

Daily Pilot & Times OC

SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 2023 /// Serving the coastal cities of Orange County and beyond /// dailypilot.com



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

MATILDE DE SANTIAGO walks among coast sunflowers at the Bommer Canyon Nature Garden, part of Irvine's Open Space Preserve. The garden has been restored by native plantings after serving more than a century as a cattle camp on the Irvine Ranch, beginning in the 1800s.

Bommer Canyon garden tells story of Irvine's ranching past

BY SARA CARDINE

Visitors to Irvine's Bommer Canyon Preserve may have hiked or bicycled along its low-rolling hills, accessible by a complex series of trails that lead all the way out to the coast.

They may have admired the space's centuries-old oak trees or sat in the shade of a sycamore grove. They have even likely read plaques memorializing the spot as part of an open space preserve recognized as a natural landmark by state and federal law-

makers.

But even regular users of the park may have missed a new addition to the property — a small interpretive nature garden, where the land has been restored by native plantings after serving more than a century as a cattle camp on the Irvine Ranch.

Reachable on foot by taking the Bommer Meadow Trail to the Nature Loop Trail, and by car on Wilderness Access Days on the third Saturday of each month, the Bommer Canyon Nature Park takes visitors on a journey through the history of the area, its

ranching past and rich biodiversity.

During a recent visit, Matilde De Santiago, a project coordinator with the nonprofit Irvine Ranch Conservancy, explained how staff and volunteers replanted the area as part of the group's mission to manage the land on behalf of the city of Irvine.

"This used to be an area of cattle ranching, but now it's an area of restoration," De Santiago explained. "The area is transforming back to what it originally was. The di-

See *Garden*, page A2

Needs center at UCI has a new home

Campus' FRESH Basic Needs Hub focused on food insecurity but has been rebranded to reflect a larger purpose.

BY LILLY NGUYEN

When UC Irvine's FRESH Basic Needs Hub opened in 2017, Andrea Mora was the only full-time employee manning the 1,800-square-foot trailer located in the parking lot of the coming Mesa Court residence expansion.

"At the time, it was just me and 10 part-time student staff," Mora said. "That's all I had. Now, if I'm including the two social workers and a financial aid counselor, there is 11 full-time staff, and we have around 50-plus student assistants in addition to being a site host for the California Volunteers College Corps. We've grown significantly, right? Going from one full-time employee to 11, you can just imagine."

It's not just the size of the staff that's grown at the center, Mora said, but its overall scope, which merited rebranding the FRESH Basic Needs Hub to the UCI Basic Needs Center, made official with the "reopening" of its new permanent location Tuesday.

At the time of its opening, the FRESH Basic Needs Hub focused on providing food, toiletries and other goods to students struggling with food inequity as part of the UC Global Food Initiative,

See *Center*, page A7

Community helps longtime Five Crowns restaurant ambassador

BY SARAH MOSQUEDA

As the longtime ambassador of Five Crowns in Corona del Mar, Tommy Martin spent over 50 years taking care of guests at the landmark steakhouse restaurant. Now, after a recent Alzheimer's diagnosis, Martin is being cared for by his community.

A GoFundMe page has been set up to assist with the cost of his long-term care by former Five Crowns' employees Kelly Kallal, Dennis Brask and Margo Brask.

"Tommy Martin is truly the prime example of a good co-worker," said Ryan Wilson, chief executive officer of Lawry's Restaurants, Inc., whose grand-

father hired Martin at Five Crowns back in 1968. Martin began as a bartender before becoming wine captain and then guest ambassador. Martin was born in Liverpool, England, and before making his way to Corona del Mar worked as a steward on the

See *Helps*, page A7



TOMMY MARTIN chats about his longtime friendship with cartooning legend Chuck Jones, shown standing with Martin in an old photo.

Don Leach
Staff
Photographer

Huntington Beach travel agent always up for the next Bucket List adventure



Andrew Turner

CINDY LEE walks by the Sugar Shack Cafe in downtown Huntington Beach on Monday. Lee, a local travel agent, has started a National Bucket List Day, set for April 24. Lee believes in having different bucket lists.

BY MATT SZABO

Cindy Lee likes to spread her passions among different buckets. Well, bucket lists, to be exact.

Lee runs a Huntington Beach-based company, Surf City Aloha Marketing. And she is one of the people in the city who embodies what locals call the aloha spirit.

Her gift is connecting people and small businesses, which often involves paying it forward in some way through her gifts business.

Earlier this month, on April 4, it was National Hug a Newsperson Day. She sent gift bags to local radio and television stations with gummy bears.

See *Adventure*, page A3

ALSO FROM THE DAILY PILOT:



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

CHICAS TACOS BUILDS A BETTER (AND UNCONVENTIONAL) TACO PAGE A6

ENCORE: SUMMER CONCERTS AND SUNSET CINEMA RETURN TO OC PARKS PAGE A8

SOKA
MUSIC & FOOD
FESTIVAL

Neil Frances

Gaby Moreno

gourmet food trucks
beer & wine garden
kids zone
art galleries
student performances

Sat | May 6 | 11A – 6P
FREE Admission*
LIVE.SOKA.EDU

Aliso Viejo, CA

*\$10 parking. Please carpool.
Food & drink priced separately.

26-year veteran of Costa Mesa Police Department is now second in command

BY ERIC LICAS

Joyce LaPointe was a sergeant with the Costa Mesa Police Department about eight years ago when she heard a call on her radio about a baby being born at an Arco station near Harbor Boulevard and Gisler Avenue. She was just down the street, making her the closest emergency responder.

The newborn's father frantically hopped out of their car when the officer pulled up and said "my wife is giving birth, please help!" she told the Daily Pilot during an interview Thursday. They kept a line open with paramedics who guided the officer as she reclined the mother's seat and helped her prop her legs onto their dashboard. Together, they did what they could to stall for more help to arrive.

"I could tell that [the father] was a little bit nervous, as he should be," LaPointe said. "I was like 'OK, Dad, here's what we gotta do,' and he kinda turned pale ... so I'm like, 'OK, I guess this is gonna be all me.'"

The baby was midway through birth when an ambulance arrived. Paramedics took over for LaPointe, and the mother successfully delivered her child.

Today, Katelyn is a healthy, intelligent middle-schooler. She and the officer get together each year on her birthday to have lunch at the In & Out in the same lot where she was born.

"There's a lot of times in our job when we have to deal with sadness, a death or just something that's not the best day for somebody," LaPointe said. "So, to have the opportunity to be there on someone's most favorite day ... is amazing. It's just so neat to be a part of their family."

LaPointe said building connections with the people she serves is what she has loved most about being a police officer in Costa Mesa for the past 26 years. During that time she has worked DUI patrols, learned how to fly a helicopter and supported many rookie officers during the early parts of their careers.

Over time, her focus on the needs of her community and demonstrated ability to act calmly and decisively in challenging situations helped her rise through the ranks.

She became CMPD's first female lieutenant in 2017 and then a captain in 2020. And during an informal badge-pinning ceremony with Chief Ron Lawrence on Sunday, April 9, she was promoted to deputy chief, making her the department's second in command.

But she never actually planned on becoming a cop. Growing up in Sunnyvale, just west of San Jose, she had been inspired by Nancy Heath, her high

school volleyball and basketball coach, and Nancy's husband, Brian, to become an athletic trainer. They were graduates of Southern California College, now known as Vanguard University, which is where LaPointe decided to pursue her education in the '80s. The campus is located next door to Costa Mesa's City Hall and police station. "She was tough, man," she said of her former coach. "People were yelling and screaming at me while I'm doing push-ups in the [police] academy, and she prepared me for that really early on. How I got to Costa Mesa is because of those two."

