying business records – was somewhat anti-climactic.

New York Supreme Court Judge Juan Marchan remarked that "this has been a truly extraordinary case" before giving Trump an "unconditional release."

That means that Trump will still be considered a convicted felon, but will serve no jail time, pay no fine and not be supervised.

Trump, appearing before the court remotely, called the pros-



DONALD TRUMP

ecution a "political witch hunt." The dilemma of possibly jailing a president was a motive for the way the case was discharged.

Weather: Sunshine, cool temps

Our West Orange County cities are in for cool and sunny days – mostly – over the weekend and into the new week. Saturday is forecast for a daytime high of 66 with an overnight low of 51 with the sunshine. Sunday will be similar at 65 (44). Monday is expected to be partly cloudy with temps of 65 (48).

Tuesday will see the sun return and 66 (46) on the thermometer.

Arts & Living

'Hard Truths': Great Performance

Jean-Baptiste
in a memorable
and angry turn

By **Lindsey Bahr**
AP Film Writer

Pansy is angry and she doesn't know why.

We all have days like that, when we snap at strangers for a minor infraction: The person who wants the spot in the parking lot that you're not ready to leave, the couple behaving a little inappropriately in a public place, the chipper doctor making pleasantries when you're in pain.

It's the stuff road rage is made of: Irrational, primal, real and inescapable.

Sometimes it's a loving family member that bears the brunt of the fury. For the most, part we all leave the vortex eventually and hopefully without too much damage in the wake.

But for Pansy, the unforgettable heroine of Mike Leigh's film "Hard Truths" portrayed by Marianne Jean-Baptiste, that simmering discontent is her all day, every day. It's life, and she can't break the cycle.

She's a tornado of unhappiness, spiraling through the mundanities of everyday life with seething anger and a vicious tongue to back it up.

No one is spared: Not the young doctor filling in for her normal one, not her 20-something son Moses (Tuwaine Barrett) who lives at home, not her merry hairdresser sister Chantelle (Michelle Austin) or her plumber husband Curtley (David Webber), but especially and mostly not strangers who dare cross her path.

Sins include being too happy, being too slow, being too stupid or contrite, filling the kettle up too much, or not enough.

It's funny at times, heartbreaking at others and always fasci-



MARIANNE JEAN-BAPTISTE stars in "Hard Truths" (Bleecker Street).

Movie Review

natingly watchable. What, you wonder, is she going to say this time? Often Pansy does have a bit of a point, saying all the things that we've been conditioned not to say out loud so that our social structure can go on functioning. She gave up caring about any of that long ago, you imagine.

Part of the brilliance of "Hard Truths" is that it drops the audience in the middle of it all, not explaining (but definitely complaining). It's a mystery to everyone, but those closest to her mostly just accept it.

What other choice do they have, really? And yet it's a tragedy for all to see Moses and Curtley walk on eggshells through their own lives.

Chantelle tries a little harder to get to the heart of it, a central relationship that provides a small

but monumentally meaningful arc about visiting their mother's grave and a Mother's Day gathering. It crescendos into an emotional release and a bit of perspective about Pansy's emotional and physical pain that has only intensified since her own mother's passing.

But "Hard Truths" isn't there to wrap it all up in a bow and leave the audience feeling good and healed. I'll leave the cliffhanger for you to discover and debate (Jean-Baptiste gave her own reading of it).

It is a truly blistering performance from Jean-Baptiste, reuniting with Leigh after many years, in a collaboration that was entirely worth the wait and speaks volumes for his brilliant, unconventional process.

And it is deeply silly that she's already been overlooked for it from a major awards body. Hopefully others can correct the wrong.

Pansy is, of course, the biggest

Great: ★★★★★

tragedy of all, a human so lost in their own resentments, manifested or real, that she may never get out of it. Sure she makes everyone's life a little miserable when she's around, but she's having the worst time of all and it never, ever ends. Chantelle tries to remind her that she has a choice in the matter.

You wonder if she believes or even hears her, or if she's just too far gone. "Hard Truths" runs just 97 minutes, but it's the kind of film and character that will stay with you long after — especially and most importantly when you find yourself having a Pansy kind of day.

"Hard Truths," a Bleecker Street release in theaters Friday, is rated R by the Motion Picture Association for language. Running time: 97 minutes.

TheSportsPages

Go for it is the new NFL play fashion

Football – American football, that is – is an old sport, but what makes it dynamic are the changes in rules and habits that occur almost constantly.

I can't say much in favor of the new kickoff return rule – it looks like it was designed by a sociologist. The intention was to dually encourage more long kickoff returns while reducing injuries on kickoffs, which seems counter-intuitive to me.

On the other hand, a positive recent development has been the practice of coaches “going for it” on fourth down. For decades it seemed like a punt on fourth down – except for in the waning second of a game or half – was holy writ, like never drawing to an inside straight.

