



VOLUME FOUR, NUMBER THIRTY-FIVE

MISSION VIEJO, CALIFORNIA

May 2018

MISSION VIEJO[®] REPORTER



Chris and Amanda Soden - Rome, Italy

THE TRAVEL ISSUE

MISSION VIEJO RESIDENTS AROUND THE GLOBE

Tattoo You

ARE YOU THIS COMMITTED TO MISSION VIEJO?

GIRTH MATTERS

MISSION VIEJO'S BIGGEST AND TALLEST TREE



MISSION VIEJO
REPORTER

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COVER PHOTO:

Carol Hammond - The "Wave", Arizona - Photo by Jerry Hammond



MISSION VIEJO REPORTER

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Dave Leckness
Editor



CITY SPEAK

MAKING THE CITY BEAUTIFUL UTILIZING VACANT SPACES TO BEAUTIFY MISSION VIEJO



by Greg Rath
Mayor Pro-Tem, Mission Viejo



Improving the landscape of our city can be a community effort as we struggle with the rapidly changing weather patterns in our area. Thank you to all who came together to make this beautiful garden a reality. Pack a picnic basket, lay out a blanket, and enjoy a wonderful evening watching the sun set on our magnificent city at this new garden spot.

Besides sitting on the Mission Viejo City Council, I also sit as a board member at large for the Oso Valley Greenbelt HOA. Recently, our association came together with Powerstone Property Management, Harvest Landscape Enterprises, and Monarch Environmental to design, fund and plant a demonstration garden with drought resistant plants at the end of the Esteban street cul-de-sac in south Mission Viejo. Formerly, a vacant lot with dead grass and bare dirt, this lot is now a beautiful garden with wonderful plants, scrubs, trees, grass, gravel paths, and a park bench. This new garden overlooks beautiful south Mission Viejo and beyond.



COURAGE COMES IN MANY TYPES MORAL COURAGE! STANDING UP FOR RIGHT



by Trish Kelley
City Council Member
Co-Founder Mission Viejo
Community of Character

Mission Viejo has character! As a Community of Character since 2003, the City focuses on 12 character qualities throughout the year. In May, we promote the trait of moral courage. Moral courage is being brave enough to stand up for what is right, although it may not be popular or easy, and even if you stand alone. There is often a risk and a cost associated with moral courage. It is important to note that there are different forms of courage. Most often when we think of courage, we think of acts of bravery, which could hurt the body—such as running into a burning building or onto a battlefield in war. That physical type of courage is important but is not often required in most of our lives.

Moral courage is different from physical courage, and our moral courage is tested every day. Living according to moral principles usually requires us to take a risk and there may be a cost to us—monetary costs, ridicule, or damage to relationships or a career. Moral courage is to do the right thing, and by displaying this trait you may be influencing others to make good decisions as well. As Billy Graham said, "Courage is contagious. When a brave man takes a stand, the spines of others are often stiffened."

Trish Kelley, City Council Member Co-Founder, Mission Viejo Community of Character trishkelley@cox.net

HOME BASED BUSINESSES Shine CHAMBER'S MIXER HIGHLIGHTS A DIFFERENT KIND OF BUSINESS



by Doug Zielasko
C.O.O. MV Chamber of
Commerce

Last month's Mission Viejo Chamber of Commerce mobile mixer was a huge success! It also served as a way to meet some of our mobile and home-based businesses and learn about their products and services. Our 11 vendors were the mixer hosts and the highlight of the evening. The Mission Viejo Chamber is all about helping all types of business thrive in today's business environment.

A few of the attendees are listed below:

- Party Time Photo Booth
- SOCWNG
- 411 Marketing
- Mary Kay
- Focal Point
- Girl Friday's Office,
- Heightened Health, LLC
- Retirees Resources Network,
- Empowered By
- McGriff Tile



FROM OUR THAT LOOKS PAINFUL DEPT.

Tattoo You

ARE YOU THIS COMMITTED TO MISSION VIEJO?



Meet **Chris Felten**, a long-time Mission Viejo Resident. Chris was born at Mission Hospital and lived here almost his entire life. He spends most of his time now raising his twin girls, **Charlotte** and **Claire**.

