

Daily Pilot

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2020 /// Now including Coastline Pilot and Huntington Beach Independent /// dailypilot.com



Kevin Chang | Staff Photographer

NEWPORT BEACH residents Nita Livingston, 69, left, and Nancy Buck, 75, have been sewing masks and putting them on a line in their front yard for anyone to take since the coronavirus pandemic began. Since they put out the clothesline, Buck said more than 1,100 masks have been given away.

Need a mask? Two Newport retirees have you covered

BY MATT SZABO

The small clothesline sits in front of the house on Azure Avenue in Newport Beach.

It contains a handful of masks, differing in colors and patterns.

No, there is no catch. Yes, they are all free for passersby to take, whether they're on their bicycles headed to the Back Bay or just walking the dog in the Bayview Heights neighborhood.

Nancy Buck, 75, and Nita Livingston, 69, share the house. Retirement has brought the two women, who each have artistic backgrounds, an opportunity to sew masks together during the novel coronavirus pandemic. Since they put out the clothesline in March, Buck said more than 1,100 masks have been given away.

"Nancy has always said, 'Work is love made evident,'" Livingston said. "I think that's very true. If you're just idle, you don't have any satisfaction."

Buck, a longtime Newport Beach post office employee who also worked for 10 years in the Irvine Unified School District, said she already had a surplus of fabric before the pandemic. So she started making the masks with Livingston, a retired teacher in the Capistrano Unified School District.

The masks are made of double-layered cotton. On Wednesday morning, Bridgette Cobb passed by on her bicycle, stopping to meet the women and take a mask.

"I think it's wonderful," said Cobb, who lives on the Balboa Peninsula. "It's a wonderful act of generosity. The world needs more people like that."

The mask-making process is simple enough. "I work at one end of the table and Nita works at the other," Buck said. "We've kind of got an assembly line. She's better at some parts of it,

"It's so rewarding to make a connection with people. I think it's kind of a win-win. We're both artists, and we love being creative. It's a way for us to express our creativity and help other people."

— Nancy Buck

See *Masks*, page A4

Arson arrest made after fire at Costa Mesa police station

BY SARA CARDINE

The Costa Mesa Police Department temporarily closed its front lobby Wednesday morning, after a local man allegedly attempted to start a fire near the police station's front doors, officials reported.

At approximately 1 a.m., a man placed traffic cones near the doorway and lit them on fire, police said. It is unknown how long the fire burned, but in a release issued Wednesday police officials said a nearby citizen saw the incident and rushed to help.

"A good Samaritan, who was driving by, used a fire extinguisher to put out the fire," the release stated. "The Police Department's fire alarm was triggered and alerted CMPD's watch commander."

Shortly after the incident, officers located the suspect — 32-year-old Claudio Benjamin Vicente of Costa Mesa — on nearby Newport Boulevard and arrested him for arson.

The front lobby of the Costa Mesa station was temporarily closed Wednesday morning and blocked off to visitors with yellow caution tape. Police spokeswoman Roxi Fyad confirmed in a message that by 10 a.m. the lobby had been reopened.

"A crew is still cleaning up but doors are open," Fyad said, adding that the cones used to start the fire had been placed in front of the station to limit visitors



A MAN allegedly attempted to set a fire outside the Costa Mesa police station at 1 a.m. Wednesday.

Kevin Chang
Staff
Photographer

and ensure social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic.

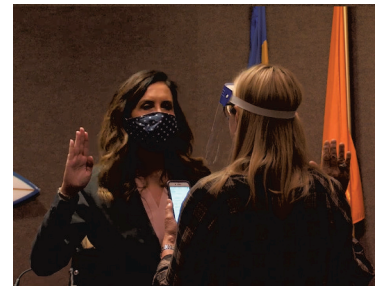
Crime scene investigators processed the scene, and the incident is under investigation. By 10:45 a.m. Wednesday, officers attempting to identify the man

who extinguished the blaze had located the individual and thanked him on social media but would not release his name.

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See *Delay*, page A4

ALSO FROM THE DAILY PILOT:



Screenshot by Matt Szabo

KIM CARR SWORN IN AS HUNTINGTON BEACH'S MAYOR PRO TEM PAGE A2

Child prostitution charges filed against Newport CEO, Huntington Beach woman

BY LILLY NGUYEN

A 59-year-old Newport Beach man was charged by the Orange County district attorney's office with engaging in the prostitution of two teenage girls, and charges were also filed against the 22-year-old Huntington Beach woman that brought the children to him for sex.

Ian Charles Schenkel — the CEO of Ontario-based Haliburton International Foods — faces six felony counts associated with unlawful sexual intercourse with a minor and two misdemeanor charges for soliciting prostitution of a minor. If convicted on all counts, Schenkel faces a maximum sentence of eight years in state prison and almost two years in county jail.

Amanda Emilia Perez, 22, was charged with six felony counts as related to the facilitation of the prostitution of minors. If convicted on all counts, Perez faces a maximum sentence of 14 years and eight months in state prison.

Both were arrested last week and released on bonds of \$100,000 and \$70,000, respectively.

