

# Daily Pilot

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2020 /// Now including Coastline Pilot and Huntington Beach Independent /// dailypilot.com



Photos by Don Leach | Staff Photographer

CANDICE DARTEZ, right, demonstrates with other parents to open Thurston Middle School and Laguna Beach High School.

## Laguna Beach parents protest for reopening of secondary schools

BY ANDREW TURNER

As the Laguna Beach Unified School District prepares to welcome back its elementary school students for in-person learning as part of a hybrid model next week, parents with children in the district's secondary schools are wondering why their kids cannot go back yet.

Several dozen parents demonstrated at Main Beach, holding signs for the steady stream of motorists passing by on South Coast Highway to take notice.

Indeed, the message was received, as the crowd roared its approval with each honk of a horn.

Celeste Gilles, 48, who has two sons at Laguna Beach High School, held up a sign that said, "School board report card grade = F"

See **Protest**, page A6



JANELLE NAESS

demonstrates with other parents in downtown Laguna Beach on Friday.

## Man treated for burns after fire in Fairview Park

BY SARA CARDINE

One man was transported to an area burn center Thursday, following a brush fire that broke out in Costa Mesa's Fairview Park at around 4 p.m. and took crews more than an hour to completely extinguish, officials said Friday.

Costa Mesa Fire & Rescue Capt. Joe Noceti said a call came in at 4:08 p.m. Thursday that a fire had started on the Northwest Corner of the park near the border between the city of Costa Mesa and unincorporated county property.

Engines from Costa Mesa stations were joined by Orange County Fire Authority crews, who dispatched a helicopter to the scene, with further assistance coming from nearby Huntington Beach.



Courtesy of Costa Mesa Fire & Rescue

**FIREFIGHTERS RESPONDED** to a brush fire in Costa Mesa's Fairview Park Thursday afternoon that burned one man on scene and grew to 1 acre before being extinguished.

"It was in a picnic area," Noceti said of the blaze, which grew to nearly 1 acre in size. "We had a neighborhood downwind that was just to

the north — we had ashes and embers blowing north. [But] we were able to keep it out of the neighborhood." Noceti said there were sev-

eral people in the park at the time of the incident. One man discovered near the fire was found to have sustained injuries and some burning. He was transported by paramedics to a nearby burn center for treatment.

About 30 personnel worked to surveil and fight the fire with hoses and hand tools to clear brush from the area. Noceti said the fire was fueled by surrounding trees as well as some brush on the ground.

"It took a significant amount of time," he added. "We had a little bit of wind and moderate fuel types. The guys did a great job."

The cause of the fire was still under investigation Friday.

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See **Love**, page A6

## Modified sports calendar to remain

The CIF Southern Section commissioner says the high school seasons would start in mid-December, as scheduled.

BY MATT SZABO

The CIF Southern Section is planning no changes to the 2020-21 modified high school sports calendars that were introduced in July, commissioner Rob Wigod said at Thursday's virtually held section council meeting.

Wigod said the calendars remain in place and he anticipates high school sports starting again in mid-December with clearance from health officials during the COVID-19 pandemic. The modified fall sports season includes football, boys' and girls' volleyball, boys' and girls' water polo, boys' and girls' cross-country, field hockey, gymnastics and traditional competitive cheerleading.

"I've had schools ask me about are we going to be making adjustments to those calendars, and the answer at this

See **Sports**, page A3

## A chance to show Costa Mesa some love on Saturday

BY SARA CARDINE

This Saturday presents a unique opportunity to show the city of Costa Mesa some love.

Hundreds of locals will spend their morning clearing weeds, painting public art pieces, assembling care kits and engaging in acts of kindness big and small as part of the citywide day of service "Love Costa Mesa 2020."

Postponed from its usual appearance in mid-May and now in its third year, the event allows citizens to suggest, organize and execute service projects that contribute to the betterment of others and the broader community.