Chris loves Mission Viejo so much he proudly carries on his side a constant reminder.

A lover of traditional tattoos, Chris asked "**Brother Greg**" at **San Clemente Tattoo** to make the masterpiece along his left ribcage. The tattoo took three separate two-hour sessions to complete.



Charlotte, Chris and Claire

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SPINNING OBSESSION

MISSION VIEJO RESIDENT TEACHES OTHERS TO SPIN IT OFF

Meet **Jordan McClanahan** of Mission Viejo. By day, Jordan sells milk and eggs all over the world (Hidden Villa Ranch), and by morning she leads dozens of men and women on a ride to physical fitness all from a stationary bike.



With Jordan's background in ballet and tennis, she has had her fair share of high-impact wear and tear on her knees, including surgeries and ligament tears. Jordan chose indoor cycling because not only is it a fun way to get your high intensity workout and build lean muscle definition, but it's also safe and low-impact on your joints.



As you can see, spinning is an exceptional exercise. If you are new to it, with time your body will get acclimated to being on the bike, and you will adapt to the intense intervals within a 45 minute spin class. If you are looking for a high-intensity workout a few days a week--especially if running or other forms of vigorous aerobic exercise hurt your joints--spinning may be the ideal way to keep your heart and body in shape.

Take one of Jordan's indoor cycling classes at **Cyclebar 26534 MOULTON PARKWAY SUITE A | LAGUNA HILLS, CA 92653 | (949) 446-8400 ***ASK ABOUT THE FIRST TIME RIDER WEEK FREE PROMO GOING ON NOW!**

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Places We Remember



Mission Viejo Animal Services Building Construction - 1993

Ask Aunt Sandy

- WITH MISSION VIEJO'S SANDRA FERGUSON



Mission Viejo's very own advice columnist is a straight shooter and slightly humorous.

FISH MICROWAVE THE SMELL OF THE SEA

Dear Aunt Sandy,

I work at a real estate company in Mission Viejo. I bring my lunch to work every day and I heat it up in the microwave located in the break room. Here's my problem: We have this one guy who brings fish to work and uses the microwave. I've talked to our office manager and he says he can't do anything. What can I do?

- Something Fishy Going On Here

Dear Fishy,

You've got to send this guy a polite note anonymously and let him know how you feel.

Maybe something like this: Dear Fish Lover, I'm not sure what sort of sea life you're eating, but it smells like it was caught during the Reagan administration. Your rancid meals are ruining my life. I can't use the microwave anymore because everything comes out infused with your nasty seafood medley, and I go home every night smelling like I just worked a twelve-hour shift on a crab boat. Enough is enough! If I wanted to smell the foul scents of low tide, I'd walk the pier in Huntington Beach, or... you could either introduce him to the power of the bologna sandwich ... or take him to lunch

- Aunt Sandy

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KARL GEBHARD, MD, MS

BACK TO THE FUTURE PROTECTING ASSETS TODAY

Linda Rippin is without doubt one of the most caring and empathetic people I know. Like most of us, she is no stranger to adversity and challenge. After a fulfilling career in advertising, Linda switched to Estate Planning when life found her as a single mother with two young children. With all of her family living back East, Linda quickly realized that she needed a Living Trust here in California to safe-keep herself, her assets and her children.



by John Rodriguez
M.V. Chamber of
Commerce Ambassador

She has spent the last 15 + years at her clients' kitchen tables, tirelessly helping them to address sensitive details regarding their heirs and assets. As an expert Estate Planning Advisor, she employs two top products in her practice: Revocable Living Trusts and Reverse "Equity Out" Mortgages.

While discussing her clients' wishes regarding their financial distributions, Linda also learned of the cash flow challenges among people 62 and over. That's where the genius of a Reverse Mortgage comes in: whether you want to age in place in your current home or purchase a smaller home.

Understanding Revocable Living Trusts and Reverse Mortgages takes plain talk and patience; Linda has both. CPAs and attorneys continue to refer her to families, and count on her discretion, professionalism and full ability to get the job done.

