

Daily Pilot

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Memory of Aiden Leos to be kept alive at O.C. Zoo



Photos by Raul Roa | Staff Photographer

JOANNA CLOONAN, mother of the late 6-year-old Aiden Leos, front left, walks beside O.C. Park's Marcy Crede-Booth, holding a western screech owl, after an event at Irvine Regional Park in Orange discussing plans to dedicate a plaque for Aiden at a new complex for large cats at the zoo.

ORANGE COUNTY supervisor Donald P. Wagner speaks about plans to dedicate a plaque for Leos at a new \$9.5-million, 2-acre complex at the Orange County Zoo.



BY ANDREW TURNER

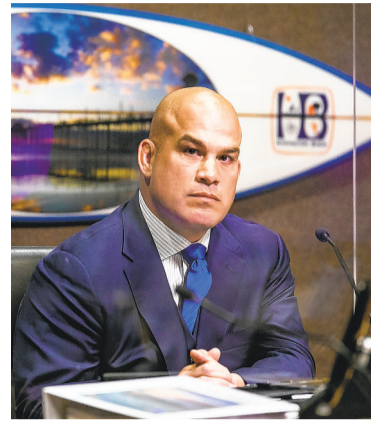
Orange County officials announced plans Monday for a plaque and dedication at the county zoo in memory of Aiden Leos inside Irvine Regional Park in the city of Orange.

Aiden, a 6-year-old boy who lived in Costa Mesa, died in an apparent road-rage incident on May 21 when a gunman opened fire into the back seat of his mother's vehicle on the 55 Freeway in Orange.

The plaque is expected to be unveiled in conjunction with the opening of a new large mammal exhibit at the beginning of next year.

The partnership with O.C. Parks staff came together after photos surfaced of Aiden enjoying himself at the Orange County Zoo. A photo of him in front of the mountain lion exhibit was included in a slideshow at his memorial service.

See **Aiden**, page A4



Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

FORMER MAYOR PRO-TEM Tito Ortiz resigned from the Huntington Beach City Council on June 1.

H.B. City Council looks to fill seat

Residents have until Friday at 5 p.m. to apply for the vacancy left by Tito Ortiz, who resigned from his role last week.

BY MATT SZABO

A Surf City resident looking to serve the public will likely be seated on the dais within a matter of weeks.

The Huntington Beach City Council is accepting applications to fill the spot vacated when Mayor Pro Tem Tito Ortiz resigned on June 1.

Residents have until Friday at 5 p.m. to apply for the vacant seat, after a unanimous 6-0 vote during a special council meeting last week. Online applications are available at bit.ly/hbcitycouncil, or those interested can visit the city clerk's office at City Hall.

City Manager Oliver Chi said applicants will likely be interviewed either between June 25 and June 27 or between July 9 and July 11, depending on the number of applications received. The City Council will review both the applications and interviews to make a final decision, which is expected at a council meeting in July.

The remainder of the term for the seat Ortiz left runs through 2024.

Many residents have called for the appointment of Gracey Van Der Mark, who finished fourth in a field of 15 last November when

See **Seat**, page A2

Community Foundation invites donors to 'Stand & Salute' veterans support groups

BY SARA CARDINE

To support the more than 107,000 county veterans, many of whom have been impacted by the pandemic, the Orange County Community Foundation will host today "Stand & Salute," an online day of giving for nonprofits who serve vets and their families.

This year's effort hopes to raise more than

\$125,000 for six area organizations — 2-1-1 Orange County, Child Guidance Center's Strong Families, Strong Children program, Goodwill of Orange County, Strength in Support, Support the Enlisted Project and Working Wardrobes — all of which provide services that help veterans successfully transition to civilian life.

Carol Ferguson, director of donor relations

and programs for OCCF explained how Stand & Salute not only helps raise vital funds for groups that provide direct assistance to veterans and their families, but also helps expand the reach of participating nonprofits.

"It helps these organizations build a brand around their cause, cheer each other on and

See **Veterans**, page A2

COMMENCEMENT 2021

695 Huntington Beach High Oilers mark the end of their senior year



Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

GRADUATES TOSS their mortarboards during the Huntington Beach High School 2021 commencement ceremony on Tuesday at Cap Sheue Field. It was the school's 115th graduating class with 695 graduates.

BY MATT SZABO

On the same day that California celebrated reopening from the coronavirus pandemic, hundreds of Huntington Beach High School seniors looked toward

new beginnings of a different kind.

The Oilers held their graduation for the class of 2021 at Cap Sheue Field on Tuesday. There were 695 graduates in the school's 115th graduating class,

according to assistant principal Dave Yonts.