LaPointe graduated in 1991 and went on to serve as athletic director at Costa Mesa High School for several years. She had planned on going back to college for a graduate degree and wanted to become a physical therapist. But she happened to build connections with the police department while working at the school, and it wasn't long before those friends started trying to pique her interest in joining them.

"After a few ride-alongs, I realized that being a police officer wasn't just being law enforcement; it was building relationships with the community," LaPointe said. "It was being a counselor, a mentor, being that person on someone's really bad day, making it just a little bit better. You can't be the fixer of all, but you're there to keep them calm."

"The next thing you know I'm running around the police academy, doing push-ups and getting yelled at," she added with a chuckle.

Her time at CMPD hasn't been without its challenges. LaPointe was the jail sergeant after the recession hit around 2008, when the department made the decision to let go of her staff and hire an outside company to cut down on costs. To ensure a successful transition, she had to ask the team she had grown close with to "help, basically, train their replacements," she said.

"There were a lot of times when there was some crying in my office, myself included," she said. "Because it's not easy to have a career and have it changed in a different direction. There were a lot of conversations with all of the employees on the why."

LaPointe said her outgoing staff managed to put the good of their community ahead of their personal feelings and made sure the people stepping in for them were as well prepared for their task as they could be. She said she's proud of how they responded during such a difficult time.

"I think it's all in the manner and the message, and how you do it and how you say it, and how you're there for them and still there for today," LaPointe

said. "And it's fantastic now, because as the deputy chief I get to rehire a lot of these people because we're back to hiring for our own jail again. So I've been able to see the full cycle."

Another one of her early priorities as the department's recently promoted second in command is to fill vacancies in their upper ranks. She hopes to see more officers rank up and gain the kind of experience she did to ensure that CMPD continues to have strong leaders at the helm well after her tenure has ended.

eric.lucas@latimes.com
Twitter: @EricLicas



Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

COSTA MESA Police Capt. Joyce LaPointe is getting promoted to deputy chief. She became CMPD's first female lieutenant in 2017 and then a captain in 2020.

UCI Health

Choosing UCI Health for cancer care gave us mom back.

There's no greater feeling than knowing you've chosen the best place to help you beat cancer. At UCI Health, we treat more patients with cancer and more complex cases than any other hospital in the region. And with **world-class comprehensive cancer care** within your reach, the words "cancer-free" are even closer.



Visit ucihealth.org/cancer or call 714-500-7891 to schedule a next-day consultation.

Models used for illustrative purposes.

GARDEN

Continued from page A1

versity of plant life and wildlife make it really special."

Many of the plants visitors can see at the site were placed there by IRC volunteers and members of Irvine's High School Youth Action Team, using seeds and clippings from nearby native plant nurseries maintained by the conservancy.

A bulk of the work was done last year. Today, California sagebrush, coast sunflower and purple needlegrass, encouraged by recent rains, thrive in a horticultural tableau that resembles the landscapes once occupied by indigenous people before Spanish settlers arrived with agricultural intentions.

"The Tongva were the first people who lived here. But then the Spanish came in and introduced cattle to the region, turning the land into ranches," De Santiago said.

Signs placed throughout the garden tell the history of Bommer Canyon, a 15-acre portion of the Irvine Ranch used as a camp where cattle were branded, dis-

infected and inoculated against diseases in the late 1800s and where vestiges of equipment and infrastructure remain to this day.

The placards also provide a broader context for the surrounding land, describing how Uto-Aztecan speaking people migrated to the region 1,500 years earlier, progenitors of indigenous tribes that lived off the wildlands long before Mexican land grants allowed Spanish ranchers to farm in 1837. That use would continue into the early 1990s.

They tell how James Irvine, the city's namesake and founder of the Irvine Co., purchased a large part of Rancho San Joaquin, as it was then called, in 1864. That land remained in the family for more than a century, and while much of it was later developed, a portion was donated to the city of Irvine and, in 1988, designated by a ballot initiative to remain part of a nature preserve.

While much of the land use is protected under a Natural Community Conservation Plan and cannot be built upon, the nature garden is one spot where the remnants of the ranch days have



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

MATILDE DE SANTIAGO from the Irvine Ranch Conservancy stands Wednesday by one of several interpretive signs at the revitalized Bommer Canyon Nature Garden.

been allowed to remain. "For a long time we didn't have any signs out here, we were just telling visitors what this is," De Santiago said of the rusty pens and degrading wooden infrastructure of the cattle operations. "Some people knew what it was, but there was no story.

Now we've given it a context and it just adds to the intrigue of the area."

Irvine Ranch Conservancy spokesman Scott Graves explained that as parks and trails systems were created and maintained, the old Cattle Camp area and its relics remained largely

untouched, until some in the conservancy began crafting a plan to revitalize the space and use it as a teaching garden.

"The Bommer Canyon Nature Garden is a unique opportunity to showcase the natural history of Orange County to visitors because it's easily accessible and it's a nice pleasant area to walk around," Graves said. "It would be more difficult to tell that story on other trail systems because they're linear, more spread out and have a more intensive terrain."

He likened the space to an exhibit that might be found in a natural history museum, with one small exception.

"It's outdoors, and so you have a living example of plant life. It's not static — it's alive out there," he said. "It's a reminder these are natural systems and they need protection and stewardship."

For more information on the Bommer Canyon Preserve, including locations and hours, visit cityofirvine.org/parks-facilities/bommer-canyon-preserve.

sara.cardine@latimes.com
Twitter: @SaraCardine

Special needs babies get an assist in Laguna Beach



Photos by Don Leach | Staff Photographer

JO MARTIN leads volunteers at the early intervention program in Laguna Beach. The program tackles developmental disabilities in children through their first year of life.

BY ANDREW TURNER

More than anything, a family expecting a child hopes for a clean bill of health.

For families who have received an unexpected diagnosis for their newborns, the early intervention program through the Assistance League in Laguna Beach has been a beacon of hope.

The program tackles developmental disabilities in children through their first year of life. Once a week, therapists guide families through a series of stations designed to help children learn fine, gross and sensory motor skills. Additional stations focus on cognitive and social-emotional development, as well as how to eat.

Lise Busby, an occupational therapist who has worked with the program

for eight years, shared some of the activities the babies take part in. The basics in fine motor skills include looking at how the infants grasp things with their hands, she said.

It is an environment without expectation, except the assurance that the children will reach developmental milestones at their own pace.

"They're all kind of on their own little path," Busby said. "Some children may excel in the gross motor, but their fine motor will be behind, and then they'll change. They all kind of focus on different things, one at a time, so we do notice a big difference. We reassure parents and we give them hope that they're all going to do it. It's just they're going to do it on their own time and on their own schedule."

When participating children reach certain milestones, a graduation — complete with cap and gown — is held for the little achievers.

Hazel Phillips, who resides in Orange, began bringing her son, Scott, to the early intervention program when he was just 8 weeks old. He had suffered a stroke that led to a brain bleed 30 hours into his young life.

A different therapist works at each station, said Phillips, who added that Scott is currently learning how to roll from his back to his front. Babies are paired with others that are similar in terms of the milestones they have met.

"They don't see age, they don't see diagnosis, they just sort of look at where they're at in life and then you're able to kind of work on the same thing," Phillips said. "Not only do they give you individualized treatment when we're there, they also give you homework, and they give emotional support to the parents to keep them motivated and encourage them to continue to really advocate for our children with regional centers and with any doctors that we might need."

"They're just like a huge resource for us, and I think that ultimately they've allowed me to thrive, which allows Scott to thrive."

