

Daily Pilot

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Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

LYNDI, 5, looks away while Amanda Maxwell, the clinical nurse manager, administers a shot of a Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine, and her father, Marc, stands by for support at Coastal Kids Thursday in Newport Beach. The FDA gave its approval for the Pfizer vaccine for children between ages 5 and 11.

Younger arms offered up: O.C. kids get vaccine shots

BY ANDREW TURNER, LILLY NGUYEN

Following the recommendation of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Tuesday that the COVID-19 vaccine be administered to children between the ages of 5 and 11, local healthcare providers have begun putting shots in young arms.

Elementary school-aged children were among the first to return to classrooms during the coronavirus pandemic. But the Delta variant that emerged in the summer proved to be particularly virulent for children.

"We expect the vaccine to be available at our mobile clinics within the next few days and through other regular vaccine distribution channels, as well," Orange County Health Officer Dr. Clayton Chau said in a statement on Wednesday. "We ask for our community's

Families have the option to have their elementary school-aged children vaccinated with the FDA's approval for those between 5 and 11 years old.

patience as we and other providers prepare to make the vaccine available to the newly eligible age group.

"We also remain committed to delivering vaccines to the most vulnerable population and hard-to-reach communities in Orange County and continue to work closely with our local healthcare providers to host future vaccine clinics and connecting schools who are interested in setting up their own clinics with the [California Department of Public Health]."

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration authorized emergency use of the Pfizer vaccine in children between the ages of 5 and 11 last week.

"As a mother and a physician, I know that

parents, caregivers, school staff, and children have been waiting for today's authorization," acting FDA Commissioner Janet Woodcock, M.D., said in a statement on Oct. 29. "Vaccinating younger children against COVID-19 will bring us closer to returning to a sense of normalcy. Our comprehensive and rigorous evaluation of the data pertaining to the vaccine's safety and effectiveness should help assure parents and guardians that this vaccine meets our high standards."

The number of Orange County residents who were fully vaccinated against the virus, regardless of the vaccine taken, stood at

See **Vaccine**, page A3

H.B. city manager to take same job in Irvine

Oliver Chi is expected to be approved to his new position at a council meeting on Tuesday.

BY LILLY NGUYEN

Huntington Beach's city manager may soon be Irvine's after the latter announced its intention to appoint Oliver Chi to replace former city manager John Russo, who left in September last year.

The Irvine City Council is expected to approve Chi's hiring during its meeting on Tuesday.

Huntington Beach officials said they would be holding a closed session meeting to determine the next steps on naming an interim and launching a nationwide search for the next city manager.

Chi took on the role of city

"Oliver (Chi) has done tremendous work for the city of Huntington Beach."

Kim Carr

Huntington Beach mayor

manager of Huntington Beach in September 2019 after previously serving in the same capacity for the city of Monrovia for five years.

Chi succeeded former city manager Fred Wilson, who left Huntington Beach City Hall in May that same year to take on a position at Ralph Andersen & Associates, an executive search firm for public sector agencies.

Chi's four-year contract, approved in 2019, had an annual starting salary of \$260,000. That contract was set to expire in 2023. Irvine officials said Chi agreed to a two-year term at \$301,246 annually.

"Oliver has done tremendous work for the city of Huntington Beach," Huntington Beach Mayor Kim Carr said in a statement. "Thanks to Oliver's leadership, we find our city with a budget surplus and stronger than we were in the past."

"Oliver's leadership has been critical in overcoming COVID, civil unrest, and most recently, the oil spill. While I will greatly miss Oliver in Huntington Beach, I have no doubt he will do fantastic things for the city of Irvine," Carr said.

In the course of his public service career, Chi has also served as Barstow's assistant city manager and held staff positions in a number of other California cities including Rosemead, Claremont and Arcadia.

Chi could not be immediately

See **Manager**, page A2

Costa Mesa extends short-term rental ban



File Photo

THE COSTA MESA City Council extended a moratorium on short-term rentals for another year and extended allowances for outdoor dining.

BY SARA CARDINE

Costa Mesa City Council members Tuesday extended a moratorium on short-term rentals for another year, while staffers work out a system to regulate the practice, and extended allowances for outdoor dining implemented to give businesses a boost during the pandemic.

The prohibition against local homeowners renting out properties for periods of fewer than 30 days on sites like Airbnb and Vrbo was initiated in December 2020 in response to numerous resident complaints against "house parties" and their attendant noise and parking problems.

On Tuesday, the council decided one more year would give the city time to develop a comprehensive set of regulations and establish a permitting system that would potentially collect fees or taxes and track bad actors.

Jennifer Le, director of economic and development services, said staff were currently working on other housing-related issues, such as developing an inclusionary housing ordinance and finalizing the city's updated housing element.

"Our intention... is to finish up the council's top priorities identified for the next six months and then to immediately

See **Ban**, page A2

Former C.M. police chief honored with park dedication

BY SARA CARDINE

Local officials joined with Costa Mesa Police Department's top brass past and present to celebrate Roger Neth — a resident who, in 1953, became one of the city's first police officers — and to rename a prominent park in his honor.