Huntington Beach was the first of the Huntington Beach Union High School District's six

See **Oilers**, page A4



Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

DEMONSTRATORS, many of whom wave Trump flags, gather for an anti-mask "freedom march" on the Huntington Beach Pier on Monday.

Anti-mask demonstrators rally at Huntington Beach Pier in 'Freedom March'

Hundreds of anti-mask protesters gathered at the Huntington Beach Pier on Monday evening, just before most coronavirus-related physical distancing and mask requirements for those vaccinated were lifted Tuesday.

Many of those in attendance wore clothing or waved flags in support of former President Donald Trump. The rally included a mask-less march, deemed a "Freedom March" on a flier, from Pier Plaza to Pacific City.

"[Gov. Gavin] Newsom ... will still mandate muzzles," the flier read. "We open when we want to."

The flier also noted that Monday was National Flag Day, as well as Trump's 75th birthday.

Under the new state guidelines, Californians who are fully vaccinated against the coronavirus can now go without a face mask in most situations. However, unvaccinated residents are still required to mask up in public indoor settings.

— Matt Szabo



Making a lasting impact in Orange County

At Bank of America, we have long been committed to advancing racial equality and economic opportunity in the communities where we work and live. Recognizing the urgency of the moment, we've expanded our longstanding efforts to drive progress by committing an additional \$1.25 billion over five years to create opportunity for people and communities of color.

By partnering with organizations here in Orange County, we're continuing to align our resources to help drive sustainable progress locally. Our investments and partnerships will help address critical issues and long-term gaps including:

- connecting workers to new skills and enhanced job readiness
- expanding affordable housing options for more people
- ramping up lending and support to local small businesses
- increasing access to healthcare and addressing food insecurity

We know there's so much more work to be done. My teammates and I remain committed to the job ahead. Together with our local partners, we can make a real difference. **What would you like the power to do?**[®]

Allen Staff
President, Bank of America Orange County

Working together

We're collaborating with a variety of organizations to help our community move forward. They include:

OCAPICA

CIELO

Camino Health Center

High School Inc. Foundation

Go to bankofamerica.com/community to learn more about the work we are doing with our incredible partners.

BANK OF AMERICA

Costa Mesa man arrested on suspicion of assault, DUI

BY SARA CARDINE

A Costa Mesa man was arrested Sunday night on suspicion of assault with a deadly weapon and driving under the influence of alcohol after he allegedly pointed a handgun at another driver near the intersection of Victoria and

Maple Street.

Roxi Fyad, a spokeswoman for the Costa Mesa Police Department, said Monday police responded to the scene shortly after 8:30 p.m. Sunday after the victim contacted the authorities and then continued to follow behind the suspect's vehicle until officers ar-

rived.

Police caught up with the armed driver — identified Monday as Arturo Silva-Ramos, 45, of Costa Mesa — at the intersection of Pomona and Sterling avenues, near Pomona Elementary School, and detained Silva-Ramos as he exited the vehicle.

A loaded handgun was recovered from the vehicle, and Silva-Ramos was arrested at the scene without incident and taken to jail, where he was booked on suspicion of assault with a deadly weapon with a firearm, carrying a loaded firearm in a vehicle in a public place, driving under the in-

fluence of alcohol and driving without a license.

Silva-Ramos was also booked for allegedly carrying a loaded, stolen firearm, not being the registered owner of a weapon in one's possession and driving without a license, according to Fyad. As of Monday afternoon, the case had

not yet been filed with the Orange County district attorney's office.

Anyone with more information on Sunday's incident may call the Costa Mesa Police Department at (714) 754-5280.

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Photos by Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

AN ELATED GRADUATE celebrates as her name is announced during the Huntington Beach High School 2021 commencement ceremony on Tuesday.

OILERS

Continued from page A1

high schools to graduate, with the remainder all scheduled for this week. The graduation had limited capacity per California Department of Public Health guidance; each graduate was issued two tickets.

Senior class president Autumn Hornback addressed the graduates, and the ceremony also featured a performance by five seniors in the Huntington Beach Academy for the Performing Arts' Music, Media and Entertainment Technology program. Christopher Roberts, Michael Rubly, Aimee Paulson, Zayne Brundage and Trent Bishop performed "Let's Go Crazy" by



LOGAN THOBE tears off a pair of rip-away pants during the Huntington Beach High commencement ceremony.

the late musician Prince. "We are very excited, as are our students, staff and parents, to be able to have a whole class in-person

ceremony with guests," Yonts said in an email.

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Raul Roa | Staff Photographer

A \$9.5-MILLION, 2-acre complex at the Orange County Zoo in Irvine Regional Park in Orange will include a plaque dedicated to Aiden Leos, killed on the 55 Freeway in May.

