

# Daily Pilot

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2020 // Now including Coastline Pilot and Huntington Beach Independent // dailypilot.com



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

**LAGUNA BEACH** artist Robert Holton stands next to his "Superhero Changing Station" on Forest Avenue, where it has been altered to thank first responders, medical staff and all essential workers during the coronavirus pandemic. The rework of the installation was completed late last month.

## 'Superhero Changing Station' transforms to honor front-line 'heroes' of COVID-19

BY LILLY NGUYEN

Not all heroes wear capes on Forest Avenue — some of them can wear firefighting gear, police uniforms and scrubs.

Where local artist Robert Holton initially imagined the superheroes of his childhood, the red telephone booth in downtown La-

guna Beach has become a homage to the front-line workers responding to the coronavirus pandemic. Holton said in a recent interview that the idea came to him while he was working in his outdoor studio space, where he keeps a mock-up of the installation.

"I wear blue gloves when painting,"

Holton said. "I was looking ... and I thought, 'Oh, the blue gloves kind of represent doctors and first responders. I might be able to do something with that.'"

Holton said he "kicked [the idea] around a week or so" before reaching out to the city

See **Heroes**, page A3

## H.B. votes to expand outdoor dining

The City Council approves expanding options at restaurants, but tables an item in favor of reopening all businesses in the city.

BY MATT SZABO

The Huntington Beach City Council unanimously voted Monday night to direct staff to explore a plan that would expand outdoor dining in the city during the novel coronavirus pandemic.

An agenda item on labeling all businesses as essential and reopening them, however, was tabled before coming to a vote. That concluded the nearly five-hour meeting, which ended a few minutes after midnight.

Councilmen Mike Posey and Patrick Brenden introduced the item on expanding local restaurants and allowing for outdoor table service.

"My vision is that on private property, restaurants that are limited to a certain percentage of indoor capacity may not necessarily need the number of parking spaces they have outdoors," Posey said. "Those parking spaces can be utilized for outdoor restaurant service, and that combination would be fluid. As the number of patrons can increase on the

See **Outdoor**, page A3

## Special delivery lifts the spirits of women recovering from addiction

BY SARA CARDINE

Addiction does not abruptly end during a pandemic. In fact, the isolation, uncertainty and unemployment people may be experiencing could trigger depression and anxiety — two major drivers behind substance abuse.

While most of Orange County shelters in place, a small group of residents and clients at Costa Mesa's New Directions for Women have been receiving addiction treatment on site and haven't left the 4-acre campus for more than two months, says executive director Sue Bright.

"We've taken all the appropriate measures to ensure their safety and make sure everyone's

See **Delivery**, page A2



Don Leach | Staff Photographer

**CEO SUE BRIGHT**, right, and house chef Fatima Abuzaineh bring in prepackaged lunches donated by the Tavern House Kitchen + Bar to the New Directions for Women facility in Costa Mesa on Monday.



**A SURFER** carrying a surfboard crosses the almost empty beach to catch some waves in Huntington Beach on May 2.

Raul Roa  
Staff  
Photographer

## Judge rules against H.B. in lawsuit against state

BY MATT SZABO

An Orange County Superior Court judge on Friday denied a preliminary injunction sought by the city of Huntington Beach, after Gov. Gavin Newsom ordered all Orange County beaches closed April 30.

Huntington Beach filed suit against the state the next day after

a 5-2 vote by the City Council. Huntington Beach City Atty. Michael Gates argued that Newsom had overstepped his authority and closing the beaches was unconstitutional.

Since then, the beaches were reopened for active use on May 5, but Huntington Beach did not

See **Lawsuit**, page A4

## Supervisors eager to loosen lockdown on businesses

BY HILLARY DAVIS

The Orange County Board of Supervisors is itching to submit a plan to the state that will allow more local businesses to reopen and forge a wider path out of the coronavirus lockdown that has put the economy in a choke hold.

County health officer Dr. Nichole Quick told the supervisors Tuesday that county staff is working on a plan to allow the county to go deeper into the second of four state-outlined reopening phases — an advancement that, namely, would allow dining in restaurants and shop-

**"Let's open. Let's open as much as possible, let's open as soon as possible, let's open as safely as possible."**

— Don Wagner  
Orange County supervisor

ping inside malls with some physical distancing modifications.

Supervisors Vice Chair Andrew Do asked if area businesses could be more open by the weekend, even if the county's plan isn't in precise alignment with the latest requirements laid out Monday by Gov. Gavin Newsom.

"I would prefer that we try the best we can and then we can always supplement our application rather than to sit and wait for the perfect application to be crafted," he said. "You have heard from our residents and certainly from this board we want the county to open ASAP."

