

Daily Pilot

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AILEEN DELAPORTILLA, left, receives a tip from customer Ron Mancillas at Zack's Beach Concessions in Huntington Beach on Sept. 21.

Restaurant workers face smaller tips, mask resistance as Huntington Beach struggles with slump from COVID-19

BY STEPHANIE LAI

Aileen Delaportilla shook the tip jar after half a day's work at Zack's Beach Concessions in Huntington Beach. The clatter of loose change echoed from the nearly empty jar labeled "Tips For College."

There was nothing more than a spare dollar and some change to split between the 21-year-old from Westminster and the cook.

Before the pandemic, Delaportilla could make at least \$15 in tips after splitting with four other employees, but recently she was scraping by with \$6 split between herself and one other worker. Shifts used to be staffed by four workers at a time, but the business had cut down to two employees per shift.

The stream of tourists that used to fill this Orange County beach city slowed down, and what was often left were locals who didn't always want to follow California's guidelines on protecting against COVID-19 — by wearing masks, for example.

"We missed out on our peak business season because of the pandemic," Delaportilla said. "There are a lot of locals still, but usually they're the crowd that doesn't want to wear masks or believe in the pandemic."

Across downtown Huntington Beach, busi-



WAITRESS JESSICA TURNER

brings meals to customers at Michele's Sugar Shack Cafe in Huntington Beach. Turner says this is the worst summer season she has seen.

Photos by Allen J. Schaben
Los Angeles Times

ness owners and workers have reported substantial declines in tips amid a decline in tourism during the summer and early fall months.

With much of their customer base gone, businesses have had to rely more on local residents. As out-of-state tourism declined, a growing number of restless Southern California residents from Los Angeles and the Inland Empire visited as local officials pushed to re-

open Orange County beaches and businesses while other counties remained closed. Still, business owners say that didn't make up for the overall decline.

The pandemic unleashed a new slew of problems for these service workers who rely on work to pay their bills. Working, and working harder, to make up for fewer employees

See *Workers*, page A4

Street takeovers turn deadly

BY SARA CARDINE

Two incidents involving a mass vehicle takeover of streets in Anaheim and Costa Mesa early Thursday are being investigated in connection to a fatal crash and a hit-and-run collision that led to the hospitalization of a teenager, according to police.

Sgt. Jacob Gallacher with the Anaheim Police Department said the station received a call at around 1:30 a.m. regarding an injury accident and a downed pedestrian off the 400 block of Euclid Street, in the parking lot of the Anaheim Plaza.

"The first officers there noticed there were about 200 cars in the parking lot. A car club had assembled in the parking area," Gallacher said, describing the victim as an 18-year-old female from Newport Beach.

"There was a vehicle that was doing some 'doughnuts' and ended up clipping her — she ended up going down and was unconscious by the time officers got there," he continued.

According to police, the driver involved in the incident identified himself to a witness and then left the scene. Officers said they located the man — Preston James Shea, 19, of Anaheim — about two hours later in a residential part of town.

The suspect was arrested on suspicion of felony hit-and-run, felony reckless driving causing bodily injury and assault with a deadly weapon, non-firearm and was being held Thursday morning at the Anaheim Police Station in anticipation of a transfer to the Orange County Jail. Shea was being held on \$50,000 bail, according to a police news release.

Videos taken during the incident, capturing the hit-and-run, were said to be circulating on social media and have been seen by police. Gallacher said the victim was taken to a nearby hospital, where she was treated for her injuries and was in stable condition Thursday morning.

The police activity in the area caused the cars assembled at Anaheim Plaza to disperse, according to Gallacher. It is believed the incident may be tied to another

See *Street*, page A2

C.M. may face uphill battle in appealing housing allocations

BY SARA CARDINE

Following the lead of other Orange County cities, Costa Mesa City Council members decided Tuesday to appeal a state housing allocation that calls for the city to plan and zone for an additional 11,733 residential units between 2021 and 2029.

The city will have until Monday to submit a letter

to the Southern California Assn. of Governments (SCAG) outlining its arguments against the city's sixth-cycle Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) allocation, which further requires 4,702 of the proposed units be made available to low- or very low-income tenants.

Costa Mesa is not the first city to appeal the housing requirement —

the Newport Beach and Laguna Beach city councils took similar measures last week, and Huntington Beach city officials on Monday opted to do the same.

"I'm not against housing, but I do believe the allocation is, as a practical matter, unrealistic," Costa Mesa Mayor Pro Tem John

See *Housing*, page A2

H.B. City Council votes 7-0 to appeal housing allocations

BY MATT SZABO

The Huntington Beach City Council unanimously voted to appeal the city's Regional Housing Needs Assessment numbers in a closed session on Monday night.

City Atty. Michael Gates said that a motion was made by Councilwoman Jill Hardy and seconded by Mayor Lyn Semeta. The

motion passed 7-0.