In an outdoor ceremony Thursday at what will from now on be known as Neth Park, adjacent to the Police Department and formerly called Civic Center Park, city leaders personally thanked the 94-year-old Neth for his innumerable contributions to the community.

"It is thanks to Chief Neth that Costa Mesa's Police Department has a reputation of being one of the finest in the state of California," Mayor John Stephens said. "It was his accomplishments and innovation that set the stage early for the expectations of this great department that continue to this very day."

Neth moved to Costa Mesa in

1936 and still lives a short distance from the station he helped form and revolutionize in his 33-year tenure. He was promoted to sergeant in 1954, then lieutenant in 1956 and captain in 1959 before becoming Costa Mesa's second police chief in 1964, a title he held for the next 22 years.

Under his leadership, the department installed computer terminals in patrol cars so officers could look up warrants and used Sony vehicle cameras to record DUI traffic stops. The station also employed the first handwriting experts in Orange County and introduced helicopters, which Neth learned to fly.

"I enjoyed my years with the Costa Mesa Police Department," the nonagenarian said Thursday, thanking those in attendance. "I looked forward every day to going to work, and that's an honest statement."

See **Neth**, page A3



Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

FORMER COSTA MESA Police Chief Roger Neth, fifth from left, at Neth Park during Tuesday's ceremony.

VACCINE

Continued from page A1

2,190,754 as of Monday, according to data provided by the California Immunization Registry.

After the vaccine arrived this week in kid-sized doses, Coastal Kids began rolling out the vaccine for young children on Thursday afternoon.

"Looking at [ages] 12 and above, we've administered thousands of vaccines," Dr. Steven Abelowitz, the medical director of Coastal Kids, said. "The 5 to 11 [age group], that's just been approved and just being delivered, and we put expeditious workflows in place, and we're actually starting today."

For parents Marc and Marni, who asked that their last names not be used out of privacy concerns, the decision to have their 5-year-old daughter Lyndi receive the vaccine at the Coastal Kids clinic on Thursday was a "no-brainer" because it provided an extra layer of safety and comfort.

While Lyndi did attend preschool in person last year, it was difficult at the beginning of the pandemic for her family to be separated from her grandparents.

"For us, I think that was a lot of it was we have elderly parents that we want her to be around and feel safe and comfortable for not only her, but for them, as well,"

Marc said. "At school, she's around an environment that we don't get to control, based on the other families that bring children to school. So for us, we just felt that it was beneficial for her to be vaccinated."

"We're vaccinated, so it takes a little stress off knowing that she's probably in a better position today than she would be without being vaccinated."

Experts harbored great concern about a surge in COVID-19 cases last winter. With much of the population choosing to get vaccinated, Abelowitz warned that more commonly seen ailments such as colds and the flu remain a factor.

"With all the mitigating effects last year, we saw a very slow cold season, a very slow flu season," Abelowitz added. "We're seeing right now [a] tremendous amount, with kids ... going back to school and in activities, appropriately so. We're seeing significantly higher numbers of these viral infections and some complications than we did last year and the year before."

The vaccine performed at a rate of 90.7% effectiveness in preventing COVID-19 infections for children within the newly eligible age range during clinical trials, according to the FDA.

The primary vaccine series will be completed in two parts, with the shots to be scheduled three weeks apart.

Dr. Chulie Ulloa, an as-

sistant professor in pediatrics at the UC Irvine School of Medicine, said Thursday she recognizes the concern from parents over the potential side effects.

"I think this is a technology that's perceived by the community as fairly new but has actually been around for a while," Ulloa said. "This is just the first time we've used it in the form of a vaccine. I think a lot of concerns are also on what the long-term side effects are on menstruation and fertility."

"Side effects from any FDA-approved vaccine developed up to now prior to COVID-19 has not caused long-term side effects. On average, any side effects we have seen with vaccines appear within the first six weeks. Anything beyond that point is unheard of ... and I have no reason to believe that this vaccine would be any different."

The same vaccines being given to adults are being given to children, but the shots in younger arms come with smaller dosages.

"The younger cohort of children, ages 5 to 11, will receive one-third the dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine approved for older age groups," Ulloa added. "I encourage parents to speak with their child's pediatrician. Make sure you are getting the right information."