Newsom's relaxed guidelines

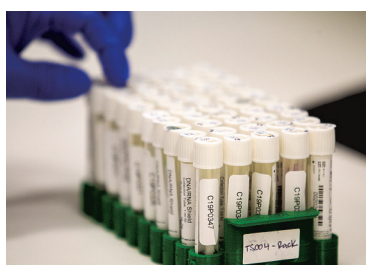
allow counties to further reopen if they can show fewer than 25 coronavirus cases per 100,000 residents in the last 14 days — a standard that was originally 1 new case per 10,000 residents. Counties could instead show that fewer than 8% of residents tested for the virus over a seven-day period were positive.

For Orange County, with a population of about 3.2 million, that loosened standard comes out to about 800 new cases over a two-week period.

Counties also must show that

See **Supervisors**, page A3

### ALSO FROM THE DAILY PILOT:



Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

**ORANGE COUNTY GOES 2 DAYS WITHOUT DEATHS FROM COVID-19** PAGE A2

## New Costa Mesa campaign underscores that economic recovery depends on shopping local

BY SARA CARDINE

For Costa Mesa city officials and business leaders, the road to eventual economic recovery has a new signpost that reads: "Costa Mesa's BAC."

A new campaign in the making aims to impart to residents that recovery from what city officials are calling the "economic pandemic" of COVID-19 can only happen if people keep commerce inside city limits by shopping locally.

"Costa Mesa's BAC" is a more than a clever acronym describing the new Business Assistance Collaborative that's formed among city staff, chamber representatives and industry leaders throughout the local community — it's an emblem of a rebirth officials hope comes sooner rather than later.

"It really starts with a lot of awareness from our community to think local first," said Costa Mesa Chamber of Commerce Chief Executive Eileen Benjamin. "There's nothing wrong with Am-

azon, but let's be thinking about our businesses."

Dan Inloes, the city's economic development administrator and leader of the grassroots initiative, said the city adopted its 2019-20 budget with the assumption it would see \$58.7 million in sales tax revenues.

Now, that number stands closer to \$48.1 million — which means a shortfall of about \$10.6 million that would have gone to support

See **Shopping**, page A4



Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

**MIRIAM LOPEZ** delivers a shirt to Von Ecluvia at Macy's on May 8.

# County goes 2 days without deaths from COVID-19



Scott Smeltzer | Staff Photographer

COMPLETED COVID-19 tests are seen at Pangea Lab in Costa Mesa.

BY HILLARY DAVIS

Orange County hasn't seen a coronavirus death in two days, holding the death toll steady at 88, the county Health Care Agency said Tuesday.

The agency reported 75 new cases Tuesday from COVID-19, the disease caused by the virus, and 115 additional tests over Monday. This brings Orange County to 4,500 cumulative known infections and 83,046 total tests given. Daily updates are preliminary and subject to change as the county receives new information.

Cases in skilled nursing facilities continued to be an outside proportion of cases and fatalities, with 513 coronavirus cases and 23 deaths to date being among nursing home residents. That puts 11% of cases and 26% of deaths in nursing homes.

Reported hospitalizations were at 229, with 86 in intensive care. Tuesday's figures came from 24 out of 25 hospitals eligible to report coronavirus cases.

The agency last announced a death on Sunday. It hasn't reported back-to-back days without deaths in more than a month — the last time Orange County went two days without a known COVID-19 death was April 13-14, according to county data. It has not held a longer fatality-free streak since the first death attributed to the novel coronavirus in late March.

The number of reported tests came with

another asterisk Tuesday, as the county noted that a state reporting system issue has resulted in an underreporting of tests reported for the day and of cumulative tests. Once the issue has been resolved, the data will be updated, the county said.

Here are the latest case counts for select cities, with numbers per 10,000 residents:

- Santa Ana: 757 (22.4 cases per 10,000 residents)
- Anaheim: 707 (19.7 cases per 10,000 residents)
- Huntington Beach: 295 (14.5 cases per 10,000 residents)
- Irvine: 156 (5.6 cases per 10,000 residents)
- Newport Beach: 133 (15.3 cases per 10,000 residents)
- Costa Mesa: 66 (5.7 cases per 10,000 residents)
- Fountain Valley: 50 (8.8 cases per 10,000 residents)
- Laguna Beach: 44 (18.8 cases per 10,000 residents)

Updated figures are posted daily at [oc.covid19.ochealthinfo.com/coronavirus-in-oc](http://oc.covid19.ochealthinfo.com/coronavirus-in-oc).

For information on getting tested at one of the nearly two dozen public clinics around the county, visit [oc.covid19.ochealthinfo.com/covid-19-testing-and-screening](http://oc.covid19.ochealthinfo.com/covid-19-testing-and-screening).

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## Fountain Valley City Hall, other city services reopened to public

BY LILLY NGUYEN

After months of closure, the doors are open again to civic facilities in Fountain Valley — albeit with some additional precautions.