Around since 1976, the early intervention program has connected families facing a new reality of having a child with special needs to others going through similar circumstances, as well as alumni of the program. That has fostered a feeling of community for those who might have otherwise felt they had to go through

the journey alone.

Costa Mesa resident Karina Ortiz has been bringing Bradley, who she said turns 1 on Monday, to the Wednesday sessions for eight months. She added that her family "fits right in at EIP." Bradley, who was diagnosed with Down syndrome at birth, is on track to graduate in June.

Ortiz admitted to some separation anxiety in going into the separate support group sessions, but there are also volunteers who rock the babies to sleep during the latter half of the visits. Lullabies played in the background as the babies rested following an active morning.

"I think that children, in general, they get super connected," Ortiz said. "For me, it's important, if my child is OK to stay with somebody else, I feel like they trust that person. ... To detach from my child to go into parent discussion, I was like, 'Oh, no. I don't know about this,' but it's the best thing that I did because I actually got to know a lot of parents and their stories and how EIP has helped them."

"It truly has helped me open up that grieving stage that I have been suppressing, so it's helped me grow and just to really accept who we are as a family and our child and his needs."

Pam Alexander, the early intervention program director, said that families get connected to their services via word of mouth, as well as through referrals from the Regional Center of Orange County and the Down Syndrome Assn. of Orange County.

In the past, the program would have a waiting list. Alexander said enrollment has not returned to pre-coronavirus pandemic levels. There were about a dozen babies on site this week.

"I think we have 16 on our roster right now, and I used to run between 20 and 25, so there's still room for availability," Alexander said.

As for the program's partnership with the Assistance League, Alexander expressed gratitude and encouraged the community to support.

"Kudos to the Assistance League for their dedication to fund something like this, because it's really a unique partnership with the Intervention Center for Early Childhood, which is the therapeutic intervention side of it. The Assistance League, they do all of the volunteering, so it's a unique partnership."

andrew.turner@latimes.com
Twitter: @AndrewTurnerTCN



SUSAN SILVIA, a volunteer "holder," rocks an infant to sleep.

ADVENTURE

Continued from page A1

The food of choice wasn't an accident — April 27 is National Gummi Bear Day.

"I made a little label," Lee said. "It said, 'I hope Hug a Newperson Day is amazing. These are the next two days to remember, National Bucket List Day and Gummi Bear Day.' It's little things like that, just kind of stepping outside of the box ... I like sending gifts, and I thought I needed to find a tool that's going to give me different ideas to send gifts."

Lee, 57, is very in tune with the National Day Calendar. But recently she had an idea for a day that wasn't yet listed.

She started National Bucket List Day, which will be celebrated each year on April 24. The day was awarded by National Day Calendar last August, then Lee registered it in December and started promoting it in January.

Lee believes in having



Andrew Turner

A FORMER chef, Lee said her love for paying it forward started out of her admiration of the late Princess Diana.

different bucket lists — you can have a movie bucket list, a career bucket list, a book bucket list. It isn't just for travel, she said, though she is a travel agent, too, and maintains her Bucket List Coach Travel Blog.

Formerly a chef for about 25 years, Lee said her love for paying it forward started out of her admiration of the late Princess Diana, who was known for her charity work. As a teenager, she sent her a letter and got a letter back from Bucking-

ham Palace with the official crest.

"I like to call or text five to 10 people a day," she said. "I say, 'Hi this is Cindy, I just wanted to say hello. It's not business-related, it's just about you. Tell me the best thing that happened today.' And that might be the best thing that happens, me making that phone call."

After moving to Southern California in 2017, the Garden Grove resident got involved in various local

groups, including the Surfrider Foundation.

North Orange County Surfrider Foundation education coordinator KC Fockler said that Lee's efforts at two different Surf City Splash events, as well as a charity golf tournament last year put on by Total Western Inc. at the Huntington Club, have netted the nonprofit about \$20,000. Lee helped provide gift cards and prizes for each event.

"She has names and numbers, and she doesn't forget a face," Fockler said. "She's great in that respect. Our chapter is lucky to have her do things. I know we're going to have some things coming up here this summer. Our new chapter executive team, all we have to do is ask her, 'Hey Cindy, we have this event coming up, can you find some people?' She'll be able to do that lickety-split."

Lee, who also hosts a travel podcast that is on hiatus while she writes a book this year, is a connector. In recent years she's made

friends with Rocky McKinnon, who provides local surf and Stand Up Paddleboard (SUP) lessons.

She met McKinnon at Surf City Splash in 2018, she said. He helped her overcome something on her own fear bucket list, and got her out on the water.

"The biggest thing is to overcome your fears," Lee said. "I still have a fear of the ocean, but when you have someone out there that you trust, it makes a big difference."

McKinnon said he appreciates Lee's positive message to live every day to the fullest.

"It's just that friendly reminder, with each passing day, you never know when our demise is," he said. "I know it's kind of dark to say that, but it's true. You just don't know. It's good to get out there and be a part of living."

The city of Huntington Beach held a celebration last month, attended by Mayor Pro Tem Gracey Van Der Mark and Chamber of Commerce representatives,

honoring National Bucket List Day. Lee is in Las Vegas this weekend for a National Bucket List Day Proclamation weekend.

On the day itself, she said she will be on a cruise to Cabo San Lucas with some friends to celebrate. It won't just be about her — she said activities on the week-long cruise include giving back to an orphanage in Puerto Vallarta, and she will be sure to celebrate Global Pay It Forward Day on April 28.

"She's good at connecting people together and trying to encourage others to connect in the city," said Kim Turcotte, owner of HB Mermaids. "I've introduced her to a couple of friends of mine, including my girlfriend, Melissa Murals. And she's very interested in being a mermaid, that I do know."

"I think that's on her bucket list. It's something that she should probably make happen."

matthew.szabo@latimes.com
Twitter: @mjszabo

forum

MAILBAG



Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

NONOPERATIONAL OIL wells stand in the parking lot of the Huntington Beach Civic Center.

Huntington Beach residents deserve better

I read with interest the commentary by Erik Skindrud ("Huntington Beach's insular reputation has a progressive throughline," Daily Pilot, April 8) and his take on Surf City's cultural and political makeup. I don't disagree with much of it. I also read and responded to a commentary last month by columnist Patrice Apodaca ("Huntington Beach faces changes whether it embraces them or not," Daily Pilot, March 26). I didn't disagree with it either. However, despite their background and

proximity, neither Erik Skindrud nor Patrice Apodaca currently live in the city of Huntington Beach. I do. This year will mark my 40th of residency here. I have been involved in H.B. civic affairs for over 20 years and have served on two city boards and numerous local citizen groups. I remember the transformation from a somewhat seedy downtown area to a modern and thriving community that redevelopment brought in the 1980s. Not transformed downtown was

the intolerant culture that Apodaca called a magnet for neo-Nazis. Remember all of the fights and protests downtown in the 1990s? From 30 years ago until today, we still draw right-wing rabble-rousers, many from the Inland Empire, who flock to our pier area to cause disturbances and make MAGA mischief. They don't come for the weather but to exploit a pernicious political climate. With the election of a right-wing slate of candidates who now control our City Council, it is getting worse.

The almost halcyon days of progressive city government I remember from 20 years ago have darkened considerably with the storm of intolerance and incivility now threatening our coastal community. The examples of authoritarianism exhibited by the council majority are too obvious and prevalent to ignore. The banning of the Pride flag from city property, the high-jacking of the council meeting invocation, messing with the makeup

See **Mailbag**, page A5

A WORD, PLEASE
JUNE CASAGRANDE

Did AI generate a post listing Lou Reed's best songs?

