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Oct First Friday! And other notes and thoughts...

1) First Friday!!!! This Friday, October 7th, 5:30 at Steve and Marisa Robbins beach at Old Ladies Cove.

- Just walk down the stairs. We will have a side gate open for a while and after maybe 6:30 or so, you can just walk down to the sand and go around the corner towards the Pirates Tower.

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2) Movie Night!!!! Yep, going to give it another go if the movie gods are with us.. A special treat this time. My friends Howard and Michele Hall are loaning me their latest film "**Soul Of The Ocean**". This is a movie about the life and eco systems in our seas. It has won a lot of awards and is stunning.

Trailer: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=543484763757254>

Soul of the Ocean is a 4K feature documentary that explores the complexity of ocean ecosystems as communities of interdependent species and highlights the critical role biodiversity plays in maintaining healthy ocean ecosystems. The film was finished as a 78-minute feature-length documentary. ***Soul of the Ocean*** was selected as a finalist in three categories at the **Jackson Wild Summit: Best Cinematography, Best Animal Behavior, and Best Feature Film**. The film won for **Best Animal Behavior**. [2021 Jackson Wild Summit](#) The full length feature made it's debut to the public at the **International Ocean Film Festival** April 9 & 10, 2022 where it has been honored with the **Director's Award**. And in June, 2022, ***Soul of the Ocean*** won **Best Cinematography** at the **Blue Water Film Festival**.

Soul of the Ocean was acquired by **PBS Nature** and will be versioned as an episode of the **Nature** series. The film will air sometime in 2023.

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3) Meeting with [Sue Kempf](#) and [Alex Rounaghi](#) discussing the Ballot Measures Q, R, and S:

Q&A. If you missed any of that, be sure to discuss with your friends and neighbors, look into the candidates and issues - AND VOTE!!!!

voter info:

<https://www.lagunabeachcity.net/government/departments/city-clerk/election-voter-information/november-8-2022-general-municipal-election>

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3) Enforcement of Permits on Beach: Seems like we might be backsliding on our Park Ranger support but I'm looking into it... I've had some difficulties getting enforcement of unpermitted events on the beach. Ultimately it resulted in being shunted from dept to dept for enforcement and being told it was not the job of the Rangers by the dispatcher.

I'm working on getting an explanation but considering that the Park Rangers were initially funded with the focus being increased support for the tourist impacted neighborhoods but over time, the mission seems to be more focused on taking care of non-felony issues for the police in addition to general neighborhood focus -to now, maybe not so much the neighborhood issues.

So far, the people staffed for the Rangers have been really excellent. We have probably got the best and most functional relationship ever between the Volleyball Club and the police. It went really well at the Volleyball Tournaments. It is going to be a process but I will let you know what I find out.

We need to make sure that in the end, we are going to get the support and focus we were promised.

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4) Thursday Happy Hour: A few or a lot of us might be found on any given Thursday Night 5:30 on at Mozambique. Music starts at 7pm. Come on down!!!!

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5) Unconditional Dog Rescue: Our neighbors, Amy and Julian Mack, have founded Unconditional Inc., a new Laguna Beach nonprofit dog shelter focused on saving vulnerable and overlooked dogs.

The construction of its brand-new adoption center will be on Laguna Canyon Road.

The existing building has already been demolished, and construction is set to begin before the end of the year. The new building will be designed to look more like a home than a rescue facility, the two-story, 8,000 sq. foot building will house up to 40 dogs as the organization works to find them homes.

Unconditional anticipates that, at scale, it will rescue and adopt out more than 1,000 senior and special needs dogs each year.

News Article: <https://www.lagunabeachindy.com/unconditional-dog-shelter-announces-executive-director-and-timeline-for-groundbreaking/>

Give our friends some support and check out the information at: <http://www.unconditionalrescue.org>

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6) LOADING ZONES being Tracked!!!: Well, I just avoided a ticket the other week in the loading zone by the stairs but forgot to let everyone know that as requested, we are getting some more attention in some of these areas... The parking enforcement group is making an effort to monitor the loading zones so it really does need to be short term use as intended. Stuff like this can be a pain and a bit of an expense to adjust to but on the bright side, hopefully, the contributions to the city will do something useful!

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7) Fire Hydrant Street Marking: A small thing but big changes overall are usually made up of many small steps. Visitors frequently park in front of the fire hydrant at Victoria and Sunset. It is a bit hard to see when turning the corner. The city has now put a red stripe and lettering on the street in front of the hydrant. So far, it looks like an improvement to me. Time will tell but maybe we keep chipping away at small improvements and can get somewhere surprising in the end!

8) I got hit by a car while in a cross walk: Seriously, the week before those people were struck and killed on PCH at Pearl, I was crossing PCH at night at Bluebird, in the crosswalk, with the pedestrian light, under a street lamp. Traffic stopped in all directions and clear. Partway across, a car flew through the side street from Glenneyre (trying to make the light I suspect), came right at me at high speed, never braked or swerved. I doubt ever saw me. I was fortunate and just bounced off the fender and mirror. Car was gone in a flash.

Point is to be aware of that side street issue, consider wearing a blinking hiking light at night when crossing intersections, etc.. And be SUPER careful, especially at night.

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9) Permitted Beach Activities: We have a number of things to work out with the city about permitted beach activities. One of them is that no one knows what is permitted or not. The currently issued permits are not generally available to the public. So how is anyone to know the difference between events and commercial activities that are allowed or not? We often have too many events at the Pirates Tower area and many if not most are unpermitted. Pretty hard to think that enforcement can be effective if it relies on us calling it in -but with no way to tell, it is unlikely to improve.

I'm starting to push the question of how to get these on the city website and updated regularly like the council information and so on. So far, the answer is that it can not be done but I'm pursuing it...

In the meantime, I put a page up on our website at www.vicbch.com with the information on the current permits for Victoria Beach. They are being emailed to me and I will be posting them on the website as I get them.

Here is a link to the list on our website:
<https://vicbch.com/active-beach-permits-10%2F3>

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Here are some local news sites:

OC Register:<https://www.ocregister.com/location/california/orange-county/laguna-beach/>

Laguna Beach Independent: <https://www.lagunabeachindy.com/>

Stu News: <https://stunewslaguna.com/>

Laguna Beach Community Newsletter: <https://www.lagunabeachcity.net/live-here/laguna-beach-media/community-newsletter>

Local Election

Information: <https://www.lagunabeachcity.net/government/departments/city-clerk/election-voter-information/november-8-2022-general-municipal-election>

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Our Local Website and How to Subscribe:

Victoria Beach Website: <https://vicbch.com/>

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Newsletter: <https://vicbch.com/newsletters-8%2F27%2F22>

Bye for now!!!

Diver Dave signing off

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