AIDEN

Continued from page A1

"The idea behind what we're doing here today is a plaque in memory of Aiden, who galvanized the community to find not just his killer, but now we take it bigger and try to find the perpetrators of many other violent crimes throughout Orange County," Orange County Supervisor Donald Wagner said. "Because what the community said upon learning the news of the shooting of Aiden was it's not going to happen here. It's not going to stand here. You're not going to come to Orange County and do these crimes."

"Today, we want to celebrate Aiden's memory, announce the coming facility with the plaque and dedication to Aiden, and say to any other victims of violent crimes in Orange County, this community has your back, and we are going to come for the people who committed the crime, we are going to hunt them down and bring them to justice."

Marcus Anthony Eriz and Wynne Lee were arrested in Costa Mesa in connection with Aiden's death. They are scheduled to be arraigned in court on Friday.

Eriz was charged with

murder and discharging a firearm at an occupied vehicle, while Wynne, who authorities said was the driver of the suspected vehicle, has been charged with accessory after the fact and a misdemeanor for concealing a firearm in a vehicle.

In attendance at the Orange County Zoo on Monday were Aiden's mother, Joanna Cloonan, his older sister, Alexis Cloonan, and Alexis' grandmother, Carla Lacy.

Lacy, who spoke on behalf of the family, shared what made the zoo a special place to honor Aiden.

"We want to take this moment and allow it to be a joyous occasion, to honor Aiden's spirit of kindness and graciousness," Lacy said. "I can't think of a better place than here at Irvine Regional Park, where he enjoyed many visits with his family."

The new large mammal exhibit, estimated to cost about \$9.5 million, will encompass about 2 acres and feature four habitats. Rick De Jong, the project manager, said it is expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2022.

"It's great," Orange County Zoo manager Donald Zeigler said of the decision to honor Aiden at the site. "O.C. Zoo is a county

facility, and we're here to provide a service to the public, and children just like Aiden are here every day, and they love the service that we provide them, and the enjoyment and the education.

"It's amazing that [Aiden] was here. That one picture that came up, even before they decided to do this, that was the picture they posted of Aiden, and it was at the zoo."

Wagner said he has been inspired by the strength shown by Aiden's family under trying circumstances.

"It seems to me it's a very symbiotic relationship because they've told me how much strength they've gotten from the community, and just the outpouring of not just financial support, obviously, but the emotional support even more importantly, and so they've taken great strength from the community, which they've shared with me," Wagner said.

"In response, I would say I personally, and I think many in the community, have taken great comfort in their strength under these trying circumstances and their dedication to keeping the memory of Aiden alive."

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JUNE 2020

DTSC PUBLIC NOTICE

Department of Toxic Substances Control - Our mission is to protect the people, communities, and environment of California from harmful chemicals by cleaning up contaminated sites, enforcing hazardous waste laws, and compelling the development of safer products.

TERMINATION OF CORRECTIVE ACTION WITHOUT CONTROLS FOR THE 28.9-ACRE MAGNOLIA TANK FARM SITE LOCATED IN HUNTINGTON BEACH, CALIFORNIA
30-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: JUNE 16, 2021 – JULY 16, 2021

WHAT IS BEING NOTICED? The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is noticing the proposed Termination of Corrective Action Without Controls (unrestricted use) for the Magnolia Tank Farm (Site), which was formerly a portion of the Southern California Edison (SCE) Huntington Beach Generating Station (HBGS). DTSC is legally required to inform the public of this decision.

Since 1995, the DTSC has been the lead agency overseeing the required investigation or cleanup of HBGS by SCE, including the 28.9-acre Magnolia Tank Farm, located at 21845 Magnolia Street in the City of Huntington Beach. The Site is currently owned by SLF HB-Magnolia and leased to Surf City Beach Auto Group, Inc. for use as a temporary storage parking lot for new vehicles. In January 2021, SLF HB-Magnolia received certification of its California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Impact Report (EIR) from the City of Huntington Beach. The Site is planned for future redevelopment with residential and hospitality uses.

Numerous environmental investigations have been conducted at the Site, under the oversight of the DTSC. During the investigations, hundreds of samples (soil, soil vapor, and groundwater) were collected from throughout the Site. A comprehensive Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Facility Investigation (RFI) Report was prepared by SCE, as the responsible party, in July 2020. The RCRA RFI Report concluded that the Site met the conditions for unrestricted closure, as long as it was subject to recording of a future land use covenant (LUC) restricting groundwater from being used as a potable source.

HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE: A 30-day public comment period is being held to receive public comments on DTSC's approval of corrective action. The 30-day public comment period begins May 16 and ends June 14, 2021. All public comments must be postmarked or e-mailed no later than 11:59 pm on June 14, 2021 and sent to: Steven Rounds, DTSC Project Manager, 9211 Oakdale Avenue, Chatsworth, CA 91311, or to his e-mail address at: Steven.Rounds@dtsc.ca.gov.