Recently, author Neil Gaiman posted on Mastodon a link to a blog titled "The 20 Best Lou Reed Songs of All Time" with this comment: "the first time I've read an article that I could swear was generated by AI. Whenever it actually describes the lyrical content of a song it's either slightly wrong, very wrong, or so generalized as to be possibly talking about any possible song."

I don't know much about music, but I know a little about writing, so I was curious whether the form was as revealing as the substance.

It was. Here are the first two sentences about song No. 10: "How Do You Think It Feels" is a track from Lou Reed's 1973 album "Berlin." The song is a haunting ballad that explores themes of heartbreak, loneliness and despair.

Now song No. 11: "Disco Mystic" is a track from Lou Reed's 1979 album "The Bells." The song is a funky, upbeat track that features a driving bassline and infectious rhythm.

No. 12: "Ennui" is a track from Lou Reed's 1974 album "Sally Can't Dance." The



song is a laid-back, jazzy track that features a smooth saxophone solo and Reed's trademark deadpan vocals. No. 13: "Kicks" is a track from Lou Reed's 1976 album "Coney Island Baby." The song is a fast-paced, guitar-driven track that showcases Reed's trademark snarling vocals.

I don't know whether this unbylined blog was written by a computer or by a cat walking on a keyboard. But a human writer seems unlikely. In all my years of editing writers good and bad, I've never seen anyone use identical sentence structures on repeat.

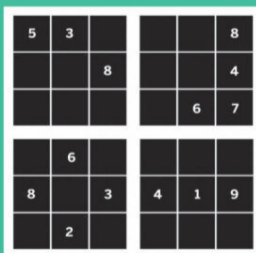
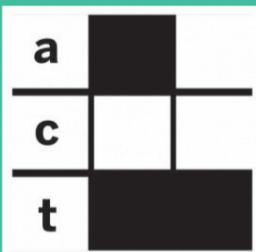
For every entry, the first sentence had as its subject either the song title, the words "the song" or a synonym, all followed by "is" then another synonym for "song," often "track." Then they repeat Lou Reed's full name, followed by a year, followed by an album title.

At their heart, all 20 first sentences say, "The song is a song."

Often, the next sentence said the same thing. For example, the second sentence in No. 11 was: "The song is a funky, upbeat track," aka "song."

See **Word**, page A5

Think inside the boxes.



Play for **FREE** at latimes.com/games

Find all your favorite games like crosswords and Sudoku, plus a variety of new arcade games like Jewels Blitz and Cookie Crush. Available as single-player or multi-player with our new play-with-friends feature.



THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

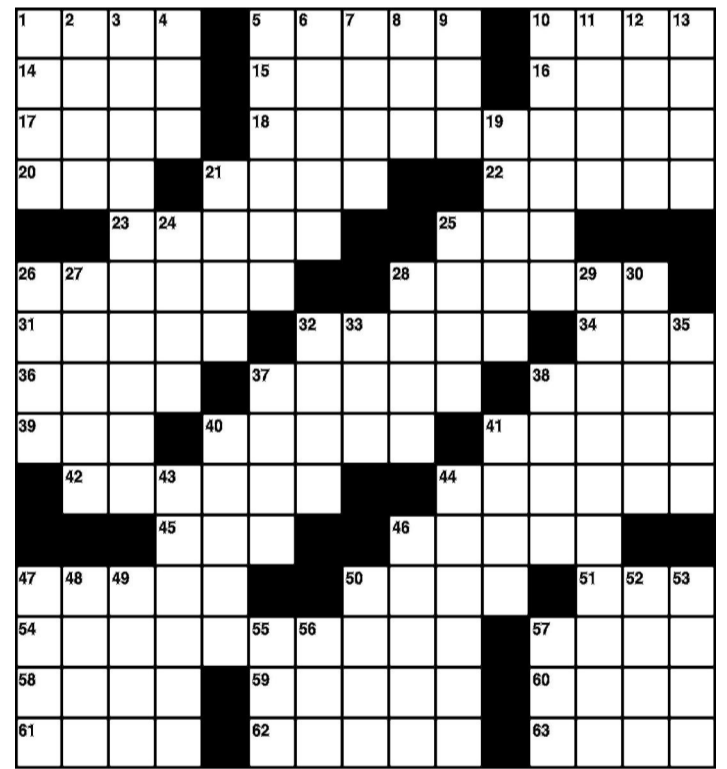
By Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS

- 1 Blue-green shade
- 5 Personnel
- 10 Use a dagger
- 14 Uncommon
- 15 _ up; amassed
- 16 Bee colony
- 17 Performs
- 18 Coldly objective
- 20 Sorority letter
- 21 Change for a five
- 22 Lovers' meeting
- 23 Like old jeans
- 25 Incision
- 26 Water source
- 28 Group within a group
- 31 Worrier's woe
- 32 Boscs & Bartletts
- 34 Last letters
- 36 Motel employee
- 37 Picture cards
- 38 Phony
- 39 "Put _ Happy Face"
- 40 Parakeet's lunch
- 41 Moral flaws
- 42 Thrilled
- 44 Least clothed
- 45 Hair goo
- 46 At a future time
- 47 Island greeting
- 50 Coffee holders
- 51 Flying mammal
- 54 Throwing the book at
- 57 _ ' War; famed racehorse
- 58 Polishes off
- 59 Slight coloring
- 60 _-bitty
- 61 Espy
- 62 Miles per hour
- 63 Pegs in the turf

DOWN

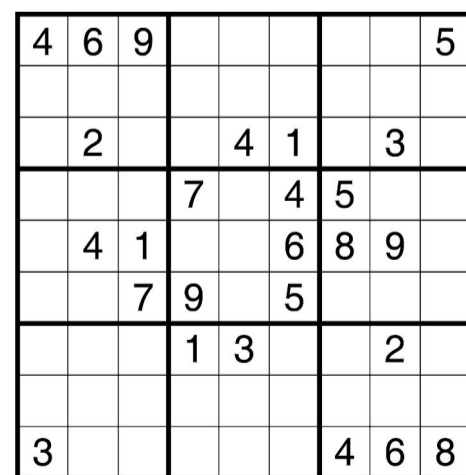
- 1 Ensnare



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 A7.

- 2 "To _ his own"
- 3 Synthetic
- 4 French article
- 5 Piano style
- 6 Two-_; was disloyal
- 7 Scenic range
- 8 Charge
- 9 Presidential monogram
- 10 Underwear
- 11 Wee
- 12 Gardner & others
- 13 Clothing accessory
- 19 Ticket ends
- 21 Aroma
- 24 Like fine wine
- 25 Mongrels

- 26 Japanese wrestling form
- 27 JFK arrival
- 28 Loses firmness
- 29 Make worse
- 30 Tots
- 32 "The _ Piper of Hamelin"
- 33 Conclude
- 38 Energy
- 37 _ over; faint
- 38 Forest destroyer
- 40 Take illegally
- 41 Dyeing tubs
- 43 Horrified
- 44 Did grocery store work
- 46 Sudden forward rush
- 47 Primates
- 48 Forward bound
- 49 "_ bigger and better things!"
- 50 Selfish person's word
- 52 Opening bet
- 53 Playpen pile
- 55 "_ Now or Never"
- 56 _ up; fasten a parka
- 57 Cambridge inst.

Tribune Media Services

WORD

Continued from page A4

Not good. Main clauses are prime real estate in a sentence. You shouldn't squander them on self-evident statements like "the song is a song."

Some of the hollow statements in the blog post piled on extra redundancies: "The Bells" is the title track of Lou Reed's 1979 album of the same name.

