

PRESS-TELEGRAM

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LONG BEACH

City preps for hurricane's surge

After Labor Day storm hit Peninsula, residents, officials brace for impacts

By Christina Merino
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Sandbags were starting to be filled and stacked up along Long Beach's Peninsula on Thursday as residents are once again bracing for another storm and high tides this weekend.

Out of an abundance of caution, city officials are urging residents not only in the Peninsula area but also citywide to

begin preparing for potential flooding because of moderate showers and hazardous beach conditions that are expected through early next week, beginning as early as Saturday night because of Hurricane Rachel.

The National Weather Service has issued a Coastal Flood Advisory that is in effect through 11 p.m. today, according to a city statement. A southerly swell generated by Hurricane Rachel

INSIDE:
After October heat wave, Southern California is expecting rain, flooding and high surf.
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began building Wednesday, with the peak lasting Thursday into today, with potential surf of 3 to 6 feet along south-facing beaches and dangerous rip currents.

Minor to moderate coastal flooding was likely during morning and evening high tides — ranging from 6.5 to 7 feet — from

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Long Beach junior lifeguards prepare sandbags for local residents and business owners on Thursday in Belmont Shore. A storm and high tides are expected to hit Long Beach this weekend.
PHOTO BY HOWARD FRESHMAN

SAN DIEGO

USS Abraham Lincoln returns to open arms



The aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln makes its way Thursday through San Diego Bay toward Naval Air Station North Island in Coronado, ending a 322-day deployment that included combat service in the Iran war. Families of its roughly 5,000 crew members came from across the nation to welcome them back. **PHOTO BY HOWARD LIPIN**

Thousands greet ship after long Mideast mission

By Alex Riggins,
Gary Robbins
and Teri Figueroa
SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE

More than 10 months after sailing from San Diego on what would turn into an arduous and twice-extended combat deployment — one that included launching some of the first attacks in the U.S.-Israel war on Iran and spending 264 straight days at sea amid troubling reports of food shortages and low crew morale — the USS Abraham Lincoln returned home Thursday to Naval Air Station North Island.

The roughly 5,000-person crew of the Lincoln, known

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Sailor Tereance Stokes Jr. kisses his daughter Mirrah, 2, after the USS Abraham Lincoln returns to Naval Air Station North Island after 322 days of deployment on Thursday.
LUKE JOHNSON — THE SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE

Camp Pendleton Marines recount reality of service in Arabian Sea

By Erika I. Ritchie
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When a group of Marines providing security for the United States' naval blockade of the Strait of Hormuz boarded ships transiting through, the American commanding officer said there was no question how the search-and-seizure missions would go.

"At 2 a.m., when 30 Force Recon Marines step on your vessel, you're compliant with a capital C," Col. Chris Nied-

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COURTS

Deputy's killer loses bid for new sentence

Justin Ashley Flint had gotten 29-to-life in Long Beach crime

City News Service

LOS ANGELES — A state appeals court panel has rejected the latest appeal from one of two men convicted in the murder of an off-duty Los Angeles County sheriff's deputy in Long Beach more than 20 years ago.

In a ruling released Friday, the three-justice panel from California's 2nd District Court of Appeal rejected the defense's contention that Justin Ashley Flint's petition for resentencing had been wrongly denied.

Flint, who was charged along with co-defendant Frank Christopher Gonzalez, was convicted of one count each of first-degree murder and attempted robbery involving 30-year-old Maria Cecilia Rosa.

Gonzalez — who admitted shooting the off-duty

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SPACE TRAVEL

4 ISS astronauts splash down off the coast of L.A.

Crew spent 8 months in orbit after rushing to relieve ailing colleagues

By Marcia Dunn
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — Four astronauts returned to Earth from the International Space Station on Thursday after hurrying there eight months ago to replace an ailing colleague and his crew.

SpaceX brought the U.S., French and Russian flyers back with a splashdown in the Pacific off the coast of Los Angeles.

NASA's Jessica Meir and Jack Hathaway, France's Sophie Adenot and Russia's Andrey Fedyaev departed the orbiting lab on Wednesday, eager to reunite with their families after a lengthy separation. Their replacements arrived three weeks late

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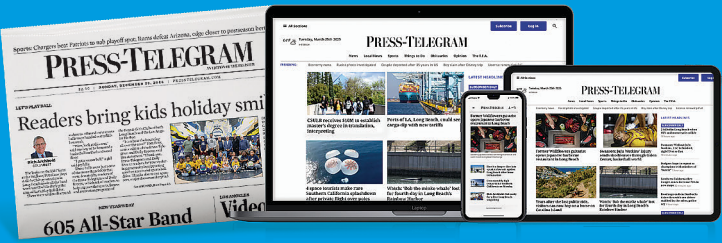
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