But now you see more and more coaches in the college and pro ranks rolling the dice on fourth rather than throwing (or kicking) in the towel.

The good sense in using your fourth down comes from some good research. Play-by-play research going back to 1999 showed that when NFL teams did “go for it,” they succeeded 51 percent of the time.

Now, of course, there are some qualifiers. When it's fourth and one, the success rate is 65.4 percent. But otherwise the overall rate drops to 41.6 percent of the time.

The further back you get, the poorer your chances get. On fourth and nine, the odds favor you only 29.6 percent.

I have always been in favor of reasonable fourth-and-one gambles. I mean, if you don't think your players can gain 36 inches of turf when they need



Sports Retorts
Jim Tortolano

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Rams Offense Needs Jolt

Wild card game moved to Ariz. due to wildfires

By Greg Beacham
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Los Angeles Rams rested nearly all of their offensive starters in their regular-season finale because coach Sean McVay wanted everybody fresh and healthy for the playoffs.

McVay's offense has looked as if it needed a recharge for several weeks now, and the Rams (10-7) are hoping this rested group will return with the production necessary to hang with the winningest wild-card playoff team in NFL history.

Los Angeles will host the Minnesota Vikings (14-3) on Monday night in the Rams' first playoff game in Glendale, Arizona. To pull off the upset, the Rams will probably need to score a bunch of points, which has been a problem for their offense repeatedly in an otherwise outstanding second half of the season.



THE RAMS have spirit, but the team's offense will need to step up if a deep run into the playoffs is sought (Rams photo)

The Rams have won nine of 12 since their bye week, yet they are the lowest-scoring team to qualify for the playoffs after managing just 21.6 points per game this season. McVay's offense faded badly down the stretch, scoring only three combined touchdowns and 44 points in its last three games in December before Jimmy

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NFL Playoffs Opening Round

- Los Angeles Rams (10-7) host Minnesota Vikings (14-3) on Monday at 5 p.m. ESPN/ABC from Arizona.
- Los Angeles Chargers (11-6) visit the Houston Texans (10-7) on Saturday at 1:30 p.m. CBS.

Buckeyes beat Longhorns; it's ND vs. OSU

After Friday's 28-14 win by Ohio State over Texas, the matchup is set for the College Football Playoff championship game.

The Buckeyes will take on the Notre Dame Fighting Irish who narrowly defeated Penn State 27-24 on Thursday.

The title game will be held on Monday, Jan 20 at the Mercedes Benz stadium in Atlanta.

Will Harbaugh have a happy return to Houston?

By Kristie Rieken
AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON (AP) — Coach Jim Harbaugh returns to Houston on Saturday with the Los Angeles Chargers for a wild-card playoff game against the Texans, a little more than a year after leading the Michigan Wolverines to a national championship at NRG Stadium.

Harbaugh left Michigan after that 34-13 victory and has turned around the Chargers in his first season back in the NFL, helping them to an 11-6 record after they went 5-12 in 2023.

“Feels great to be alive in the football sense and let's keep her going,” Harbaugh said when asked about his return to Houston.

The Chargers are looking for their first playoff win since the 2018 season against a Houston team that won the AFC South for a second straight year. The Texans (10-7) beat the Browns 45-14 in the opening round last season before falling to the Ravens in the divisional round.

Los Angeles defensive coordinator Jesse Minter, who held the

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Aztec teams having a good month

The La Quinta High basketball teams are having a warm January.

On Friday, the Aztecs' boys team defeated Magnolia 61-32 for their fourth straight win, and improved their Orange League record to 3-0.

The victory squared their season mark to 11-11.

Meanwhile, the girls' team is atop the Garden Grove League with a 2-0 mark – tied with Los Amigos (3-0) – and 17-4 over-

Prep Sport Spotlight

all. Those teams will meet on Friday, Jan. 17 in the LQHS gym in what could be a battle for the league title.

The blue-and-gold girls posted an impressive 41-6 victory over Orange High Friday night.

Garden Grove High's boys'

team evened its Orange Coast League record at 1-1 with a 56-44 win over Ocean View. The Argonauts are 12-10 overall.

Rancho Alamitos boys did the same, defeating Estancia 54-39 to bring the Vaqueros' record to 1-1 in the Coast League and 8-14 overall. Inoke Malo led the green-and-gold with 19 points.

Marina scored 81 points against Los Alamitos but lost 102-81 in a Sunset League game. The Vikes are 1-4 in league, 13-8 overall.

High School Basketball Scores

FRIDAY

Boys

Savanna 68, Magnolia 32
 Los Alamitos 102, Marina 81
 Garden Grove 56, Ocean View 44
 Rancho Alamitos 54, Estancia 39
 Western 58, Orange 43
 Esperanza 63, Pacifica 45

Girls

La Quinta 41, Orange 6
 Magnolia 47, Estancia 27
 Bolsa Grande 41, Saddleback 11
 Valley Christian 50, Ocean View 28

Time for the Rams offense to end its rest

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Garoppolo led the backups to two more touchdowns and 25 points in last Sunday's meaningless finale.