You don't have to say the album has the same name as the title track, since that's what "title track" means.

Two sentences in the piece say a song was "released as a track" on an album. Another waste of readers' time.

Humans who write well don't do this. Instead, they avoid empty statements and they make their main clause interesting and their verb substantive.

Consider this sentence from Rolling Stone's 500 Greatest Songs of All Time: "The holy mother of all diss tracks, 'You're So Vain' contains one of the most enduring musical mysteries of all time."

It sounds like a human wrote it. And even when you set aside the strong, engaging voice, you can see that the structure of the sentence is strong, too. There's an introductory phrase — a great way to avoid monotonous subject-verb starts to every sentence — followed by a main clause built on a verb other



LOU REED from archival photography from "The Velvet Underground" on Apple TV+.

Lisa Law

title of the song or the words "the song." Notice the variation in sentence structure: Some sentences use introductory phrases before the main clause to stave off monotony. Notice the substance: The multiple Rolling Stone writers who contributed to this compilation all had interesting facts or observations to share.

Will AI programs ever master this human touch? Probably.

But whatever or whoever wrote this Lou Reed piece hasn't nailed it yet.

JUNE CASAGRANDE is the author of "The Joy of Syntax: A Simple Guide to All the Grammar You Know You Should Know." Reach her at JuneTCN@aol.com.

MAILBAG

Continued from page A4

of boards and commissions, the granny flat flap, the attempted zoning changes, the affordable housing fight with the state, the total disrespect shown for the mobile home community, the political sock puppet appointees to city boards, and many more indignities have come down in the few short months the current council majority has been in power. The chambers during City Council meetings are often burdened with bellicose behavior, and the fanboys (and fan-girls) of the city attorney have even embarrassed the mayor on occasion.

Despite denials from the council majority members and the city attorney that their actions are authoritarian or antidemocratic, many in the community share a poisonous perception that our worst days are in front of us. If we are hit with sanctions, penalties or other punishment from Sacramento, it will affect our entire citizenry and injure our city's reputation. Waving the rattlesnake Gadsden flag ("Don't Tread On Me") will not protect us. Firing up the

HOW TO GET PUBLISHED

Send an email to erik.haugli@latimes.com and include your full name, hometown and phone number (for verification purposes) with your submission. All letters should be kept to 350 words or less and address local issues and events. The Daily Pilot reserves the right to edit all accepted submissions for clarity, accuracy and length.

"grievance machine" will not solve our problems or address our needs.

We need constructive leadership, which may be antithetical to our current decision-makers.

Erik Skindrud and Patrice Apodaca may shake their heads at our dilemma. Mine is hanging in shame at our city's slide back into "the bad old days" of pugnacious partisanship, surrender to special interests and attitude of despair for our future. We deserve better.

Tim Geddes
Huntington Beach

Wishing Harley Rouda well

No matter if you are a Republican opponent or a Democratic friend, I'm sure everyone in the political arena wishes Harley Rouda a swift and complete recovery. I know I

than "is." Another first sentence in the Rolling Stone list: "Purple Haze" launched not one but two revolutions.

Another: "The Stones' experimental mid-Sixties period was partly driven by Brian Jones' restlessness.

certainly do.

Denny Freidenrich
Laguna Beach

Romero's driving advice is relevant

The article in the April 12 issue of the Daily Pilot reported the release of body-camera footage following concerns that Laguna Beach City Manager Shoreh Dupuis may have utilized her position to affect the outcome of being stopped and cited by a Laguna Beach police officer for speaking into her handheld cellphone while driving. The gist of the article was not so much about breaking the law by using a cellphone while driving but rather the public release of the video. Motorcycle Officer Matt Gregg, who stopped Dupuis, said to her, "We cannot be on the phone today." I'm reminded by

newscaster Danny Romero with Channel 7 news of his short, but necessary, verbal rhetoric of, "Buckle up that seat belt and put down that cellphone." Romero's safety quip is still being told by him after many years of reminding people that it's still against the law to drive while holding a cellphone. And the article in the Pilot, although not heavily concentrated on the actual breaking of the driving/cellphone law, was a reminder that this problem is still widespread, still dangerous and still deadly even though it appears not to be overly talked about or covered as it used to be in the media.

Romero's advice on putting our cellphone down while driving is very good advice and hopefully that message is getting through to some of us.

Bill Spitalnick
Newport Beach

Ukropina a good choice for CA-47

Coming from a family that has lived in Newport Beach for nearly 40 years, I have seen my fair share of people come and go, along with their words and actions.

In these last few years of

uncertainty revolving around COVID-19, a wave of political, economic and social issues has challenged every part of our lives. In times of crisis, we defer to our leaders to give us guidance and direction.

Sadly, the reality has been disappointing. Former President Trump is indicted on dozens of charges. Congressional trust is at an all-time low. Even once-trusted City Council leadership in established cities like San Francisco and Los Angeles faces impossible dilemmas regarding tax rates, social services, development plans and attracting investment. In times of crisis, nothing beats having people we can trust and rely upon.

Max Ukropina, who has announced his candidacy for the 47th district, is one person I know we can trust.

Whether it was Overnite Express, Indian Guides, Balboa Yacht Club, Youth in Government, or Corona del Mar High School Wrestling Team, Max Ukropina, and his family have always been helpful and honest, hard-working and humble as it gets. Undoubtedly, one of the reasons our city remains so resource-rich is because of

the funding and fundraising campaigns of him and his family.

Whether we were little kids playing, young adults getting through university or grown adults providing for ourselves and our families, Max Ukropina has always been an effective worker, leader, mediator and negotiator. Never once have I ever heard him complain, and always I have been able to come to him with my thoughts.

As we have seen in this last decade with the many unpleasant scandals of Varsity Blues, "Real Housewives" and numerous other scandals blown out of proportion, not everything that glitters in our town is true gold. Even in personal relationships, the test of time has seen where true loyalty lies, and others simply doing what is convenient.

In all of this, I can honestly say Max Ukropina is a person we can rely on, in both the good times and bad. Vision, competency and drive can be found in many people, but those with deep character and integrity are hard to find. Let us put our trust in Max Ukropina.

Joe Kunder
Beijing, China



FIRST REPUBLIC

CD SPECIALS

4.65%

APY¹

YOU CHOOSE:

5-MONTH OR 10-MONTH CD

For a limited time, earn a guaranteed interest rate with a CD (certificate of deposit). A \$10,000 minimum balance is required.

To get started, contact the Preferred Banking Office nearest you or scan the QR code to learn more.



firstrepublic.com/CD

Corona Del Mar

2800 East Coast Highway, (949) 721-0988

Newport Beach

3991 MacArthur Boulevard, (949) 756-8828

¹ Offer is subject to change without notice and applies for one term only. Annual percentage yield (APY) is effective as of publication date. Penalty will be imposed for early withdrawal. \$10,000 minimum balance required. Member FDIC and Equal Housing Lender

SAVE THIS COUPON SAVE THIS COUPON SAVE THIS COUPON



DENTAL2000 IMPLANT CENTER



HAVE YOU LOST YOUR TEETH BUT NOT YOUR APPETITE?

You CAN eat what you love again.






12 MONTHS FINANCING

HEALTHCARE FINANCING FOR YOUR PRICELESS SMILE.

SINGLE IMPLANT \$699*

INCLUDES IMPLANT, ABUTMENT AND CROWN

*Expires 4/30/23. Cannot be combined with insurance Fees. New Patients only. Excludes extraction, bonegraft, etc. Cannot be Combined with other coupons.