Locals can browse a list of projects to see where volunteers are still needed and then sign up and show up at the in-

### ALSO FROM THE DAILY PILOT:



Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

**NEWPORT BEACH LAUNCHES SHORT-TERM RENTAL COMPLAINT HOTLINE FOR RESIDENTS** PAGE A2

**AROUND TOWN: NEWPORT HARBOR HIGH ALUMNI ASSN. TO SHOW 'FIVE SUMMER STORIES' SURFING MOVIE VIRTUALLY** PAGE A5

### OBITUARY

## Huntington Beach's Bleu Scott remembered as a kindred spirit

BY MATT SZABO

When Huntington Beach resident Bleu Roxy Scott wasn't around, her mother, Amber, always knew where to find her.

If it was just about sunset, Bleu would often drive her red Volkswagen van to the beach in Surf City, an area north of Goldenwest Street called "The Cliffs."

"Every night, she would try to be there," Amber Scott said. "If you couldn't find Bleu, you knew to go to find her at the certain spot with her van."

This was the happy place for the young woman who always seemed happy, despite dealing with cystic fibrosis since birth.

Bleu Roxy Scott died on

Sept. 24 due to complications from the genetic disease, her mother said. She was 20 years old.

Bleu received a double lung transplant in December 2017, but this year her body began rejecting the lungs, Amber said.

Her death has brought together the Cape Ann neighborhood of Huntington Beach, where Bleu lived growing up until moving to closer to the beach on Main Street. Family friend Kathy Davison was part of a sizable group last weekend that placed large sky blue ribbons on a path from Cape Ann to the family's current home.

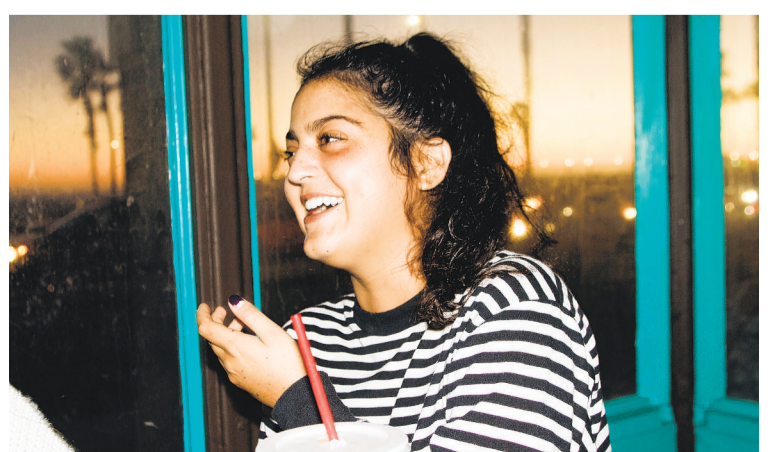
"We wanted to paint the town blue," said Davison, whose daughters Remi, Ella and Lucy all grew up with Bleu.

"She has touched so many lives in her 20 short years. When the kids were little, she taught them empathy. They'd all be playing outside, and the next thing you know, Bleu had to do a treatment."

"She'd be in this little jacket that would shake her, and she'd have to take these pills that were enormous. My girls were in awe, but we didn't want Bleu to feel like she's missing out on what's going on in the neighborhood. Amber would let them all in the house, feed them snacks. It changed my kids in a way."

Sidney Steiner was Bleu's close friend at Smith Elementary School, Dwyer Middle School and

See **Bleu**, page A3



Courtesy of Sidney Steiner

**HUNTINGTON BEACH** resident Bleu Scott, 20, died Sept. 24 after a lifelong battle with cystic fibrosis. A celebration of life is planned Saturday.



Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

**A WOMAN** walks her dog past a waterfront duplex on 38th Street on Newport Island.

## Newport Beach launches 24-hour short-term rental complaint hotline

BY LILLY NGUYEN

Short-term rentals in Newport Beach aren't new and neither is the frustration that neighbors feel for them either, with residents complaining of noise and public intoxication as recently as the Sept. 22 City Council meeting.

But a live hotline might help.

The city of Newport Beach announced Friday that its 24-hour hotline for complaints and non-emergency issues related to short-term rental units is now live.