"The exploitation of children for sex acts shocks the public conscience," Orange County District Atty. Todd Spitzer said. "It is reprehensible and it is unlawful. We will prosecute this case to the fullest extent of the law and we will work to ensure the judicial system protects

See *Child*, page A2

First 5 Orange County analysis reveals a severe shortage of childcare options

BY SARA CARDINE

Many of Orange County's working families face extraordinary difficulties securing childcare, particularly for infants and toddlers, as few licensed spots exist and waiting lists for full-day care options grow longer by the day.

Meanwhile, parents who do manage to find full-time licensed care pay an average of about \$15,650 annually for one child and more than \$26,000 for two — the latter of which constitutes approximately 26% of their average household income.

Those and other concerning statistics were recently uncovered in an analysis directed by First 5 Orange County's Children and Families Commission, which

See *Childcare*, page A4



John Gibbins | The San Diego Union-Tribune

AN ANALYSIS directed by First 5 Orange County found massive shortages in childcare options, especially for children under age 2, and a growing need among working parents for affordable care.

NMUSD trustees to discuss delay in reopening

Keeping secondary schools under distance learning through Dec. 17 will be the topic at a special meeting Thursday.

BY SARA CARDINE

With thousands of secondary students poised to return to Costa Mesa and Newport Beach public schools next week, Newport-Mesa Unified School District officials have called a special meeting to discuss delaying reopening campuses until spring semester.

Board members will meet Thursday at 2 p.m. to discuss whether to keep students in seventh through 12th grades operating under a distance learning model through Dec. 17.

The news comes days before the district had planned to return students to class Monday under a hybrid schedule that would divide learners into smaller cohorts spread throughout the week.

Elementary school and special education students returned to campuses in a limited capacity last week.

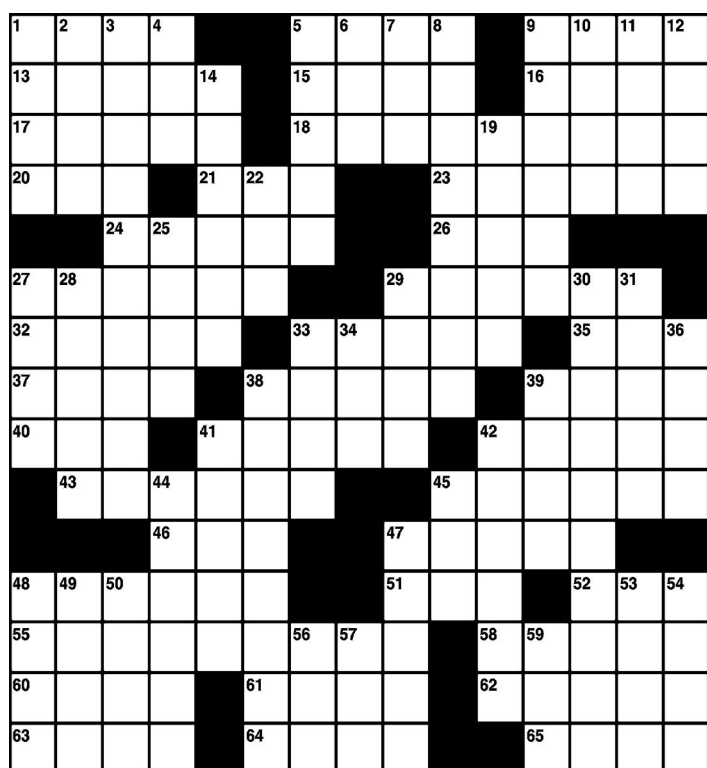
"With the input from all secondary site principals and the need to further assess the support structures for student learning and instruction while in-person and at home via distance learning within the Level 2 Hybrid model, a delay in the secondary school start date is necessary," stated a summary in the special meeting agenda.

NMUSD is negotiating with two employee unions — the Newport-Mesa Federation of Teachers and California School Employee Assn. — over working conditions related to the hybrid model but hasn't yet reached an agreement with either.

"The district continues to negotiate and meet regularly with employee associations ... on the transition to reopening schools," spokeswoman Annette Franco

THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Mathews



- ACROSS**
 1 Icy pellets
 5 Potato salad ingredients
 9 Velvety
 13 "Ripley's Believe it _!"
 15 Shipshape
 16 Not at all ruddy
 17 Happen
 18 Devoted
 20 Sorority letter
 21 Dined
 23 Shingles symptoms
 24 Desert roamer
 26 Curved edge
 27 Vast treeless tract
 29 Close of day
 32 Fishing worm alternatives
 33 Juice flavor
 35 Last letters
 37 _ annual basis; yearly
 38 Murders
 39 Party dessert
 40 Teacher's favorite
 41 _ like; appears to be
 42 Shoestrings
 43 Election year event
 45 Most immaculate
 46 Groove
 47 Less coarse
 48 Move down a computer screen
 51 School subj.
 52 Word of disgust
 55 Sicilian volcano
 58 Steer clear of
 60 Leave out
 61 Very funny person
 62 Stringed instrument
 63 DNA carrier
 64 Sutures
 65 Short note
- DOWN**
 1 Earring style