1 FREE PORCELAIN CROWN WITH IMPLANT SURGERY (MINIMUM \$3000 SPEND)

*Expires 4/30/23. Cannot be combined with insurance Fees. New Patients only. Cannot be combined with other coupons.

3 IMPLANTS FOR \$2,025

*Expires 4/30/23. Cannot be combined with insurance Fees. New Patients only. Excludes extraction, bonegraft, etc. Cannot be Combined with other coupons.

In House CT Scan Available

Call to book your FREE Consult Now!

866-998-7097

NOW SERVING YOU IN TWO LOCATIONS!

IRVINE:

39 Creek Road, Suite 210

LAGUNA NIGUEL:

30012 Crown Valley Pkwy, STE B

www.dental2000.com

SAVE THIS COUPON SAVE THIS COUPON SAVE THIS COUPON

Chicas Tacos builds a better (and unconventional) taco

BY SARAH MOSQUEDA

One item you might not expect to find on the menu at a place called Chicas Tacos is pizza.

“For Chicas it is an ode to what people were doing in maybe the '90s when it came to Mexican pizzas,” said Chicas Tacos chef consultant and partner Eduardo Ruiz.

The James Beard-nominated chef founded Chicas Tacos in 2016 with Chris Blanchard and BLVD Hospitality founders Jon Blanchard and Nicolo Rusconi.

“I came in as a consulting chef right after my restaurant, Corazon y Miel, closed,” said Ruiz. “I helped them see their vision through.”

That vision includes approachable food with authentic flavors, not necessarily presented in a traditional way.

The OG Pizza on Chicas' menu starts with two flour tortillas stuffed with a three-cheese blend, baked and topped with Choriman red chicken chorizo, queso fresco, house salsa, morita salsa, pickled jalapenos, cilantro and fresh limes.

A taco spot menu that includes Mexican pizza might seem unconventional, but Ruiz said he doesn't see it that way.

“What does authentic mean? It means staying true to your own journey,” said Ruiz, who sees Chicas as more of a representation of California than México. “Chicas is staying



Photos by Don Leach | Staff Photographer

EDUARDO RUIZ, a James Beard-nominated chef, holds the chipotle BBQ chicken pizza at his new fast casual restaurant, Chicas Tacos, which recently opened its second Orange County location at Rodeo 39 in Stanton. Ruiz founded Chicas Tacos in 2016.

authentic to who they are.”

Besides an unconventional menu, you will also find Chicas Taco in unconventional locations. The eatery has a brick-

and-mortar location in Culver City but also makes a home inside All Season Brewery, under the Firestone Tire sign at 8th and La Brea in Los Angeles. In Huntington Beach, you can find Chicas Tacos located within Local Kitchen Food Hall.

Chicas Tacos newest location at Rodeo 39 in Stanton is its first brick-and-mortar location in Orange County.

“Here at Rodeo 39 Public Market, we are not the only ones here, but we just want to be here to give more to the experience of coming here,” said Ruiz. “Chicas Tacos lends itself so well to spaces where people are trying and sampling and open-minded to something new.”

Of course, there are tacos on the menu. In fact, Chicas' tagline is “A better taco,” which Ruiz said comes down to three important components.

“The philosophy has always been the same,” said Ruiz. “In order to have a good taco, you have to have a good tortilla, a good filling and a good salsa. That has always been our approach to tacos.”

Chicas partners with La Princesita for hand-pressed corn tortillas.

“They were able to be very flexible on what we could create with them,” said Ruiz.

The corn tortillas La Princesita makes for Chicas are made with yellow corn, water and bit of lime.

“But what makes it really special is it is a little bit thicker than a normal tortilla. So it gives you the feeling of a hand-pressed tortilla, but it also has a lot of integrity,” Ruiz said.

The thickness allows Chicas to forego the two-tortilla stack usually found with street tacos and makes for a taco that travels better for to-go orders.

For flour tortillas, Chicas uses Mejorado tortillas made by a company Ruiz founded with Alberto Bañuelos, owner/operator of the acclaimed Burritos La Palma.

“We make tortillas for Chicas in burrito size and taco size,” Ruiz said.

The flour tortillas are also used for the pizzas.

When it comes to taco fillings, Chicas offers flavorful and creative options.

A beer-battered fish taco is served topped with a Caesar salad, garlic bread-crumbs and Parmesan cheese.

“People sometimes don't understand the fish taco because there is a Caesar salad on top of it, but I think now it is becoming more known that the Caesar salad is actually from Mexico,” Ruiz said.

The crunchy lettuce and savory Parmesan works well with the crispy fish and is a favorite from Chicas' original menu.

The steak taco is also popular with peppered Angus steak, crispy potato, morita salsa, shaved radish, scallion and cilantro.

“We wanted to make sure we called it a steak taco because we recognize that carne asada has to be cooked over mesquite,” Ruiz said.

The pork taco gets a little inspiration from Chinese American takeout, with glossy sweet-and-sour pork, served with crispy Brussels sprouts and pickled onions.

“To me, it just screams California,” Ruiz said.

Chicas offers a more pared-down menu of salsas than when they first opened, but Ruiz said the concentrated collection covers all bases.

“We have our house salsa, our green salsa and our habanero salsa,” said



THE GROUND steak taco is one of the many flavorful and creative options offered at Chicas Tacos.



THE THREE-CHEESE blend and grilled jalapeño nachos at the new Chicas Tacos in Rodeo 39 center in Stanton.

Ruiz. “So, you get an entry level that you can eat with chips all day. The green can add a little tartness to your taco and something that is really spicy with the habanero.”

There are also vegan-friendly options, like the jackfruit taco with avocado salsa and pico de gallo and plant-based queso.

“We are really proud of the plant-based queso,” said Ruiz. “We have gotten a lot of feedback from the plant-based community that it is delicious. But I am always happy when we get feedback from the non-plant-based community that it is really good.”

The menu also includes burritos, bowls, nachos,

ceviche and house-made agua frescas like hibiscus pineapple and coconut-cream horchata.

Chicas may have an unexpected menu, but the flavors are authentically Chicas, and Ruiz hopes diners will find them tasty too.

“A taco is really meant to nourish you, and it is an item for the people,” said Ruiz. “As long as you have the three components and you are putting forward a good taco, all you can hope is that people enjoy it the same way you enjoy it.”

sarah.mosqueda@latimes.com
Twitter: @SarahNMos

THE MARQUEE at Chicas Tacos in Rodeo 39 center in Stanton.

Daily Pilot

A Times Community News publication.

CONTACT US

Carol Cormaci
Executive Editor
carol.cormaci@latimes.com

Beth Raff
Advertising Manager
(424) 225-9928
beth.raff@latimes.com

10540 Talbert Ave.,
Suite 300 West,
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

Reporters:
Sara Cardine, Costa Mesa
sara.cardine@latimes.com
Lilly Nguyen, Newport Beach
lilly.nguyen@latimes.com
Matt Szabo, Huntington Beach and Sports
matthew.szabo@latimes.com

Andrew Turner, Laguna Beach and Sports
andrew.turner@latimes.com
Eric Licas, Public Safety
eric.licas@latimes.com
Sarah Mosqueda, TimesOC
sarah.mosqueda@latimes.com

Send Letters to the Editor to erik.haugli@latimes.com. See Mailbag for guidelines.

The Daily Pilot, established in 1907, is published Wednesday through Sunday by Times Community News, a division of the Los Angeles Times. Subscriptions are available only by subscribing to The Times, Orange County.

© 2023 Times Community News. All rights reserved.

Great home & auto rates for any budget.