Huntington Beach has until Monday to appeal its RHNA allotment for the sixth cycle, which runs from October 2021 through October 2029. The current draft numbers state that Huntington Beach would have to zone for 13,337 residential units during the cycle.

The appeals process is expected to be finished by next February. Many Or-

ange County cities, like Newport Beach, are expected to appeal their allocated number of units, set by the Southern California Assn. of Governments, as too high.

State housing officials announced in August 2019 that Southern California would have to plan for 1.3 million new homes dur-

See *Appeal*, page A2

Hoag hospital begins first phase of clinical trial for COVID-19 vaccine



Courtesy of Hoag Memorial

DR. PHILIP ROBINSON, left, observes as clinical research nurse Laura Heim administers a dose of hAd5-COVID-19 in a clinical trial to Chen Cao.

BY LILLY NGUYEN

There are two reasons Chen Cao decided she would participate in a clinical trial for a potential vaccine for COVID-19: the first being that she was healthy and qualified. The second being, "I'm really sick of COVID right now."

Cao, 25, was the first patient on Wednesday to be dosed in the first phase of a clinical trial testing hAd5-COVID-19, a vaccine candidate developed in a collaboration between NantKwest, Inc. and ImmunityBio, whose chairman and chief executive officer, Dr. Patrick Soon-Shiong, owns the Los Angeles Times, the Daily Pilot and other newspapers in Southern California.

But, Cao joked she wishes she was the seventh patient dosed.

"They have a number for every patient. I'm 001. I was thinking about getting 007," Cao said, laughing. "That's much cooler."

Hoag Memorial Hospital is the first test site in the U.S. of this particular potential vaccine, which Dr. Philip Robinson, the medical director of infection protection and hospital epidemiology, said contains two proteins from the virus that causes COVID-19. "The first protein is the outer spike protein. That causes the immune system to develop antibodies, which is good. But, we don't know how effective they are or how long lived they are," Robinson said.

"We don't know at this point how long the immunity lasts just by training the immune system to make antibodies in response to

the outer spike protein," he added. "Then, there is a protein called a nucleocapsid. There's a lot more of it than the spike protein."

"This vaccine is designed to use that nucleocapsid to train the other side of the immune system," Robinson said.

"The other side is the cell-mediated immune response," he added. "That appears to be much more longer lived or provides protection for a much longer time than the antibodies may."

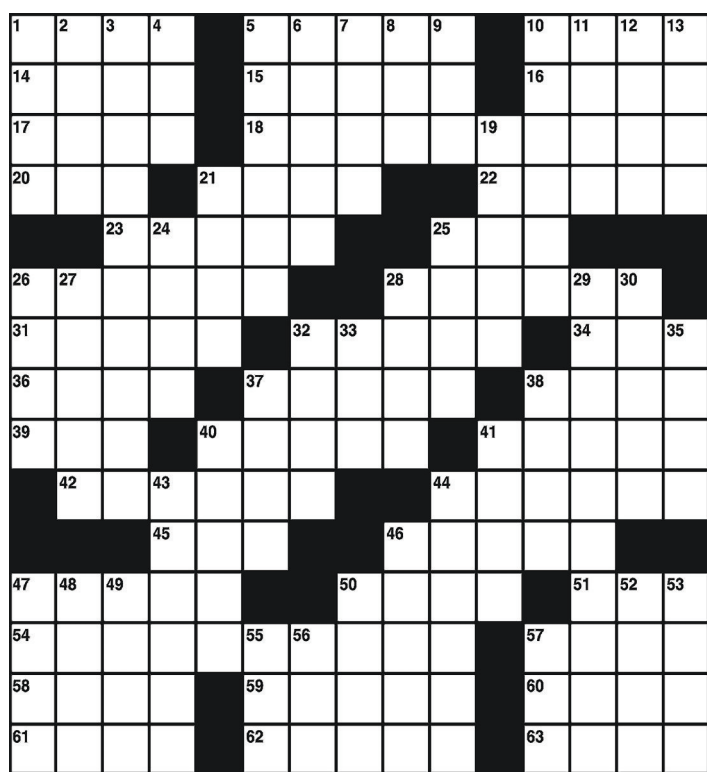
Robinson said data show patients infected with a strain of severe acute respiratory syndrome, SARS, in 2003 still have immunity to the respiratory illness almost 17 years later provided by the cell-