Yet the Rams won all three of their offense's low-scoring games because the defense stepped up to hold three straight Rams opponents under 10 points for the first time in nearly a half-century.

The Rams are home underdogs against the first 14-win wildcard playoff team in NFL history, but they're also one of only two opponents to beat Minnesota this season.

Los Angeles won 30-20 at SoFi in a Thursday night visit from the Vikings in late October, getting four TD passes from Matthew Stafford in a game featuring the simultaneous return of

Cooper Kupp and Puka Nacua from lengthy injury absences. The Rams' offense surged from there, but slumped around Thanksgiving and still hasn't re-emerged since dropping 44 points on powerhouse Buffalo in the Rams' best game of the season.

"The last time we played these guys, we started fast and we executed well," McVay said Mon-

day. "It really comes down to putting the guys in the right spots and all 11 doing what they're supposed to do. ... I've liked the way that we finished games, but we have to be able to play a full four quarters if we expect to advance in this tournament, and we know that. There'll be that sense of urgency, and we're working to play as consistent as possible."



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Jim Harbaugh's happy memories of Houston

Continued from page 6

same job on that Michigan team, reflected on his last coaching trip to Houston.

"That seems like it was about 20 years ago," he said. "Great memories of finishing out a really cool season with a great group of guys that kind of built it out there. I'm just excited to have the opportunity to just be in the playoffs and have the opportunities with this group of players that have put in the work

and the time to earn their way into the playoffs."

The Chargers are 3-point favorites, according to BetMGM Sportsbook, but some believe they have a much clearer advantage after winning their last three games.

Rex Ryan, the former New York Jets and Buffalo Bills coach, who currently works for ESPN, said this week that the Chargers were basically getting a bye by facing the Texans, who

have lost two of three.

The Texans seemed more amused by Ryan's comments than anything, with quarterback C.J. Stroud saying he enjoys being an underdog and running back Joe Mixon laughing before responding.

"I'm just here to let my helmet and shoulder pads do the talking," he said.

While Houston's offense has struggled in the second half of the season after losing receivers

Stefon Diggs and Tank Dell to injuries, the defense has been solid and ranks sixth in the NFL in yards allowed.

It has been particularly strong against the pass, allowing just 201 yards passing a game and ranking second in the league with 19 interceptions. The Texans also have one of the league's most potent pass-rushing duos in Danielle Hunter and Will Anderson Jr., who have combined for 23 sacks.

"They're scary good," Harbaugh said. "They're thriving on getting a lot of interceptions, really good with pressure. Got really good players, but they're really well coached. It's a really good scheme and they know and play it well."

They'll be challenged this week by Justin Herbert, who has thrown for 3,870 yards with 23 touchdowns and just three interceptions. "It will be a collective effort," Houston coach DeMeco Ryans said. "We have to have a really good rush up front. We have to be where our coverage is, we have to be disciplined in our coverages."

Retorts: invest in real estate in Greenland

Continued from page 3

story. A big old frozen island northeast of Fenway Park, it's ruled by Denmark and has a population of 55,000, which is about the same as Fountain Valley.

So why would we – or anyone else – want that giant icebox? Here's your irony of the week: as climate change melts the ice cap, Greenland will eventually become this big, livable territory bigger than Alaska and Texas combined.

It has a lot of natural resources now covered in frozen water. So where's the irony, Jim? Mr. Trump has called climate change a "hoax."

So what will happen next? Who knows? All this unexpected stuff and it's not even Jan. 20 yet. More history to be made, evidently.

Go fourth the new fashion

Continued from page 6

to, you don't have much confidence in your team.

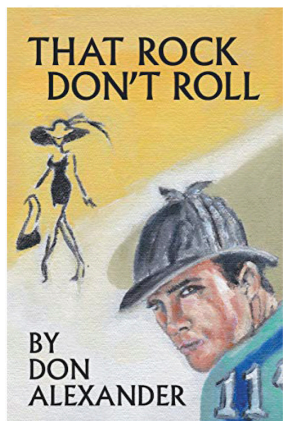
Sports, like music, runs in fads. The more coaches who embrace fourth down chances, the more will copy them – especially when they're successful. It seems like a bold and brilliant stroke.

On the other hand, those fans who are yelling "Go for it" don't (potentially) have a job at stake if it backfires.

"Fortune favors the bold," goes the saying, but only with the post-script of "but not all of the time."

Some serious fun

Murder, corruption, sex, humor, sports and lottery



That Rock Don't Roll

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Don Alexander has been a sports columnist, a sports broadcaster, talk show host and a college instructor. This is his first novel.

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