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TORRANCE

Residents apply for City Council

12 candidates put their hats in the ring to replace Kalani as District 4 representative

By Madeline Armstrong
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The City Council will discuss — and perhaps choose one of — the candidates to replace new Mayor Sharon Kalani as the District 4 representative on Tuesday. Kalani vacated the District 4 seat in the middle of her term after being

elected mayor in June. Now, someone must be appointed to serve for the next two years until the 2028 municipal election. Torrance’s Fourth District has a population of more than 23,000 people, and is home to seven parks, 11 schools, 212 commercial buildings and more than 5,000 residences. Old Torrance and the Torrance

Refinery are also in District 4. The council had multiple options for filling the vacated position. When Torrance council members vacate their seats before their terms have ended, the council can hold a special election, appoint someone or solicit applications for the position. Because of the costs of holding a special election — especially an unscheduled one — the council decided to allow District 4 residents to apply to succeed Kalani. The 12 candidates were made

public on Wednesday, as well as their applications. The candidates had to list their basic information, along with a survey of questions created by the council. The city treasurer’s office has confirmed that all applicants live in and are registered to vote in District 4. The council is set to discuss and appoint the new council member on Tuesday. If the council does not appoint someone before Sept. 13, the panel will be forced to direct the city clerk to return with an item to call

a special election at the next regularly scheduled meeting following that deadline. During the meeting, each council member will nominate one of the applicants, after which, the council will vote on the nominees. “District 4 is especially meaningful to me because it is the community I had the privilege of representing on the City Council for six years,” Kalani said in a

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RANCHO PALOS VERDES

Landslide-weary RPV preps for Super El Niño



Traffic is temporarily reduced to one lane for roadway repairs on June 15 along a portion of Rancho Palos Verdes Drive South, especially prone to landslides in Rancho Palos Verdes. **PHOTOS BY HOWARD FRESHMAN**

Officials mobilize citywide to keep ground stable during heavy rain season

By Michael Hixon
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A Super El Niño could hit Southern California this winter, bringing potentially historic consequences — and Rancho Palos Verdes, in particular, is already bracing for what’s to come. That city, after all, is still dealing with the fallout from water-induced landslides caused by heavy rainy seasons in 2022-23 and 2023-24. The warning about the Super El Niño came from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Climate Prediction Center. The CPC released a report last week that said the October-December rainy season is more likely than not to be a “historic event” greater than any previous El Niño since 1950 — with the center putting the chances at nearly 70%. There’s an even greater chance that the El Niño will at least be “very strong,” if not historic, the CPC said. “With an event of this magnitude,

the chances of experiencing impacts consistent with El Niño are larger, but they are not guaranteed,” the CPC report says. “In summary, El Niño is strengthening, with a greater than 90% chance of a very strong event during the Northern Hemisphere fall and winter 2026-27.” Rising temperature water in the Pacific Ocean has already started, and, according to scientists, that could potentially bring heavy rains, among other issues, along the California coast, including the Palos Verdes Peninsula. Rancho Palos Verdes has already seen substantial damage to its infrastructure after the heavy winter rains several years ago caused unprecedented land movement in the 700-acre Portuguese Bend Landslide Complex — with some areas moving as much as 40 to 50 feet. RPV, though, has seen the land movement slow in recent months,

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A worker temporarily halts traffic for roadway repairs along a portion of Rancho Palos Verdes Drive South vulnerable to landslides.

L.A. COUNTY

Electing CEO is a big shift in power

Measure G reform will dilute board’s role in ’28, leaving top position up to voters’ choice

By Steve Scauzillo
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Without a doubt, the most controversial element within Measure G, which ushers in massive changes to how Los Angeles County government works, is the election of a county chief executive. Currently, the CEO, who figures the budget of close to \$50 billion and oversees all county department heads in the largest county in the nation, is appointed by the five elected Board of Supervisors. In contrast, an elected county executive officer will be voted in by 5.8 million county registered voters beginning in the fall of 2028. He or she will have control over the budget, be able to hire and fire department heads, possibly

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ADDICTION TREATMENT

A half-century of methadone in America

They must be observed taking their daily medicine, at least in the beginning. The clinician often wears a white lab coat and works behind protective glass. She’ll pour a dose into a small plastic cup — it’s often reddish and clear, like cold medicine — then pass it through a low opening. The patient, who may be fidgety or testy or dangerously late for work, may throw it back with



Teri Sforza
COLUMNIST

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