Linda truly cares about each family she serves. She is also a proud and contributing member of the Mission Viejo Chamber of Commerce and can be reached for a free consultation at 714-349-9777.

Humans of Mission Viejo is a monthly column written by John Rodriguez. John works as a Senior Mortgage Banker for iFinance Mortgage, helping people find the best mortgages for their needs. Give him a call at 949-441-7056.



Linda Rippin

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SOME GAVE ALL

REMEMBERING THE MISSION VIEJO HELICOPTER CRASH FROM 1967

Memorial Day is on May 28th this year, it also has been known as Decoration Day. It is a National holiday for remembering the people who died while serving in the country's armed forces.

In 1967, there were over 11,000 deaths in the U.S. Military in Vietnam that year. In our freshly developing community, tragedy struck on May 5th, of that year, as a Marine CH-46 Sea Knight crashed just off the San Diego Freeway near the corner of La Paz Road and Chrisanta Drive, here in Mission Viejo.

Four Marines - **Capt. Vince Tesulov**, 29, of Costa Mesa, **1st Lt. Loyd E. Knulson**, 23, of Manhattan Beach, **Cpl. Larry G. Norman**, 20, of Santa Ana and **Lance Cpl. Michael F. Hansen**, 19, of Garland, Texas, all died in the crash. The helicopter they were riding in threw a rotor blade, lost control and plunged to the ground and was destroyed in the impact.

The Marines Corp said the craft was on a routine training mission at the time of the crash. The copter was attached to the Marine Medium Helicopter Training Squadron 302 based at the time in Santa Ana. It was the type of chopper being used extensively at the time in Vietnam. The cause of the accident was unknown.

What some don't realize is serving in the armed forces is a hazardous duty for all our military personnel whether they be in open conflict or doing ordinary tasks away from battle. Training, learning new skills, drilling, all involve young people fresh out of high school. With not a lot of life experience, using extremely powerful and dangerous equipment, they push themselves and their limits to fit the mold of United States Servicemen and Servicewomen and serve our nation honorably.

The **Mission Viejo Reporter** wants to salute all the men and women who serve or have served our

country and protect our great nation and it's citizens.



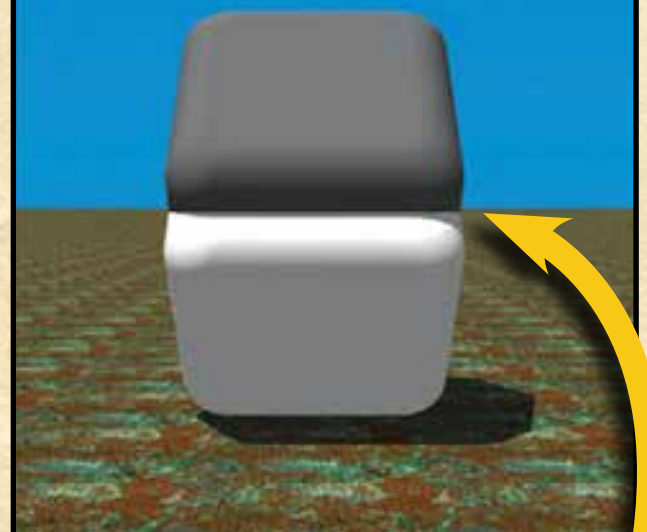
Four Killed in Crash of Marine Helicopter

EL TORO (UPI) - A Marine CH-40 Sea Knight helicopter crashed near a new housing development named Mission Viejo Wednesday night, killing all four men aboard. Witnesses said the twin rotor helicopter lost one of its rotor blades and plummeted to the ground. Richard Wilcox, manager of the Mission Viejo Swim Club, said he saw the transport chopper throw it's blade, stagger out of control and then crash in a ditch not far from a new housing project. The chopper was on a routine training mission about four miles from the El Toro Marine Corps Air Station.



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Valerie Quintard - Rock Creek Lake, The Sierras



Dutch Sieht and wife- Colorado



Tim Valencia - Washington D.C.