See *Hoag*, page A3

THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Mathews

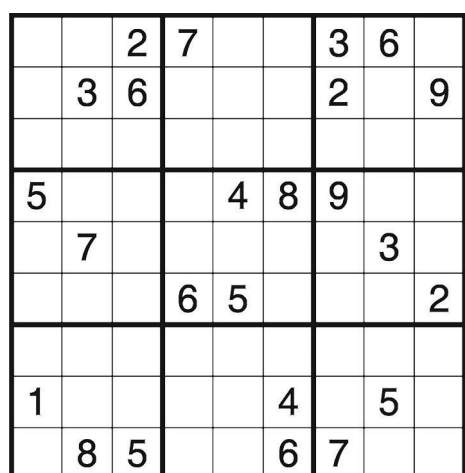
- ACROSS**
 1 _ Tyler Moore
 5 Verb in mouthwash directions
 10 Go no further
 14 Words of understanding
 15 Leg bone
 16 Wearing nothing
 17 Can tops
 18 Blows the budget
 20 Spanish article
 21 Show off your muscles
 22 Smallest amount
 23 Leg joints
 25 Golfing term
 26 Votes into office
 28 Felon's penalty
 31 TV's "Kate & _"
 32 Long mournful cry
 34 Feathery scarf
 36 Long-running Broadway musical
 37 "Yours _"; letter closing
 38 Radar screen image
 39 Kaiser or Cigna, for short
 40 Long-legged bird
 41 U.S. state capital
 42 "O Canada," for one
 44 Alps and Rockies
 45 Go quickly
 46 Reed or Summer
 47 Take as the rightful owner
 50 Incite; provoke
 51 Freight weight
 54 Ghastly
 57 " _ of the above"; test answer choice
 58 Kindergarten basics
 59 Helpful push from below
 60 Make tea
 61 Pillar
 62 Mountains in Chile
 63 Closed 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.



For answers to the crossword and Sudoku puzzles, see page A4.

- DOWN**
 1 "Down by the Old Stream"
 2 Armenia's continent
 3 Freddie the Freeloader's portrayer
 4 Postive reply
 5 Shoulder wraps
 6 Women with wedding rings
 7 Mountain goat
 8 _ Sean Connery
 9 "London _ Fallen"; 2016 film
 10 Contemptuous looks
 11 Albacore or bluefin

- 12 Chances
 13 Nuisance
 19 Unadorned
 21 Celebration
 24 TV series for Mark Harmon
 25 Pastor's advice
 26 Apiece
 27 Camel's smaller cousin
 28 Krak-w native
 29 Not optional
 30 Racket
 32 Tiny weight
 33 Gallop
 35 Imitates
 37 Ash or aspen
 38 City in Germany
 40 Grandfather clock feature
 41 Musical ensemble
 43 Craving for water
 44 Cuts of beef
 46 Throw water on
 47 Fellow
 48 Mexican wolf
 49 Curved lines
 50 Well-behaved
 52 Cash register drawer stack
 53 Mr. Gingrich
 55 Org. for Kings & Wizards
 56 Put on, as clothing
 57 CBS rival

Tribune Media Services

STREET

Continued from page A2

Sergio Marroquin Jr. Fyad said the driver of the vehicle — 22-year-old Los Angeles resident Mynor Augusto Esquivelvalle, reportedly a cousin of Marroquin's — remained on scene to talk to investigators and was later arrested and booked on suspicion of murder.

The other passenger was taken to a nearby hospital with non-life-threatening injuries, while one female and two male spectators at the scene were arrested on suspicion of aiding and



POLICE RESPOND to the site of a rollover crash in Costa Mesa early Thursday.

Don Leach

abetting in connection to the incident, Costa Mesa police later reported.

Any witnesses to the incidents or anyone who may have captured video footage at either scene is encouraged to call the

Costa Mesa Police Department at (714) 754-5264. To report street racing or street takeovers in Costa Mesa, call (714) 754-5252.

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HOAG

Continued from page A1

mediated immune response, not by antibodies. "We're hopeful, in stimulating and training both sides of the immune system, that this vaccine will provide long-lasting immunity against this virus," Robinson said.

The clinical trial will

track 35 participants as part of the first phase but will begin with just 10 patients.

Once all 10 participants are dosed, the data will be passed to an independent data safety monitoring board to evaluate the safety of patients before all 35 participants can be included in the first phase, said Dr. Deborah Fridman, director of clinical research

at Hoag. "A phase one clinical trial is all about safety," Robinson said.

"These patients that are receiving the vaccine are monitored very closely. For the first part of their monitoring, it's constant. They're going to be journaling any symptoms that they have and reporting back to us if they develop any symptoms that concerns them," Robinson said.

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"We'll be seeing them initially every week as part of our safety monitoring. At the third week, they come back for their second injection," he added. Recruitment for the clinical trial began last week, and posters were placed in medical group centers for patients to review as well as on social media. Researchers were seeking nonsmokers between 18 and 55. Participants were taken on as they called, Fridman said.

"We didn't want to hand-pick," she added.

Cao said she found out through WeChat. "I figured, 'Why not?' My family is overseas in Shanghai and were supposed to attend my graduation this year in July, but because of COVID, all the plans had to be canceled," Cao said. "I haven't seen them in two years. I can't imagine how other people feel about losing their families during

See **Hoag**, page A4

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Eye Research Foundation
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Newport Beach, CA 92663

To find out if you qualify, contact 949-650-1863 or info@drwirta.com