Service operators will communicate issues to property owners or designated responders as soon as complaints are received, which city staff said will allow for the city to track the volume and types of issues that crop up with units.

Residents can call (949) 718-3443 to file complaints about issues such as loud parties, noise, parking, trash and occupancy limit violations. All emergency issues should still be placed to 911.

The hotline is part of several short-term rental reforms that the City Council approved in July.

Also included in the new regulations are that owners must disclose the number of parking spots available; occupancy is limited to the maximum stated by the building and fire code; owners must have a nuisance response plan; and advertisements must include their permit numbers.

This also includes the prohibition of rental for people under 21.

As part of the reforms, short-term lodging operators are required to have a local contact person to respond in the event of any issues.

When complaints are placed, the contact person will have 30 minutes to respond. In the event that the contact person cannot be reached, operators will then call the Newport Beach Police Department for disturbance, noise and parking issues. All other issues will go to the city's code enforcement team.

More than 1,500 homes in Newport Beach hold short-term lodging permits, with the majority concentrated at the Balboa Peninsula, Balboa Island and Corona del Mar.

City staff said the new regulations are in light of the proliferation of short-term rental units in recent years through Airbnb, though the city has a history of short-term rentals that predates such websites, and the subsequent community impacts therein.

For more information on how the hotline works, call the city's revenue division at (949) 719-1997 or email [lodging@newportbeachca.gov](mailto:lodging@newportbeachca.gov).

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## THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

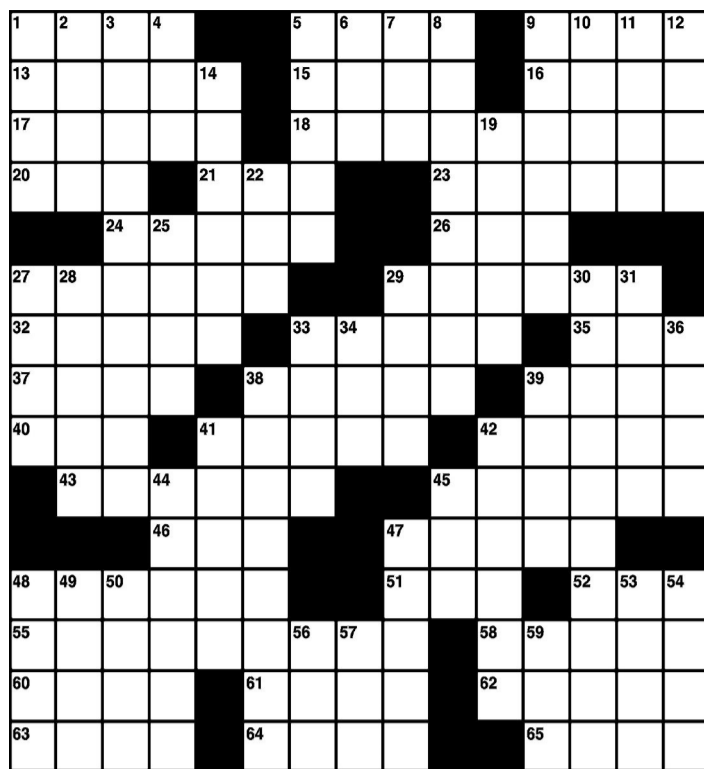
By Jacqueline E. Mathews

### ACROSS

- 1 School subject
- 5 Do a grocery checker's job
- 9 Repeated sound
- 13 Climbing plants
- 15 "Arsenic and Old \_"; Cary Grant film
- 16 Prison knife
- 17 Dishwasher cycle
- 18 All ears
- 20 McMahon & Begley
- 21 Pale
- 23 Item changed when wet
- 24 Standing straight
- 26 Allow
- 27 Enchantment; charm
- 29 Double-dealing
- 32 Computer memory units
- 33 Self-confidence
- 35 Name for a Stooge
- 37 Clumsy oaf
- 38 Large amount, slangily
- 39 ASPCA advice
- 40 Morning grass moisture
- 41 Courageous deeds
- 42 As silly as a \_
- 43 Pitfalls
- 45 Has confidence in
- 46 Wicked
- 47 Hammers & saws
- 48 Assault
- 51 Like chafed skin
- 52 Under the weather
- 55 Warrior's shout
- 58 Something forbidden
- 60 She, in France
- 61 Red and Dead
- 62 CA's Beverly \_
- 63 Late July babies
- 64 Last month: abbr.
- 65 Turn to liquid