Irene Magoo - Cliffs of Moher, Ireland



Chris Leonard and wife - Mexico



The Party People - San Juan, Puerto Rico



Mallory Center and boyfriend - Niagara Falls



Allie Anderson and Friends - Swamp Tour, Louisiana



Jim And Steph Dante- Juneau, Alaska

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MISSION VIEJO RESIDENTS AROUND THE GLOBE



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Marla Lackey - Austin, Texas



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THE FASTEST KID IN MISSION VIEJO

LOCAL RACE SEEKS TO ENCOURAGE KIDS' PHYSICAL FITNESS THROUGH COMPETITION

50 Yard Dash For Kids Ages 5-12

On Saturday, June 9th, a free community event that inspires kids to exercise and live a healthy lifestyle will be held at noon during the annual **Relay For Life** at Oso Viejo Park in Mission Viejo. "The Fastest Kid in Town Race" racers compete by age and gender in a 50 yard dash. The event ends with a run-off among category winners to determine the overall "Fastest Kid in Town."

The Fastest Kid in Town Race is a joint effort between the **Mission Viejo Reporter**, **Mission Viejo Rotary Club** and the **City of Mission Viejo** to raise awareness on the importance of fitness and activity for young children.

Participants will compete in four age categories: 5-6 years, 7-8 years, 9-10 years, and 11-12 years. Register at missionviejorotary.org.

For more information about the Fastest Kid in Town 50 Yard Dash, contact **Dave Leckness** at dleckness@cityofmissionviejo.org.



THE CARING FAIRIES ARE BACK

One day, while walking with his nieces, my friend Andreas stumbled upon a fairy house and was quite astonished. The little girls couldn't believe their eyes and walked down a little further onto a trail in Laguna Niguel. To their delight, they found another one. "Wow!", they said to each other, "It looks like real fairies live here!" Further down the hilly trail, they discovered more and more fairy houses. Their uncle told them the story of how The Caring Fairies came to settle on the trail.



He shared that one day Fairy Lily, who represents Love, and all of her family and friends were flying over Laguna Niguel just checking out the beautiful scenery below. Suddenly, Fairy Lily felt a thump and realized that her

sister, Fairy Isabella, who stands for Integrity, had run smack into her and broken her wing. They decided to land at the trail until Fairy Lily could heal and this took several months.

During this time, The Caring Fairies told stories to one another and danced the night away while Fairy Lily watched from her handmade hammock. Before long, the residents close to the trail reported that they heard the faint sounds of laughing and music at night.

As the months past, the Caring Fairies saw that more and more children were coming each day. They snuck peeks at the kids, because they are very shy, and when they heard that the kids were over the moon about their fairy homes, they continued making them even more special.

The fairies were super excited to see many of their friends now

wearing special fairy wings when they came to see the fairy homes, but when Fairy Lily was completely healed, it was time to clean up their homes and head back to Ireland. They hoped that they would get to vacation in sunny California again!

The morning they were to leave, they saw that even some of the adults who brought their kids were sporting fairy wings, and they heard the chatter about how sad it was that the fairies would not be around any longer. It had been such a magical time for them, and it turns out, for their human friends, too. They packed up the trinkets, rocks and special notes their human friends had left them.



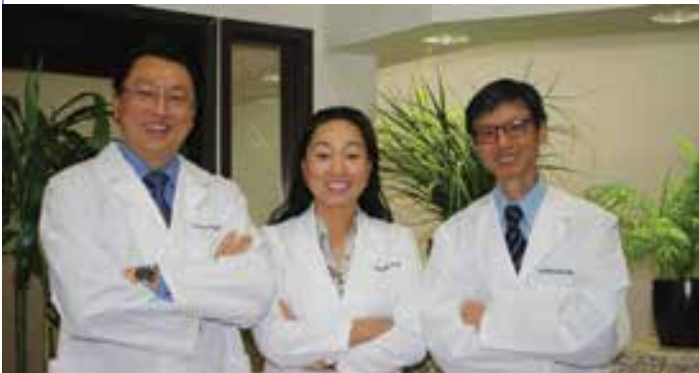
On the last day, many people reported seeing a light in the sky, followed by a big flash. That may have been the fairies taking off.