A copy of the RCRA RFI Report and other supporting documents are available for public review electronically at: https://envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/profile_report?global_id=60001194.

Or at the following Information Repositories:

Huntington Beach Central Library
7111 Talbert Avenue
Huntington Beach, CA 92648-1232
Phone (714) 842-4481

DTSC Regional Records Office
5796 Corporate Drive
Cypress, CA 90630
Phone: (714) 484-5300
(by appointment only)

CONTACT INFORMATION: If you have any questions or concerns, please contact:

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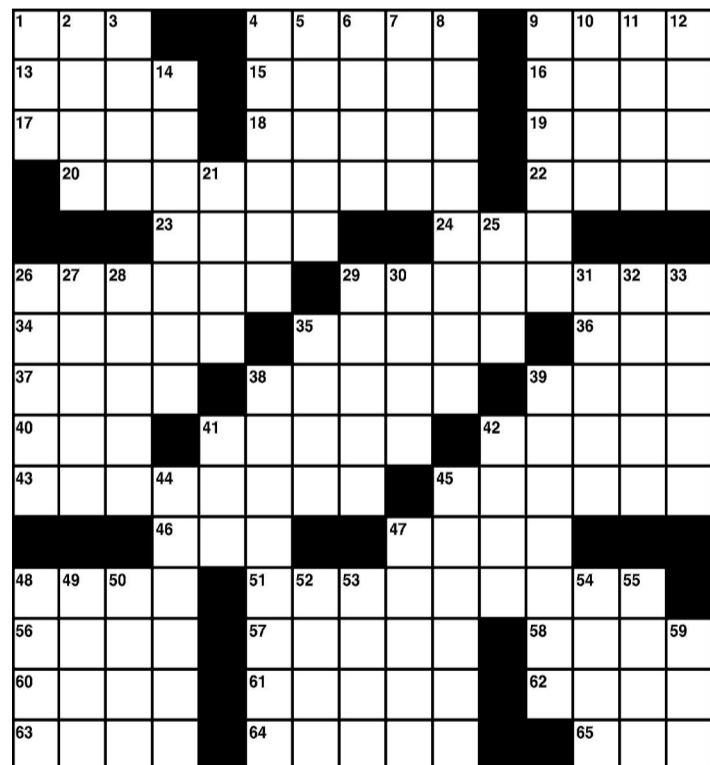
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THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS

- 1 "Be Home for Christmas"
- 4 Juice flavor
- 9 Sound of thunder
- 13 Close to
- 15 Glowing surface
- 16 Graceful dance
- 17 Prince Louis' mum
- 18 Most terrible
- 19 Up in _; furious
- 20 Very poor
- 22 Take a nap
- 23 Bull, in Spain
- 24 Dustcloth
- 26 Angry scolding
- 29 Very ancient
- 34 Come _; happen
- 35 Health club offering
- 36 Actress MacGraw
- 37 Hockey score
- 38 Hauling into court
- 39 Use a letter opener
- 40 Ames & Sullivan
- 41 Chicago team
- 42 Girl who cries "Uncle"
- 43 Considers again
- 45 Actress Jodie
- 46 Diminish
- 47 Lahr or Parks
- 48 World's most populous island
- 51 Aim of mediation
- 56 UTEP or MIT



For answers to the crossword, see page A2.

- 57 Mountain hiker's path
- 58 Sudden attack
- 60 Fully cooked
- 61 Door hanger's piece
- 62 Farm building
- 63 Small bills
- 64 Lawn tool
- 65 Actor Bruce

- 10 Attract; draw
- 11 Poor box offering
- 12 One of three tenses
- 14 Relaxing; soothing
- 21 Sing the praises of
- 25 "I _ Man of Constant Sorrow"
- 26 Chomping at the bit
- 27 Home
- 28 Cut of pork
- 29 Buckets
- 30 Hightails it
- 31 Key holder
- 32 Linda Lavin sitcom
- 33 About a quart
- 35 Pout
- 38 Try to get a tan
- 39 Zsa Zsa & Eva,

- e.g.
- 41 Baby's accessory
- 42 Accepted standard
- 44 Flings with force
- 45 Insect's antenna
- 47 Pantyhose shade
- 48 One of the martial arts
- 49 Shortly
- 50 Grape bearer
- 52 Metal plate; grating
- 53 Pealed
- 54 Tack
- 55 Flooring piece
- 59 Unknown John

Tribune Media Services

Hearing impaired individuals may use the California Relay Service at 711 or 800-735-2929 TTY/VCO/HCO to voice.

Additional information on DTSC sites can be found through our EnviroStor. (rev. 5-2020)