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## Editor's Note



➔ As someone who is barely five feet tall, I never considered becoming an athlete because I believed sports such as basketball and volleyball had a height requirement. Silly and untrue, I know. The ball was never in my court as far as those two sports go, but I danced throughout college and enjoyed every practice and performance despite the physical and mental exhaustion. From that experience, I learned to go at my own pace, which, truth be told, applies to life overall. Most importantly, it's the strides you make during that journey, regardless of how many steps it takes.

In the same vein, we've taken many strides with this issue, and we couldn't be happier with how the stories unfolded, like the blanket you spread out on the warm sand at the beach or on the dewy grass at the park. Orange County's perfect weather invites you to the outdoors, so we're meeting up with pro athletes from OC, LA and SD in our *Alive Experts* (pg. 67) who inspire us to go for gold. We'll then shape up our mentality with *Persian Medium* (pg. 100) before heading out to the beach and cleaning up plastic with *Surfrider Foundation* (pg. 82).

Our journey continues with Yucatan-inspired dishes at *Chaak Kitchen* for *Two Things We Love* (pg. 132) before we melt into our **Sweet Spots feature** (pg. 125) where six dessert locations not only prove that their treats are tasty in quality but also in aesthetics. We still have room in our stomachs for *VS* (pg. 135), which

compares veggie and regular pizza, tacos and burgers from LA, OC and SD.

After having our fill, we're taking notes on pro tips from *BoConcept* (pg. 160) and *Realtor Stacey May* (pg. 174) about home interior design and finding a home in OC, respectively. Our road trip around Southern California doesn't stop there as we hold hands with *Date the City* (pg. 163) for unique date ideas. Next, *Rupert DeBrincat*—the French Bulldog Instagrammer with his tongue sticking out on one side—shares his favorite pet-friendly places in *That's What He Barked* (pg. 147). To round off our journey, we're heading south to *OMNIA Dayclub* where *Kaskade* performed (pg. 176).

Of the many themes that this issue carries, one is "go big or go home." This is true for our cover star, *Scotty Sire*, whose *Vine* and *YouTube* fame led him to music through which he can relay mental health issues with his angst-filled lyrics. His presence on-camera speaks volumes, but even when he's off-camera, his confidence still reverberates in the room.

As we stroll along the shore with the ocean waves lapping over our feet, we look back at our footprints and reflect on how far we've come. We all start somewhere, and along the way, we leave deeper imprints that beckon for others to follow. Orange County is full of incredible individuals, and with their influence spread across our magazine, we pass it along to you. ■



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