When they went back to Ireland and shared many of the stories of their time in OC, they decided that they wanted to return to the area. After searching for a perfect place, they left a note on the Oso Creek Trail saying that they planned to come back and stay for at least a few months, maybe longer.

You can find the fairy homes and beautiful fairy doors on the trail that runs between **Norman P. Murray** and the **Potocki Center**. There are also classes for kids to make their own fairy houses at the Potocki Center starting on April 28th. More info on these classes can be found at TheCaringFairies.com or www.cityofmissionviejo.org. You can also follow **The Caring Fairies** on Facebook and Instagram.

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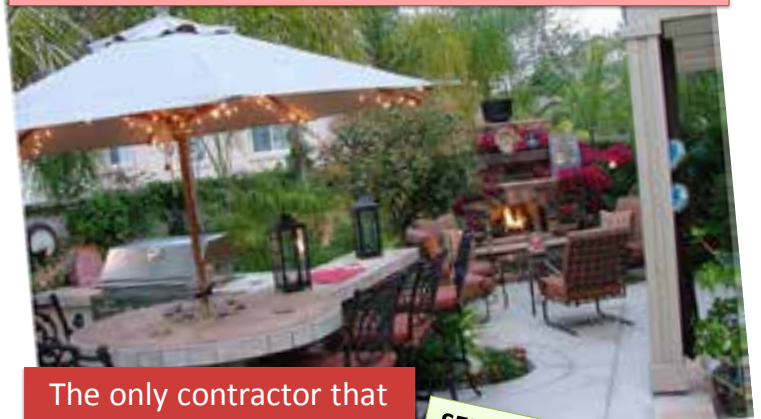
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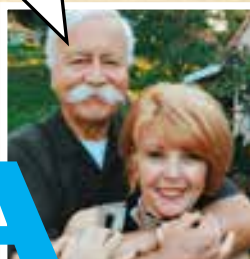
CONVERSATION *With* DEAN WEST

MISSION VIEJO RESIDENT OF THE MONTH

Meet **Dean** and **Linda West**.

Dean has lived in the same Mission Viejo house since 1970, in fact he watched his house being built. The West's love Mission Viejo and enjoy taking advantage of all the things it offers. The **Mission Viejo Reporter** asked Dean a few questions for our Q & A column this month. Enjoy finding out more about Dean and Linda.

“ My favorite past-time?
Giving Linda a good squeeze ”



Q&A

When did you move here and why?

Less crowded and housing was affordable. My friends asked, "Why was I moving way out there?" Sure enough, most of them moved here too.

When did you get the cool old Ford?

I learned to drive the 1929 Ford as a preteen, then in 1972, my dad gave it to me. I restored it to it's original condition in 1976.

How long have you and Linda been married?

We just had our first anniversary

Ever had a close call in a plane?

When I was in the army in 1965, I was flying a DeHavaland Beaver on radio relay and the engine stopped at about 5000 feet over the jungle. There were no runways down below. We established a glide angle and checked the log book and turned the plane into a glider and circled around quietly and found a large field with huge weeds and trees stumps. I made a really perfect landing without incident.



What song do you know every word of?

The Old Rugged Cross.

What's the worst purchase you ever made?

A ton of cement, for some work on my patio that never happened.

Ever break any bones or get shot?

I broke my ankle when I was playing football in College in Texas. The worst day in my life was when my wife of 46 years passed away 2008 and the best day in my life was when I married Linda in 2017

What do you collect?

I collect antique automobile parts and pet Romania, lubsters, oil cans.

What do you love the most about Mission Viejo?

Although Mission Viejo has changed a lot over the years it really hasn't changed very much at all. I like all the trees and the greenery in the medians. It's still a quiet, well-maintained community. I also like the parks in the community for our grandchildren to play in. I still live in the same house that I bought in 1970... I should have bought the entire tract.

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FROM OUR VAULT



Phil Riley, Jim West, Tony Moiso - Mission Viejo Welcome Center, 1968



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Mission Viejo's tallest tree is nicknamed "Old Glory." It stands 125 feet tall. That's the estimated height recorded at last tree trim at it's **girth** measures an outstanding 13 feet 3 inches. All trimmed Mission Viejo trees are entered into a vast database, and this tree is the tallest in our database.