As of Monday, Fountain Valley's City Hall, Police Department and recreation center are now open to the general public. Members of the public are required to wear face coverings inside City Hall and all city facilities, maintain 6 feet of distance from one another and wait outside on marked locations until directed by staff to enter. Individuals who are sick are advised to call or email city staff.

Fountain Valley City Hall initially closed March 18.

The soft reopenings come as part of the second wave of the state's rollbacks on nonessential businesses. The Center at Founders Vil-



Kevin Chang  
Staff Photographer

**A CUSTODIAN** walks out of the main entrance Tuesday at Fountain Valley City Hall, which has reopened.

lage, also known as the Fountain Valley Senior Recreation Center, will remain closed until further notice.

Other cities have also begun taking actions to resume services to the public. Newport Beach reopened

its permit center on Monday. It plans to reopen the building and safety counter on May 26 and restart all city services by June 1.

At their last meeting on May 12, Laguna Beach City Council approved staff recommendations to reopen all city buildings to the public as of late May or early June as long as required state safety measures for offices and work areas can be implemented to ensure social distancing between city staff and between employees and the public.

Both the city staff and the public would be required to wear face coverings.

Costa Mesa and Huntington Beach city halls and facilities remained closed to the public indefinitely as of Tuesday afternoon.

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**WESTMONT ELEMENTARY**

will be one of seven Ocean View School District campuses that will hand out a free book to kids on Thursday.

Don Leach  
Staff  
Photographer

## Ocean View School District giving away children's books Thursday

BY MATT SZABO

The Ocean View School District will provide children with a free book when they pick up their "grab-and-go" meals at seven local district schools on Thursday morning.

The meal distribution and book giveaway will take place between 9 to 11 a.m. Thursday at Circle View, Harbour View, Lake View, Oak View, Star View

and Westmont elementary schools, as well as Mesa View Middle School.

Grab-and-go breakfast and lunch meals are free to children up to 18 years old. There will be 2,200 books given away, donated by the Assistance League of Huntington Beach.

Books in the book giveaway are written for elementary and middle school-age children.

"We are so grateful for

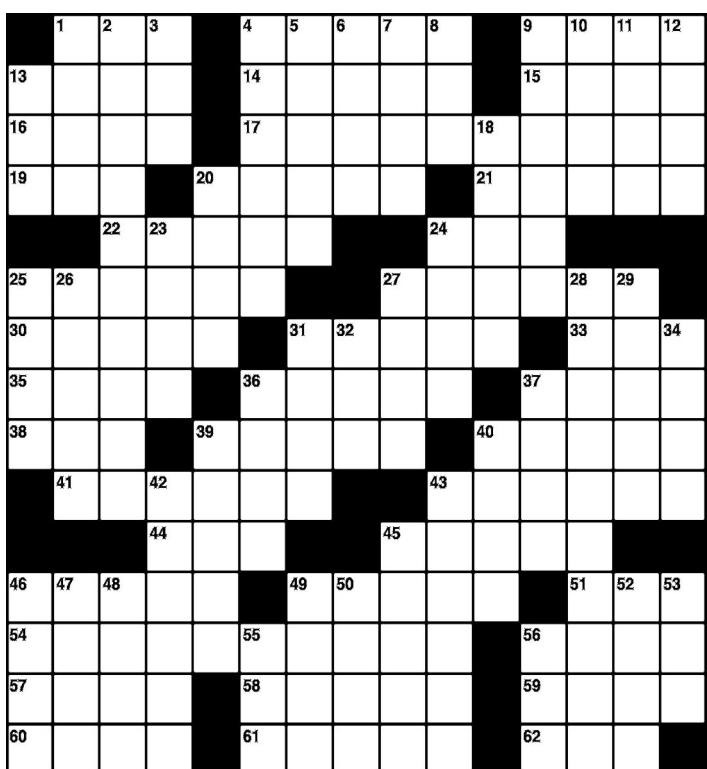
the generous book donation from the Assistance League," OVSD Supt. Dr. Carol Hansen said in a release. "We always love opportunities to provide literacy, but it is really wonderful to be able to provide a ray of sunshine to those in need during this turbulent time in our community and world."