Chip Stassel Ins Agcy Inc
Chip Stassel, Agent
Insurance Lic#: 0C08488
Bus: 949-723-4000
chip@chipstassel.com

Surprisingly great rates await when you have options like bundling your home and auto insurance. Call me for a quote today.

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®

Individual premiums and budgets will vary by customer. All applicants subject to State Farm® underwriting requirements. Availability and amount of discounts and savings vary by state.

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company
State Farm Indemnity Company
State Farm Fire and Casualty Company
State Farm General Insurance Company
Bloomington, IL
State Farm Florida Insurance Company
Winter Haven, FL
State Farm County Mutual Insurance Company
of Texas
State Farm Lloyds
Richardson, TX
2101551

MARKETPLACE

To place an ad, go to
<http://timescommunityadvertising.com/>

MERCHANDISE 800

Miscellaneous Merchandise

Vinyl Records Wanted
\$\$\$ Top cash paid.
4 all or part of collection.
Jazz, Classical, Psychedelic, Blues
949-933-6777 Mike

FIND
an apartment
through classified!





Photos by James Carbone

ANDREA MORA, the director of the Basic Needs Center, surrounded by UC Irvine Student Affairs staff, cuts the ribbon for the official opening of the center on Tuesday.

CENTER

Continued from page A1

which was launched in 2014 under the direction of former UC President Janet Napolitano. It's now expanded its scope to helping with housing insecurity and financial wellness, all while continuing to serve as a food pantry for students in need.

In what Mora calls the "peak pandemic years," the center also made efforts to help students who couldn't physically access the center with grocery cart assistance and transportation by way of Lyft gift cards or vouchers.

"We provided more programming on the financial wellness side. Students could learn how to create a budget and how to lessen their expenses. It's the education, giving people the preventive pieces so they have power over the little resources they may have. Along with all that evolution, the staff capacity, the number of resources — we were meeting needs that we weren't before," Mora said.

That naturally led to the rebrand. Mora said it was common for students to misunderstand the hub as only offering food resources. The new, simplified name lets those they



GUESTS BROWSE through the market at UCI's Basic Needs Center. The center has served 2,766 students this year.

serve know she and her staff are around to provide students their basic needs, she said.

Though the \$500,000 renovations took place between April and December last year, the official re-opening was put off until this month because, according to Mora, she wanted to finalize all the details of the space before celebrating. That said, she noted the center hasn't seen a break in its service in all that time as most of the furniture was moved at the start of the winter quarter.

So far this year, Mora said, the center has served 2,766 students with 20,000 visits overall. Last school year, the center saw 5,232 students making 16,257 vis-

its. "We are [now] in a more central campus location that's more accessible. We're across the street from a free shuttle stop. With the centrality of the location and being in a permanent building — it's a one stop shop," Mora said. "All the staff and services that we have, we're all centrally located in the same space."

"[It] is really important for us to not have students have to retell their stories or explain their needs to strangers again and again, but to just be able to be supported in one space as fast and effectively as possible," she said.

lilly.nguyen@latimes.com
Twitter: @lillibirds

HELPS

Continued from page A1

Queen of Bermuda, a cruise ship that traveled to the British island territories.

He was drawn to Five Crowns by the restaurant's red telephone booth and English country inn theme, but Wilson said his long career with the restaurant went deeper.

"I know that the British Heritage at Five Crowns was the initial draw. He always felt that connection," said Wilson, "but truly I think he came to find a real connection with his fellow co-workers and with the Corona del Mar community."

Martin was close with animator Chuck Jones and his family and often wore a Road Runner pin on his lapel as an homage to his friend and a reference to the nickname he earned on the tennis court and as an avid runner.

During his tenure at Five Crowns, it wasn't uncommon to see Martin sporting a Looney Tunes tie while greeting regular diners and newcomers with equal enthusiasm.

"I love it here and I feel very blessed for having this job," Martin told TimesOC in 2018, the year of his 50th anniversary with Five Crowns.

Five Crowns named one of its dining rooms after Martin that year, an honor that was only fitting for a



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

TOMMY MARTIN stands in one of the dining rooms in the Five Crowns restaurant in Newport Beach in 2018. Martin was celebrating 50 years with the restaurant at the time.

figure who, then 75, had become as much a part of the restaurant as the red telephone booth outside.

"People came to see Tommy, and he knew many, many generations of guests here at the Five Crowns," said Wilson.

Martin lived in his Corona del Mar apartment for 30 years, but in February he was moved into a memory care facility. The cost of his stay is close to \$9,000 a month, and his GoFundMe campaign has a goal of \$130,000, a number his campaigners say is "a shot in the dark," since it is unclear just how much money Martin will need.

The fund will go directly to Martin's care, and any excess will be donated in his name to the Alzheimer's Assn. At press time, \$24,066 had been raised.

During the month of April, Five Crowns is matching \$10 donations made by diners to Martin's GoFundMe campaign, and VIP members of the restaurant can earn a \$25 bonus reward with a donation. Details can be found at bit.ly/3MJnuw6.

The promotion is one Wilson hopes will serve Martin, who spent so much of his life serving others.

"Our company has been around for 100 years, and part of our longevity is our commitment to people and great co-workers and that starts from the top, all the way through," said Wilson. "Tommy has just been an example of hospitality, of kindness for over 50 years."

sarah.mosqueda@latimes.com
Twitter: @SarahNMos

CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS

T	E	A	L	S	T	A	F	F	S	T	A	B
R	A	R	E	P	I	L	E	D	S	H	I	V
A	C	T	S	I	M	P	E	R	S	O	N	A
P	H	I	O	N	E	S	T	R	I	E	S	T
F	A	D	E	D	C	U	T					
S	P	I	G	O	T	S	U	B	S	E	T	
U	L	C	E	R	P	E	A	R	S	X	Y	Z
M	A	I	D	K	I	N	G	S	F	A	K	E
O	N	A	S	E	E	D	S	V	I	C	E	S
E	L	A	T	E	D	B	A	R	E	S	T	
G	E	L	L	A	T	E	R					
A	L	O	H	A	M	U	G	S	B	A	T	
P	E	N	A	L	I	Z	I	N	G	M	A	N
E	A	T	S	T	I	N	G	E	I	T	T	Y
S	P	O	T	S	P	E	E	D	T	E	E	S

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

3 WAYS TO SAVE.
JOIN UNIFY FINANCIAL CREDIT UNION!

9-MONTH CERTIFICATE

5.00%^{APY}
(IRA Certificate option available)²

UnifyFCU.com/StashMoreCash

15-MONTH CERTIFICATE

5.00%^{APY}

UnifyFCU.com/Save15

HY CHECKING
Earn up to

4.00%^{APY}³

UnifyFCU.com/HY

Earn 4.00% APY³ on average daily balances of \$2,000 - \$15,000. Earn .05% APY on average daily balances from \$0-\$1,999.99 and over \$15,000.

UnifyFCU.com
877.254.9328



UNIFY
FINANCIAL CREDIT UNION

¹APY = Annual Percentage Yield. 9-month promotional rate effective April 4, 2023 and 15-month promotional rate effective January 4, 2023. Promotional Share Certificates must be funded with a minimum of \$500. Fees or withdrawals may reduce earnings on account and penalty may be imposed for early withdrawal. UNIFY membership required, which includes opening a membership share savings of at least \$5. Offer subject to change without notice and may end at any time. Share Certificates opened online have a maximum deposit of \$54,000. One additional deposit is permitted within the first 30 days of account opening, but deposit must be made in a branch or by mail. Opening a Share Certificate in online banking may not be available for some members. Call 877.254.9328 to get started.