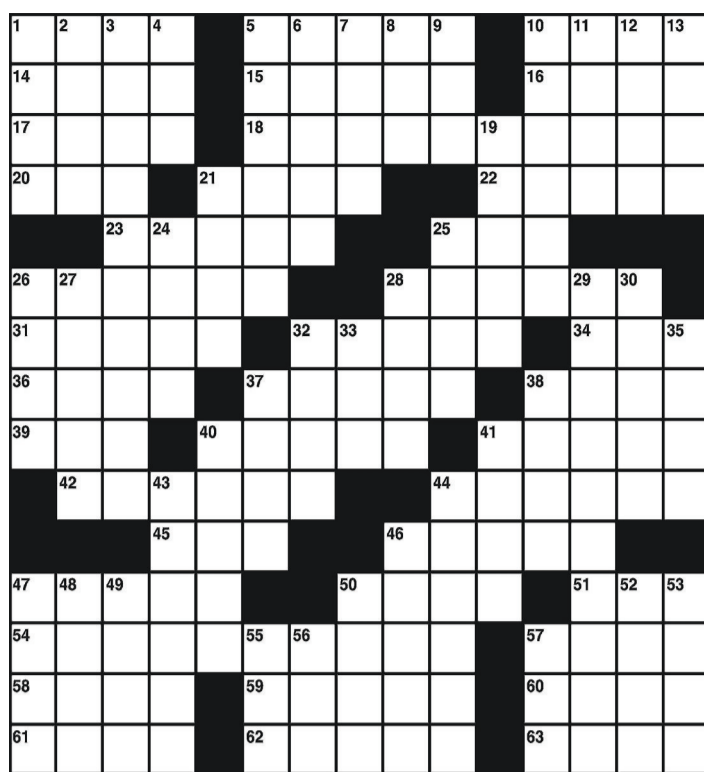
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THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS

- 1 Drinks slowly
- 5 Sign of fall
- 10 Repeated sound
- 14 Actor Wyle
- 15 "Doe, _ a female deer"
- 16 _ up; arrive
- 17 Out of kilter
- 18 Flawlessness
- 20 Gangster's pistol
- 21 _ Cuisine; line of frozen meals
- 22 Clock face features
- 23 "We Had _"; Waylon Jennings song
- 25 Portable bed
- 26 Broad treeless expanses
- 28 Least frequent
- 31 Wasn't well
- 32 Window covering
- 34 Shade of brown
- 36 David McCallum TV series
- 37 _ box; larynx
- 38 Actor Alan _ Jr.
- 39 "_ Along, Little Dogies"
- 40 Sweet treat
- 41 Water lily
- 42 Oppressive dictator
- 44 Put up a fight
- 45 "_ for the money, two for"
- 46 _ beans
- 47 1836 U.S. battle site
- 50 Provide the money for
- 51 Org. for Sharks & Sabres
- 54 Szechuan chicken ingredients
- 57 Haleakala Crater's locale
- 58 Pac-Man's path
- 59 Find a new purpose for
- 60 _ and crafts
- 61 Hastened
- 62 Concluded
- 63 Abnormal sac



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.

					5			
3	9	7						4
2	5		7					6
	2	8		6		3		
7								
		9		2		8	7	
	7				3			5
	8					2	1	3
		2						

For answers to the crossword and Sudoku puzzles, see page A2.

DOWN

- 1 Pantyhose mishap
- 2 Dubuque's state
- 3 Favoritism
- 4 Bashful
- 5 Suit coat parts
- 6 Perfect
- 7 Swiss capital
- 8 Man in a striped shirt
- 9 "Happy Days _ Here Again"
- 10 Manor & surrounding property
- 11 Goatee's place
- 12 Parka feature
- 13 Possesses
- 19 Dusting or

- vacuuming
- 21 Shipwreck victim's relief
- 24 Men's accessories
- 25 _ of Good Hope
- 26 Feeling of hunger
- 27 Lawful
- 28 Risqu 
- 29 _ bike; gym floor offering
- 30 Anklebone
- 32 Start of a warning
- 33 _ of; free from
- 35 Cozy home
- 37 Wind direction indicator
- 38 Emcee
- 40 Lake boat
- 41 Give temporarily
- 43 Frolicked
- 44 Threw water over
- 46 Woman's accessory
- 47 Sleeve contents
- 48 Clear a hurdle
- 49 Sculptor's tool
- 50 TV's "Family _"
- 52 Shacks
- 53 Rattle off
- 55 Prefix for heat or view
- 56 Bic product
- 57 Bernie _

Tribune Media Services

NETH

Continued from page A1

The ceremony was not the first honor to be bestowed upon Neth. In 2016, he received a Mayor's Award for being an instrumental figure in the formation of the department. That same year, he was inducted into the Hall of Fame at Newport Harbor High School, where he was a member of the class of 1944 and played football during the 1942 championship season.

Cathy Jo Liebel, a neighbor of Neth's for the past 27 years, said she went to city officials to urge them to pay tribute to a local legend. On Thursday, she posed with the former police chief at the monument sign welcoming visitors to Neth Park.

"I'm overwhelmed," she said. "He is just a wealth of history, someone who's done so much for our city. He's a good man, and he's got a great family and a great legacy."

Representing the continuation of that legacy, several who succeeded Neth in the position of chief came out to lend their support, including former chiefs Dave Snowden (1986-2003), Tom Gazsi (2011-14) and Bryan Glass (2019-21), along with current Chief Ron Lawrence.

"It is truly admirable what he's accomplished for this department," Lawrence said, turning to address Neth directly. "Thank you so much for setting the foundation not only for the past and present but far into the future."

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Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

FORMER COSTA MESA Police Chief Roger Neth speaks during a dedication ceremony for Neth Park on Thursday.

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