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## THE DAILY COMMUTER PUZZLE

By Jacqueline E. Mathews

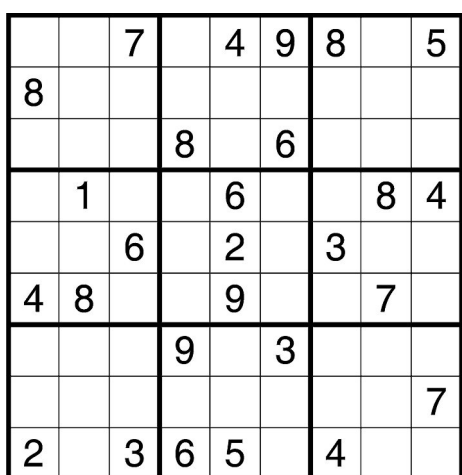
- ACROSS**
- 1 Light brown
  - 4 Actress Samantha
  - 9 Inverness native
  - 13 Waiter's handout
  - 14 Plants of a particular region
  - 15 Tibetan monk
  - 16 Tirade
  - 17 California Gold Rush prospector
  - 19 Emulate
  - 20 Minuscule skin openings
  - 21 Happening
  - 22 Meghan Markle's man
  - 24 Monogram for Edison
  - 25 Faucet
  - 27 Heartbreak
  - 30 Wasn't well
  - 31 Pierces
  - 33 Actress Harper, to friends
  - 35 Delighted
  - 36 TV's Mandel
  - 37 Ricky Ricardo's portrayer
  - 38 Turn on the alarm clock
  - 39 Burnett or Channing
  - 40 Segments
  - 41 Leave
  - 43 Shakespearean tragedy
  - 44 Stylish
  - 45 Cattle catcher
  - 46 Faint
  - 49 Boasts
  - 51 "Birds \_ feather"
  - 54 Leading the way
  - 56 \_ milk; fat-free beverage
  - 57 Shaping tool
  - 58 Late Castro
  - 59 Barnyard birds
  - 60 Casual shirts
  - 61 Canada \_; migrating birds
  - 62 Fabric quantities: abbr.



## 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](http://sudoku.org.uk).



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

- 3 Crackpot
- 4 Put forth \_; try hard
- 5 "Mine eyes have seen the \_"
- 6 2000 election runner-up
- 7 Carney & others
- 8 Sunbeam
- 9 Dieter's piece of pie
- 10 Walking stick
- 11 Sign of the future
- 12 Sour
- 13 \_ Butterworth; syrup brand
- 18 Gets closer to

- 20 Give a nudge to
- 23 Like fine wine
- 24 Bride-\_; shower honoree
- 25 Droops
- 26 \_ up; accumulated
- 27 Spinnaker or jib
- 28 Didn't notice
- 29 "\_ not, want not"
- 31 Put papers in order
- 32 Deuce
- 34 "Schindler's \_"; Spielberg film
- 36 Nag
- 37 Water barriers
- 39 Actor Michael
- 40 Football play
- 42 Verizon store display
- 43 Hammer out a deal
- 45 Paths
- 46 Tiff
- 47 Broad
- 48 Leak out slowly
- 49 Creamy cheese
- 50 "Ticket to \_"; Beatles song
- 52 Swim \_; diver's flippers
- 53 Mornings, for short
- 55 CD followers
- 56 Bashful

Tribune Media Services



Photos by Don Leach | Staff Photographer

**ORGANIZER GRACE ROGERS**, right, house chef Fatima Abuzaineh, center, and Tavern House Kitchen + Bar co-owner Gregg Solomon unload lunches donated to the New Directions for Women facility in Costa Mesa on Monday.

## DELIVERY

Continued from page A1

taken care of," Bright said. "Nobody has been permitted on campus from the outside, and nobody is permitted to leave."

So, to help lift spirits, staff and patients were treated on Monday to a special delivery — some 40 fresh deli meals from Newport Beach's Tavern House Kitchen + Bar arrived courtesy of local donors who had New Directions in their philanthropic sites.

Grace Rogers, a Newport Beach resident who volunteers at New Directions and is friends with the owners of Tavern House, said the meal is intended to buoy those undergoing recovery and treatment during an especially difficult time.

"For the women who are there, it really shows support for what they're doing," said Rogers, a recovering alcoholic who volunteers at the Costa Mesa center. "It shows the community cares and believes in them."

Gregg Solomon, who opened Tavern House in July 2019 with partner chef David Wilhelm, said business has slowed noticeably



**SOLOMON OVERSEES** delivery of prepackaged lunches.

since Orange County restaurant dining rooms began closing in March.

Seeing a need to give back, owners were looking for ways to reach to the community's first responders and began collecting donations and delivering meals to local police and fire departments, hospitals and other facilities.

Solomon sent out an email to friends of Tavern House soliciting donations and recommendations for where meals might be sent. Several people specified their interest in helping local treatment centers during the pandemic.

"Food is definitely an integral part of who we are

as people," said Solomon, who's helped deliver about 700 meals so far. "For me, it's been therapeutic to see the response we've gotten."

Bright said some 15 live-in clients and several staff members at the facility were treated to a meal of turkey sandwiches, potato salad and pickles — a little taste of the outside and a reminder that people care. "They were very grateful that somebody thought enough of them, that someone has recognized their being here," she said. "It's nice someone is thinking of them."

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