Mission Viejo is loaded with trees, 45,000 of them. We have palms, sycamores, elms, oaks, pines, and even bonsai. Some areas are also home to very old trees that serve as historic landmarks and a great source of town pride.



Six foot man →

The tree is located at the corner of Marguerite Parkway and Costa del Sol



Reporter executives using scientific measuring methods.

FROM OUR VECTOR CONTROL DEPT.

MOUSE TRAP

BE VIGILANT - THIS IS NOT A MOUSE STORY

Mission Viejo has had a recent increase in our local vector, the roof rat. Usually about 12" long (but up to 18" for a big fellow).

He is a hardy species needing only the most basic needs to survive and multiply: shelter, food, and water. He can spread disease with fleas, urine, and his poop.



Mister Rat wants to make your home, his home

anything that he can climb in or under. Your home can be a great upgrade, so check for any open spaces more than 1/4". Seal them up and keep out unwanted guests. Food can be fruits and veggies from your garden, snacks left out on a table overnight, and even snails!

If you see rats or want to know more, call your **Orange County Vector Control Office at (714) 971-2421**. They are here to help!



Bob Ruesch - Mission Viejo OCMVCD Trustee

Our open fields and greenbelts are home to Mr Rat, but he is always looking to move up. Shelter can be a

Upcoming Events

MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

SUNDAY, MAY 13TH
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Q What are these poles along our major streets that have solar panels attached to the top?

A The image is that of a **Data Collection Unit (DCU)**, installed and owned by SoCalGas. The devices, of which there are about 400 in Mission Viejo, are used to receive gas-use data from the Mission Viejo meters in the area and to send that information back to SoCalGas, where bills are generated. DCUs communicate via cellular service and receive information by way of a radio frequency signal generated from devices installed on gas meters.



Questions? Call the
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FROM OUR ON THIS SPOT DEPT.

M.V. MEXICAN STANDOFF

MEETING OF THE MINDS DURING THE BATTLE FOR CALIFORNIA OCCURED IN M.V.'S BACKYARD

A memorial plaque has been installed in **Mission Viejo's Sycamore Park** to honor **Juan Avila** and **Jose Serrano**, who built an adobe house there almost 170 years ago.

On January 5, 1847, during the war with Mexico, a meeting was arranged with the famous **U.S. Army General Stephen Watts Kearny**, **Navy Commodore Robert Field Stockton** and celebrated scout **Kit Carson**, who assisted the Americans through this unfamiliar area.



Memorial plaque in Sycamore Park

The important meeting was hosted by **Juan Avila**, owner of neighboring **Rancho Niguel**, in his adobe on the west side of present day Interstate 5 freeway, near **Aliso Creek**, and at the edge of today's Mission Viejo.

The renowned **Mormon Battalion** also camped on a portion of this land the same year, on its way from San Diego to recapture Los Angeles during the war with Mexico.



Commodore Robert Stockton, General Stephen Kearny, famed scout Kit Carson

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SOUTH COUNTY LEXUS PRESENTING ATHLETE OF THE MONTH Dominic Grandolfo - Running

Dominic Grandolfo, an 8th grade student at Newhart Middle School, is passionate about running. He decided to join the WeROCK Running Club (an afterschool program that combines tough physical and mental fitness training with nutrition and health education), because running "is great exercise and I get to be with my friends". Plus, "it feels pretty cool that only 2% of the population will finish a marathon, and I've completed several". Dominic is referring to the Southern CA half marathon in Irvine, Surf City half marathon in Huntington Beach and OC Marathon (26.2 mi) in Newport Beach.

The medals that are prominently displayed on his bedroom wall represent his perseverance and personal growth. Months of preparation, pushing his body through pain and the urge to give up have allowed Dominic to build endurance and self-confidence to tackle any challenges.

This well grounded athlete is most proud of having had the chance to run the Susan G Komen Race for the Cure, honoring his mother (who is a breast cancer survivor). He strongly believes in the WeROCK mission of staying fit and setting life goals beyond his running accomplishments.



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