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Scene from the movie "When the Reality" had its world premiere at the Newport Beach Film Festival on spring night, April 21.

Mobile App Creates Problems for NMUSD Schools

By SARA HALL | NB INDY

The Newport-Mesa Unified School District warned parents and community members about a mobile app that has become an avenue for cyber-bullying, harassment, violence and other issues, officials noted in a message this week.

The "problematic" app, called Ogle, is designed and marketed for students to post videos and/or pictures about themselves, other students and their school campuses.

The application allows users to submit photos, make comments and post without censorship in total anonymity.

"There is no practical use for this app and that it is largely being used to spread harmful, hurtful and negative messages," district officials wrote in a message. "There are offensive, insulting and even threatening posts on the Ogle app."

Many schools in the district are being affected by it.

District officials urged parents to carefully monitor student's online presence and use of this app and any other social media. They also recommended that the app be removed if found on a student's phone.

"The best way to be unaffected by Ogle is to be disconnected from it," NMUSD officials explained. "We do not believe it adds any value nor does it deliver any positive benefits for our students."

NMUSD has partnered with local police departments to research the validity and origination of threatening claims.

Tensions High During Discussion of CdM Sports Field Project

SARA HALL | NB INDY

Tensions were high during a community meeting this week about the proposed Cassara del Mar High School sports field project.

About 100 people packed into the CDMHS lecture hall on Monday for the Newport-Mesa Unified School District's scoping meeting to discuss the recirculated Initial Study/Notice of

CDM SPORTS FIELD Page 23

Schedule of Films Announced for the Newport Beach Film Fest

Thousands of film fans and hundreds of filmmakers will be descending on Newport Beach April 21-25 to enjoy the 17th annual Newport Beach Film Festival, which has grown to become one of the most respected and popular film festivals in the country.

This year's Newport Beach Film Festival features more than 400 films from 50 countries, a new record that affirms the festival's notoriety.

The Festival opens with the world premiere of "When the Reality" starring Matthew Morrison (who was raised in Orange County and attended the OC School of the Arts), and closes with "The Finer" starring James Franco.

In between are feature films, shorts, documentaries, action sports films, and music videos, plus filmmaker seminars, special honors and awards to veteran actors, a virtual reality component, salutes to John Wayne and Disney, and an expo with industry experts.

Newport Beach Indie editor Christopher Trich sat down with Festival co-founders Gregg Schwenk and Todd Quarantaro, as well as programmers Max Naylor and Code Russell, for an inside look at the myriad aspect of this year's festival.

Read the complete article on the 2016 Newport Beach Film Festival in the Artscapes section on page 6.



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BENEFIT

Alzheimer's OC Gala Raises \$378K



Diane Mondini and Garing Companions at Home

BY CHRISTOPHER TRELA

There were several exciting "firsts" at the annual Alzheimer's Orange County's "Creating Hope" gala, held March 18.

Although the event was the organization's 18th annual gala, it was the first since Alzheimer's OC split from the national Alzheimer's Association and became an independent organization last December.

It was also the first time Alzheimer's

OC used the AV Irvine special event center, the newest and most technologically-advanced special event facility in Orange County.

Another first: the gala was attended by nearly 350 supporters and raised a record \$378,770 for local programs and services.

"This year's gala celebrates the transformation we've undergone as an organization and the direction we are heading," said Jim McAleer, president



AV Irvine Alzheimer's Orange County Broadway Memories Gala

and CEO of AOC. "We've been an Orange County institution since 1982, and knowing for the first time that all the money we raise will go back to the community that's been our home for more than 30 years was truly magical."

The theme for this year's gala was Broadway Memories, and featured several musical theater performers belting out familiar show tunes.

Presented by The Argyros Family Foundation, the "Creating Hope" gala began with a festive reception featuring a silent auction, live music, and a champagne tower topped with a live "Wicked" witch.

Once in the ballroom, guests were treated to a variety of entertainment, and inspirational video tributes to the evening's four honorees: Diane



Top SaraAnne Fahey. Bottom- Andrew Pirozzi, Laura New and Brittany O'Connor

Mondini, CEO, of Caring Companions at Home in Newport Beach; Farmers & Merchants Trust Company; Volunteer Pat Soldano; and Community Partner The Sanchez Family.

During dinner, guests participated in live and fund-a-need auctions. The evening ended with music and dancing to The ChickBand.

The gala was chaired by Jacqueline Dupont and Marc Carlson, and Eydie and Dave MacInnis.

For more information, visit alzoc.org.