### DOWN

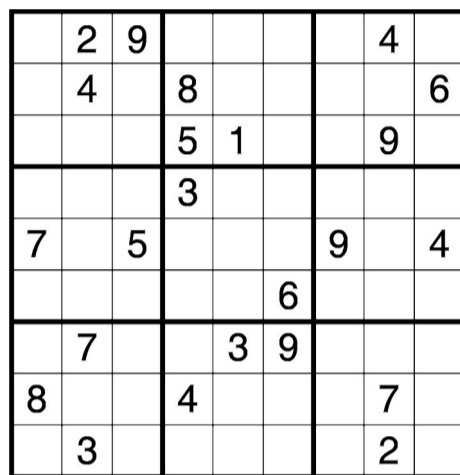
- 1 Muddy, spongy ground



## SUDOKU

By The Mephram Group

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit [sudoku.org.uk](http://sudoku.org.uk).



For answers to the crossword and Sudoku puzzles, see page A5.

- 2 Enthusiastic
- 3 Hollywood
- 4 " \_ got the whole world in His hands"
- 5 Incline
- 6 Popular pet
- 7 Play division
- 8 Not essential
- 9 Grand home

- 10 Chocolate \_ cookies
- 11 Bee's home
- 12 Above
- 14 Underground drains
- 19 Family tree member
- 22 \_ bandage; wraparound strip

- 25 Felt remorseful about
- 27 E's forerunners
- 28 Lovett & Alzado
- 29 Guacamole & salsa
- 30 Out of the question
- 31 Browned bread
- 33 Potpie ingredients
- 34 Word attached to meal or cake
- 36 Mr. Potato Head pieces
- 38 Not paying attention
- 39 "Heart and \_"; classic piano duet
- 41 Weak
- 42 Expansion
- 44 Lessens
- 45 "Ode \_ Nightingale"
- 47 Lovers' meeting
- 48 Cain's victim
- 49 Bargain hunter's delight
- 50 WWII French battle town
- 53 Lounge about
- 54 Unable to find one's way
- 56 So-so grade
- 57 Music style
- 59 Shoot carefully

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# Blessing OF THE Animals!

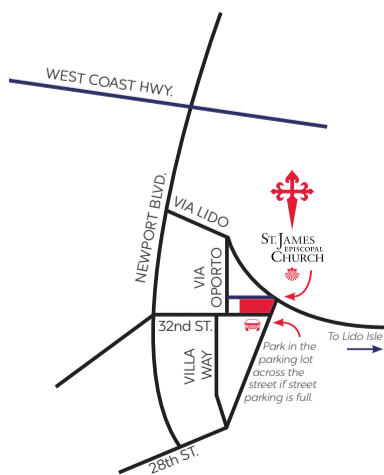
St. James Episcopal Church and the Gray Matter Museum of Art are hosting the Blessing of the Animals and Bark Bash **on Sunday, Oct. 4th, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the church** (socially paw-distant; masks required). Bring your pets for a doggy day out and a blessing to support Barks of Love Animal Rescue of Newport Beach. Free admission. Suggest donation gift cards, such as Petco, Costco, PetSmart, Target, Walmart, or Visa to support Barks of Love (because of COVID-19, we can't accept food or supplies).



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**SPORTS**

Continued from page A1

point is no," Wigod said. "The reason for that is that we wanted to give you as much time as possible, when we announced these calendars in July, so that you could prepare for that mid-December launch ... If we were changing it up again at this point, we realize what disruption that means and how difficult that is going to be."