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

For answers to the crossword and Sudoku puzzles, see page A3.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2 Prefix for angel or bishop | 8 Places for a cowboy's boots |
| 3 Burn up | 9 Muscle contractions |
| 4 Baseball's Gehrig | 10 Sworn statement |
| 5 Finalized | 11 Scamper away |
| 6 "Wow!" | 12 Turner & Danson |
| 7 Word attached to about or fly | |

- 14 Hoboes
 19 Actor Sir Michael _
 22 Edison's initials
 25 Ajar
 27 Feed the pigs
 28 _ out; quit listening to
 29 Simon _; classic kids' game
 30 Make worse
 31 Toddlers
 33 Delight
 34 Male animal
 36 Gusto
 38 Homesteaders
 39 Concern
 41 _ Ste. Marie; MI's oldest city
 42 Quick forward thrusts
 44 "Jane Eyre" author Charlotte
 45 Brooch
 47 Daring acts
 48 Urban haze
 49 "_ in"; words of welcome
 50 Destroy
 53 West or Sandler
 54 Sandwich type
 56 Even score
 57 "Immediately!"
 59 Energy

Tribune Media Services

Carr sworn in as H.B.'s mayor pro tem

BY MATT SZABO

Huntington Beach City Councilwoman Kim Carr was sworn in as the city's mayor pro tem during Monday night's City Council meeting.

Jill Hardy, who was serving as mayor pro tem, voluntarily offered the position to Carr for the remainder of 2020, saying it would lead to a smoother transition when Carr becomes mayor next year.

"In 2002, Ralph Bauer was mayor pro tem and he was terming out," Hardy said. "He offered for the next council member in line to be mayor to become mayor pro tem toward the end of the year, so that she, Connie Boardman, could be in the mayor pro tem seat and kind of practice what's going on."

"I was mayor pro tem in 2010, when I was terming out, so I offered that same deal to the next person in line, but that offer wasn't taken up. Here I am again, termed out mayor pro tem, and I would like to follow Ralph Bauer's example and offer mayor pro tem to the next mayor in line, which would be Kim Carr."

Hardy said it would be appropriate for Carr to sit on the city's Economic Development Committee for the rest of the year. That subcommittee consists of the mayor pro tem, Mayor



Kim Carr

Lyn Semeta and the immediate past mayor, Councilman Erik Peterson.

Carr is Huntington Beach's presumptive mayor in 2021, as she is the only one of the hold-over City Council members — a list scheduled to also include Peterson, Mike Posey and Barbara Delgleize — who has not been mayor during her current term. Delgleize served as mayor in 2017 and Posey in 2018.

In Huntington Beach, mayor is not an elected position but instead one that rotates among the City Council members.

Carr was sworn in as mayor pro tem on Monday night following a 6-1 vote, with Peterson in opposition.

"I just don't see what three meetings is going to do," Peterson said.

CITY COUNCIL DECIDES AGAINST STANCE ON STATE PROPOSITIONS

The City Council voted 5-2 against temporarily setting aside part of a 1976 resolution that stopped the council from taking a stand on statewide ballot propositions.

The agenda item had proposed setting aside

Resolution 4344 so the City Council could take a formal stance of opposing Proposition 15 and supporting Proposition 22, each of which are on the California state ballot this fall.

This came at the recommendation of the city's Intergovernmental Relations Committee on Sept. 16.

Semeta and Peterson voted for setting aside the resolution, but Carr, Hardy, Posey, Delgleize and Patrick Brenden were in opposition.

"[Intergovernmental Relations Committee] is for legislative positions, not ballot initiatives," Posey said. "Ballot initiatives are decided by the voters. It's not up to us as City Council body to advocate for a position that the voters will choose ... The [1976] City Council got it right with the resolution."

BICYCLE REPAIR AND SALES OUTLAWED ON PUBLIC PROPERTY

Also Monday, the City Council unanimously approved an ordinance that prohibits the repair and sales of bicycles and bicycle parts on public property in the city.

A similar ordinance was adopted by Long Beach in 2018, with the goal of eliminating bicycle "chop shops."

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CHILD

Continued from page A1

these vulnerable victims."

Schenkel was scheduled to appear in court on Nov. 12, but court records Wednesday said that the arraignment was canceled.

Court records do not currently indicate when Perez will be arraigned.

Prosecutors said investigators began looking at Schenkel in October 2019 when a man reported that his daughter had inappro-

priate sexual contact with Schenkel.

The girl, identified by prosecutors as the first Jane Doe, told police that Perez would take her to meet men who would pay to have sex with her. Prosecutors said that Perez would then take a cut.

Perez is also alleged to have brought a second teenage girl to Schenkel, who paid to have sex with the child. Prosecutors said that Perez also took a cut of that money.

Authorities are asking

for anyone with information to identify potential other victims to reach out to the Newport Beach Police Department at (949) 644-3790.

Haliburton International Foods directed calls inquiring about Schenkel to the voicemail of Matthew Taggart, the vice president. As of Wednesday afternoon, Schenkel was not listed on the company website.

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Study Site:
Eye Research Foundation
520 Superior Ave, Suite 235
Newport Beach, CA 92663

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

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