²IRA = Individual Retirement Account. Substantial penalty for early withdrawal. Fees may reduce earnings on account. IRAs may have IRS-imposed contribution limits and tax implications, especially for premature distributions. Consult a tax advisor to determine what applies to your individual situation. Additional paperwork may be required to open the IRA certificate. Open at a branch or by phone.

³APY = Annual Percentage Yield. As of February 1, 2023, HY Checking earns 4.00% APY on average daily balances between \$2,000-\$15,000. Average daily balances between \$0-\$1,999.99 and over \$15,000 earn .05% APY. Minimum opening deposit is \$25. Dividends earned and ATM fees reimbursed each month you meet the following qualifications: have recurring direct deposit or conduct eDeposits of at least \$500 aggregate for the month and conduct at least eight (8) purchase transactions with your UNIFY debit card.

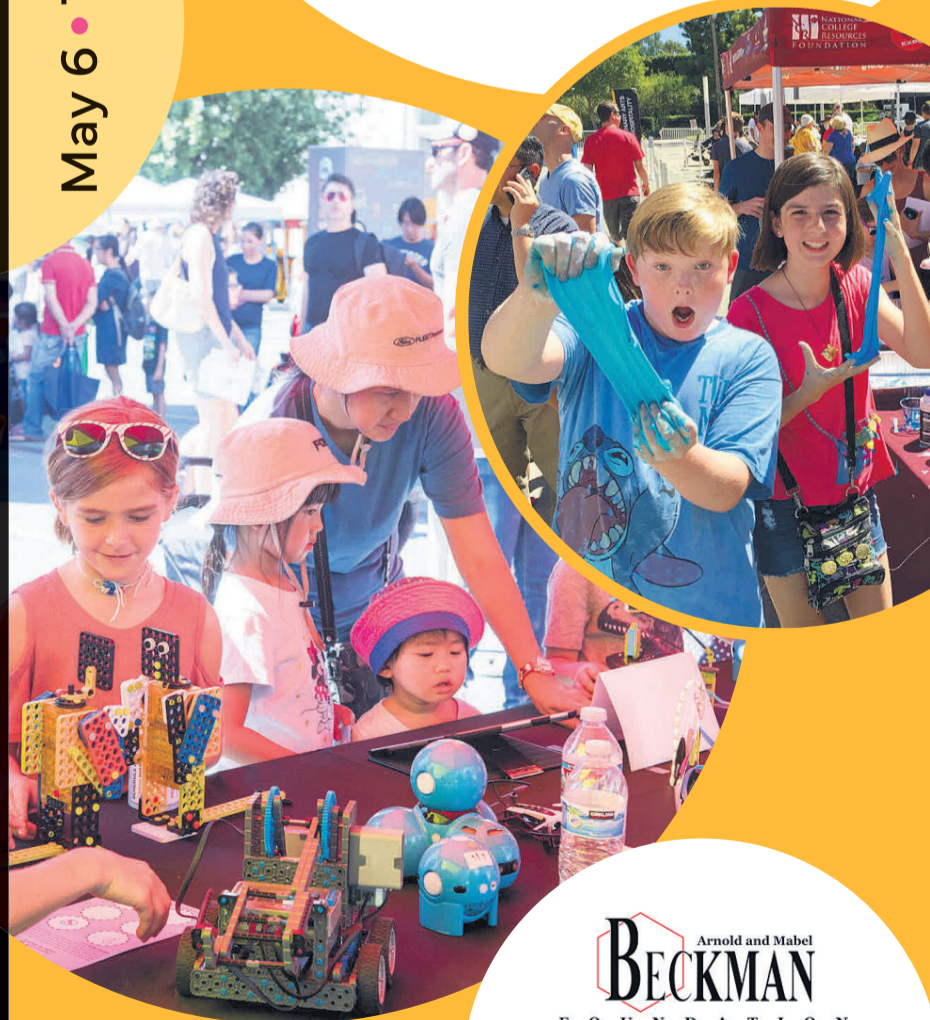
Insured by NCUA.

Segerstrom Center Presents

Beckman Arts & Science Family Festival

Join us for an exciting, FREE day of science and discovery! Explore the connections between science and the arts through fun, engaging activities, performances, and interactive exhibits along with festival food & fun!

May 6 • 11:30 am - 2:30 pm



Arnold and Mabel
BECKMAN
FOUNDATION



Seegerstrom
Center for the Arts®



KAISER PERMANENTE
OFFICIAL HEALTH CARE PROVIDER

scfta.org

O.C. summer concerts, movie series return

BY SARAH MOSQUEDA

Earlier this month, the county of Orange and OC Parks announced the return of a beloved summer tradition: the annual OC Parks Summer Concert Series and Sunset Cinema film series.

The partnership is “thrilled to bring another fun-filled summer of entertainment to the community,” said Donald P. Wagner, chairman of the Orange County Board of Supervisors.

The twin series offers free live music and movie screenings at regional parks throughout Orange County, in a family-friendly setting with free parking, food trucks and even a beer and wine garden for those 21 and over.

The summer concert series has 10 free outdoor concerts scheduled for Thursday evenings from 5 to 8 p.m. beginning June 22.

Music lovers can look forward to Paco Versailles, a collaboration between guitarist/composer Vahgni and songwriter/producer Ryan Merchant, on June 22 at Craig Regional Park in Fullerton. The schedule also includes performances from the Rembrandts on July 6 at Irvine Regional Park, No Duh, a No Doubt tribute on July 20 at Mason Regional Park in Irvine, and the English Beat on Aug. 3 at Mile Square Regional Park in Fountain Valley. Other scheduled artists include Ozomatli, Flash-Pants, the Aquabats! and Queen Nation. Flashback Heart Attack will close out the series on Aug. 24 at Bluff Park at Salt Creek Beach in Dana Point.

The Sunset Cinema film series has 14 free movie screenings planned for Friday nights beginning June 9. Film buffs can look



Courtesy of OC Parks

CONCERTGOERS at Mile Square Regional Park watch Sweet and Tender Hooligans perform in 2019. The OC Parks Summer Concert Series returns June 22.

forward to recent blockbusters and popular classics screening at sundown (approximately 8 p.m.) and are encouraged to arrive early for preshow entertainment that begins at 6 p.m.

The series will open with Marvel movie “Thor: Love and Thunder” on

June 9 at Craig Regional Park in Fullerton and continue with classic movies like “Ferris Bueller’s Day Off” on June 30 at Carbon Canyon Regional Park in Brea and “Clueless” on July 14 at Yorba Regional Park, and new favorites like “Top Gun: Maverick” on July 7, also at Yorba

Regional Park, and “Spider-Man: No Way Home” on Aug. 18 at Laguna Niguel Regional Park. Other screenings will include “A Bug’s Life,” “Lightyear,” “Nacho Libre,” “Mamma Mia!” and 1971’s “Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory.”

The two series, which

are summer nights traditions, are not only a chance to hear live music or watch a great film, but also an opportunity to explore Orange County’s many parks and get outside.

“Enjoying a free concert or movie in the beautiful parks across the county is

a wonderful way for visitors of all ages to celebrate the summer outdoors,” said Wagner.

A full schedule of events for both series can be found at ocparks.com.

sarah.mosqueda
@latimes.com
Twitter: @SarahNMos

Download the L.A. Times App

In addition to award-winning journalism, watch and listen to the L.A. Times videos and podcasts on our media tab, located at the bottom of the app screen. All the content you want, at your fingertips.

Download the L.A. Times app for mobile and tablet.



Reminder: if you’re currently a subscriber and have not activated your digital access, please visit latimes.com/activate. Once you activate, you will be able to use your username and password to log into the app and begin using your unlimited digital access.