Wigod said he has received many positive reports from member schools that are back on campus with students, who are doing Phase I conditioning workouts during the pandemic while following health and safety protocols. The Newport-Mesa Unified School District started such workouts on Aug. 17, followed by Huntington Beach Union High School District on Aug. 24.

He added that each sport will have section championships at the end of the season.

"We are going to have a destination for our schools that return to play," Wigod said. "There may be variances in what some of those section championships might look like. You might look at a girls' volleyball division, let's say Division 3, with 14 schools that are eligible in that division. Maybe Division 4 has 24 schools. But we're going to continue on with the schools and the divisions they're supposed to be in, and try to do our very best to provide that championship experience."

**SOCCER RULE CHANGE APPROVED**

The only action item on Thursday's CIF Southern Section Council agenda was a change to the red card rule in boys' and girls' soccer.

The council voted 83-7, with one league abstaining, to approve the change. Players who are issued a "soft" red card



Screenshot by Matt Szabo

**CIF SOUTHERN**

Section commissioner Rob Wigod speaks during Thursday's virtual CIF Council meeting.

(two yellow cards) will now be ejected from the current match, but will be able to play in the team's next match. Those who receive a "hard" red card would still be prohibited from playing in or attending the next match.

Under the current rules, players who receive two yellow cards are suspended from the next match.

Ryan Sharp of the Raincross Conference, which introduced the item, said the new rules would put soccer more in line with other sports like basketball and water polo, in which players can foul out of the current game and not be disciplined for the next one. He noted that yellow cards are often a nonviolent penalty.

Newport Harbor High School girls' soccer coach Justin Schroeder said he was fine with the change.

"I think it makes sense for the high school season," he said. "It stops punishing kids for playing the game and committing simple fouls and nonviolent fouls, which I think you see more in the yellow card range ... Because it's such a short season, you don't want kids missing games for things that would otherwise be fairly minor."

The next CIF Southern Section meeting is an Executive Committee meeting scheduled for Jan. 14.

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**BLEU**

Continued from page A1

Huntington Beach High School. Bleu graduated from HBHS in 2018, and Sidney the following year.

Steiner started a Go-FundMe in Bleu's name to help with expenses. As of Friday afternoon, it had raised more than \$33,000.

Friends have also been using the hashtag, #sunsetswithbleu, on social media.

A celebration of Bleu's life is planned for Saturday at the Scott family home, 746 Main St., from 1 to 5 p.m. Supporters will also be invited to a viewing Saturday at the Advantage Funeral Home. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, only 25 people at a time will be allowed at the viewing.

Steiner is putting together a slideshow for the celebration. In the pictures, Bleu always seemed to be smiling, despite her diagnosis and the fact that she had to use an oxygen tank and take multiple pills each day.

She was one of the biggest fans of the Huntington Beach High girls' tennis team in 2018, when Steiner and her teammates captured the CIF Southern Section Division 3 title.

"If she didn't have her oxygen in or was doing her treatments, you would have never known that she was going through such a hard time," Steiner said. "She always tried to stay positive and just pretend like nothing was going on. She wanted to enjoy life and just be normal. She was the most positive person to walk in the room. It's crazy, the strength that she had. She was the best."

Friends said that Bleu was a fan of tacos, and loved chewing gum and blowing bubbles. "That was fun," said Susan Steiner, Sidney's mother. "She finally blew some of the biggest bubbles with those new lungs of hers."

Amber said that her daughter never wanted to be treated differently than any other teenager. The



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

**A BIG BLUE** ribbon is tied to a tree along Main Street in honor of Bleu Scott, a Huntington Beach resident who died on Sept. 24 at the age of 20 due to complications from cystic fibrosis.

word that Bleu used for dying was to "skedaddle."

"We've had many ups and downs," Amber said. "Bleu just thought this

would be a good time to skedaddle."

Bleu Roxy Scott is also survived by her father, Robert "Scotty" Scott, her

sister, Paisley, 28, and brother, Dane, 24.

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